

New York, 22 November 2006 - Statement attributable to the Spokesman for the Secretary-General on Nepal

The Secretary-General congratulates the Government of Nepal and the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) on the signing yesterday of a Comprehensive Peace Agreement. Through ending the armed conflict, the people of Nepal now have the opportunity to build lasting peace in an inclusive democracy.

This agreement places great trust and responsibility on the United Nations as it asks that we assist Nepal in various aspects of the peace process, including as an immediate step the monitoring of arms and armed personnel and providing electoral assistance. Through his Personal Representative in Nepal, the Secretary-General is working closely with the parties to ensure that United Nations assistance can arrive as promptly as possible.