

NRN REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2008

May 24-25, 2008

Bangkok, Thailand

BACKGROUND:

The Non-Resident Nepali Association has been organizing Regional Conferences in the years alternating with the year of the global conference. The regional conference is built in as part of the global NRN movement in the NRNA constitution. Already two regional conferences have been organized. The first one was in Doha Qatar in January 2005 and the second one was in June 2006 in Bonn Germany.

The third in the series of regional conference will be held on 24th and 25th of May 2008 in Bangkok, Thailand. The reasons for selecting Thailand as the destination are easy accessibility, good conference facilities for holding such conferences and increasingly good numbers of Nepalis residing there. Besides the location of the UN regional centre and the Asian Institute of Technology adds on the benefits. This is a very good place to discuss about the issues concerning Nepalis going abroad in large number.

FOCUS:

The most burning issue in Nepal is employment. Only with proper employment opportunities to our youths we can think of a prosperous Nepal. The foreign employment during the recent past become a cushion for resolving our unemployment problem. But so far our focus has been in supplying unskilled workers. This has created many adverse impacts. Our youths are employed in low paying menial jobs. Often they are subjected to severe exploitation or even inhuman treatment. What we need is to take the entire plane of foreign employment to a higher level. Nepal needs to become from supplier of unskilled laborer to a successful service provider. Our workers need to go up in the skill ladder. We need Nepali companies and firms who will use Nepali personnel to serve their clients (through temporary movement of natural persons for service delivery) located abroad. This means making our brothers and sisters more skilled and capable, enhancing their technical capability by training and education and making our companies more competitive and better known in the market. We also need our people to be engaged in more advanced or developed economies capable to play as per the rules of the world market. This not only enhances their earnings and also reduces the susceptibility to extreme forms of exploitation.

So the theme of the regional conference will be

"Taking the foreign employment from Nepal to a higher plane"

The choice of the venue also supports the theme. The Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), the well known centre of human resource development in Asia is located near Bangkok. Many Nepalis educated at AIT are successfully pursuing their careers both inside and outside of Nepal. The graduates from AIT have amply shown how good education and training makes a person globally competitive and saleable. It also supports the idea of knowledge and technology transfer to the mother country.

OBJECTIVES:

The NRNA hopes to realize the following objectives from the conference:

- ▶ Prepare a course of action for taking Nepal to a higher level in the service trade ;
- ▶ Suggest concrete policy and action measures to the Government and other concerned stakeholders;
- ▶ Take stock of the implementation of Kathmandu declaration and chart out concrete plan of action to implement the declaration;
- ▶ Provide a forum for the Nepalis living in the Asia-Pacific region to put up the specific issues and challenges faced by them;
- ▶ Come up with concrete suggestion for the Constituent Assembly.

PARTICIPATION:

- ▶ Each NCC from the Asia-Pacific region is expected to participate with a delegation. Although it is a regional conference focusing primarily on Asia Pacific region, it is open to NCC delegations from around the globe.
- ▶ Individual NRNs can also participate in the conference. There will be a full ICC meeting along with the regional conference.
- ▶ Friends of Nepal -"Participants from foreign countries" and Nepalis, both of who are interested in working with the NRN community for promoting NRNA's mission and objectives.

REGISTRATION

The participation is based on registration. The registration fee for all international participants for 2 days is fixed at **US \$100** and **US \$50** for the local participants who wish to participate for the first day only. The electronic registration forms are available at the official website of the NRNA - (www.nrn.org.np) or can be obtained through the NRNA Secretariat (nrn@nrn.org.np).

The registration will include conference kit, lunch and dinners. (For Local Participant's - Conference kit, Welcome Dinner and One Lunch and For International Participant's - Conference Kit, 2 Lunches and 2 Dinners). The registration fee will not cover lodging and transportation.

The registration will be open till May 15, 2008. The intending participants can either send the money to NRNA account or pay directly at the venue.
(*Note: Only cash will be accepted at the venue.*)

CONFERENCE VENUE:

Chaophya Park Hotel, Bangkok

247 Rachadapisek Rd, Dindaeng, Bangkok,
10400 Thailand

Tel: 66-2290-0125, Fax: 66-2290-0167-8

Email: info@chaophyapark.com

Website: www.chaophyapark.com

VISA, ACCOMMODATION and TRANSPORTATION:

Nepali nationals need visa to travel to Thailand. The visa for Thailand can be obtained from Royal Thai Embassies or Thai Consulates which are located in many cities of the world. The intending participants are requested to obtain visa well in advance. If they require any assistance they are requested to inform the secretariat and the NRNA NCC Thailand.

The accommodation for the delegates from countries other than Thailand is being arranged in the Chaophya Park Hotel. The accommodation and transportation as well as other expenditures except those covered under the registration package will be on self paying basis.

Those who require accommodation are also requested to inform the NRNA Secretariat or Mr. Purna Rajbhandari, National Coordinator - NCC Thailand

(E: purna_ait@yahoo.com) or Mr. Dheerawat Bhunlapiwat, Executive Assistant Manager-Sales & Marketing Chaophya Park Hotel Bangkok (E: dheerawat@chaophyapark.com) at least by May 15, 2008. The hotel reservation form can be downloaded from the official website of NRNA (www.nrn.org.np). The transport arrangements have to be made by the participants themselves. The accommodation details are given below:

Accommodation details:

SN	Category	Room Rate/THB per night	
		Single	Double
1.	Superior	1,950	2,250
2.	Deluxe	2,250	2,550
3.	Business Deluxe	2,650	2,950
4.	Executive	3,150	3,450
5.	Executive Suite	3,850	4,150

Note:

- * 1USD = Approx. 31.5 TH Bhat
- * All above prices are net and inclusive of breakfast.

CULTURAL PROGRAM

The conference will be combined with Nepali cultural program to be performed by the local Nepali talents.

BUSINESS DELEGATION

A business delegation from Nepal is invited. The delegation will have interaction with local business community as well.

FINANCING

Every NRNA conference needs to be self sustaining. The NCCs and Nepali owned businesses can become partners of the conference. For the NCCs to be partner of the conference, the fee has been fixed at **US \$1000**. For the companies/ businesses the fee is fixed at **US \$ 1500**.

Benefits for the partners:

- ▶ Opportunity to show case their business or organization in between the global Nepali family.
- ▶ The logo of the partner will appear in the back drop of the conference.
- ▶ The logo will also appear in the NRNA website.
- ▶ Complimentary one page in the NRNA Magazine 2008.
- ▶ Partners will be acknowledged during the inauguration session
- ▶ Promotional materials (should be handy and of small size) of the sponsor can be included in conference kit.
- ▶ Partners name will be incorporated in the conference report and materials.
- ▶ Registration for the two 2 persons will be provided free of charge (including conference kit, 2 lunches and 2 dinners).
- ▶ Token of appreciation to the partners

CONTACT:

Non-Resident Nepali Association (NRNA) Secretariat
FNCCI Building
Pachali Shahid Shukra FNCCI Milan Marg, Teku,
PO Box 269, Kathmandu, Nepal.
Tel: (+977-1) 4215247/4262061
Fax: (+977-1) 4215247
Email: nrn@nrn.org.np
URL: <http://www.nrn.org.np>

Or

Mr. Ramesh Kumar Hamal
President
NRNA National Coordination Council Thailand
Email: rameshk@csloxinfo.com
URL: www.nrnthailand.org