



# ढण्डहीनताविरुद्ध नागरिक कार्यदल

## **Citizen's Task Force to Combat Impunity**

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## **Preparatory meeting for "Year long campaign against impunity" 2065 Jestha 15 (16 May 2008)**

**Coordinator / organizer:** Task Force to Combat against Impunity

**Meeting host:** COCAP

**Venue:** COCAP Office, Anamnagar Kathmandu

**Date:** Friday, 16 May 2008

**Meeting minute of Task Force to Combat against Impunity**

**I. Decisions:** On 16 May 2008, a meeting of the Task Force to Combat against Impunity was held to determine future plans and to coordinate action of the human rights community and civil society of Nepal to combat against impunity. The meeting made following decisions:

1. Year long campaign against impunity should be launched starting from 28 May 2008 (15 Jestha 2065).
2. The Task Force determined Coordination Committee to facilitate the campaign with the representation of following organizations/ individuals:
  1. Mr. Govinda Bandi, Advocate-Convener, Task Force against Impunity
  2. Amnesty International
  3. Ms. Sharada Subba, LACC
  4. Ms. Bidhya Chapagain / Sanjha Shrestha, INSEC
  5. Mr. Amar Rawat, Advocacy Forum
  6. Mr. Bijaya Kumar Son, COCAP
  7. Mr. Rosan Mahato, Blue Diamond Society
  8. Mr. Pawan Jayaswal & Ms. Raksha Basyal, CLS
  9. Mr. Bisnu Khatri - Youth Action Nepal
  10. Mr. Birendra Thapaliya, FOHRID/Secretariat of the Task Force against Impunity (Next meeting of the Task Force will be held at 4 p.m. on Sunday, 18 May 2008 at FOHRID Office, Dillibazar.)
3. Secretariat of the Committee will be provided by Task Force against Impunity, based at FOHRID office, Dillibazar, Kathmandu.
4. A rally requesting end to impunity to CA members should be organized at BICC, New Baneshwor on 28 May, coinciding with the commencement of CA session. We can disseminate information on our activities on the occasion. Letters with best wishes for success of CA and message to end impunity can be submitted to the CA members.
5. We must prepare a calendar to observe the "Year against Impunity" in the next meeting.

6. All the participants of today's meeting, including those involved in the ICC Week-2007 are the members of the campaign of "Year against Impunity" convened by the Task Force against Impunity.

## **II. Participants:**

1. Sandhya Basnet, Unity Law Firm
2. Hari Bahadur Karki, AJAR Nepal
3. Ambar Raut, Advocacy Forum
4. Ram Krishna Kafle, SAHARA
5. Dinanath Bhattarai, TI Nepal
6. Roshan Mahato, Blue Diamond Society
7. Ganga Thapa, Protection Desk Nepal
8. Indira Ghale, Protection Desk Nepal
9. Ramesh Khanal
10. Sudha Khatiwada, Kathmandu Academy of Law
11. Shristi Nyachhyo
12. Krishna Pathak
13. Ram Dayal Prasad Yadav, Sa. Bi. Pairavi Manch, Mahottari
14. Sundar Mani Dixit, CISOPED/Task Force against Impunity
15. Amrit Rai, DHRO
16. Bhaskar Kafle, MAPS
17. Bikash Ghimire, GEOC
18. Tulasi Bahadur Karki, FOHRID
19. Pawan Kumar Jaishwal, CLS/ Task Force against Impunity
20. Bijay Kumar Son, COCAP
21. Raju Prasad Chapagain, OHCHR Nepal
22. Birendra Thapaliya, FOHRID
23. Bibek Neupane, FOYA
24. Bishnu Khatri, Youth Action Nepal
25. Bhola Bhattarai, AI Nepal
26. Krishna Kandel, Youth Action Nepal
27. Binod Trital, Youth Action Nepal
28. Sanjay Khadka, COCAP
29. Narendra Khatiwada, COCAP
30. Nil Prasad Neupane, Columnist
31. Biju Aryal, COCAP
32. Subash Darnal, COCAP
33. Sharda Subba, LACC
34. Bidhya Chapagain, INSEC
35. Raksha Basyal, CLS
36. Indira Shris, LACC
37. Punya Prasad Khatiwada, COAS
38. Dr. Shambhu Prasad Khanal, Forum for International Law Nepal (FIL-Nepal)
39. Bhawani Kharel, National Human Rights Foundation
40. Raj Kumar Siwakoti, FOHRID/ Task Force against Impunity
41. Krishna Prasad Aryal, ENJUS
42. Sanjit Raj Pandey, Development Forum Nepal
43. Govinda Bandi, Advocate, Task Force against Impunity

## **III. Views expressed by participants**

### **Birendra Thapaliya, FOHRID**

Described about the relevance of Task Force to combat against Impunity, its past activities, campaign for ratification of Rome Statute of ICC conducted in the first week of 2007. He also briefly explained about outcomes of the meeting dated 9 May 2008, held at ICJ Office. The meeting had stressed need of advocacy and lobbying required to end impunity. Street drama staging (by COCAP) on importance of Rome Statute of ICC was appreciated and the participants opined that it should be continued and spread throughout the country. He explained about the agenda flowed through e-mail by Task Force on 11 May. Participants were requested to present their organizations' plans, individual or in collaboration for campaign against impunity.

### **Hari Bahadur Karki, AJAR Nepal**

As the Task Force coordinated by FOHRID is leading this program, it should distribute responsibilities for the campaign identifying the specific expertise of each organization. Lets be specific on what activities to conduct such as press conference, public rally, street drama, pamphleting etc.

### **Dr. Sundar Mani Dikshit, CISOPED**

What is the objective of the program? Diagnose the disease; identify what provisions we can insert in the new constitution. No one should get immunity from punishment. We should bring

out concrete plans and recommend to the CA members to incorporate in the new constitution. Otherwise, this type of programs cannot yield any worthy result.

**Ambar Raut, Advocacy Forum**

I propose that the campaign against impunity should be forwarded collectively. We should determine whether to target the report of Mallik Commission or Rayamajhi Commission. Identify expertise and willingness of each organization for this campaign. Which areas should be focused, which are still left untouched? We should learn from the past experiences and weaknesses. We have filed PIL and FIR but they have not yielded concrete results. May be there is need of a specific law required? We can organize press conference, lobby with the political parties and CA members. Firstly, find out specific causes contributing to impunity. Each of us should share what lapses they have seen in combating impunity.

**Govinda Bandi, Advocate**

We have been working to combat against impunity. But the campaign is still a great challenge. We have to make collective efforts to make impunity free new Nepal. The activities being conducted are case filing, advocacy, lobbying etc. Why not to make "Year against impunity", with one month in one theme. We can display slogan against impunity in our letter pad, diary, calendar and other publications. INSEC has practiced this in the past. With the successful campaign of human rights community, ICC has become buzz term in the society. Perpetrators now think seriously before involving in the incidents of violation of human rights. Impunity can be forwarded alongwith ICC. Victims are frustrated with the rights workers. They say that they are exploited and being misused for their earnings. May be we have some shortcomings.

We can start our 12 months campaign from coming June instead of July. We have to coordinate our programs. Lets share programs of individual organization and fit them into one calendar. Give lead role in a theme to certain organization - FOHRID or INSEC may coordinate campaign against killings, COCAP or INSEC on ICC and Advocacy Forum on disappearance. We should be limited to past violations, TRC process, lack of rule of law, non compliance of the State on ICC, justice, impunity. INGOs should support civil society initiative. They may issue press release supporting our initiative.

**Bikash Ghimire, GEOC**

I think that we have done enough to sensitize people on impunity. That's why people automatically raised slogan when Khum Bahadur Khadka and Govinda Raj Joshi participated a program. If a vehicle crushes a pedestrian there is very small compensation to the victim. There is indifference about the fate of the injured. We should cover taht under impunity.

**Krishna Pathak**

We must determine whether we should take week long or year long program. We can determine this by looking at the interest and experience of each of us.

**Ram Krishna Kafle, SAHARA**

Lets conduct this campaign throughout the year. We can organize consultations with different groups of experts. We should follow up till the constitution is finalized. We can broadcast ads in the media highlighting the issue.

**Subash Darnal, COCAP**

We must think on how much the constitution has accommodated impunity issue. Report of the Rayamajhi Commission can be implemented by the present government, no need to wait constitution. We can bring out significant changes within 6 months if we work collectively. Lets do year long campaign but with proper coordination.

**Raju Prasad Chapagain, OHCHR Nepal**

We should coordinate campaign against impunity. One week is not enough for this purpose. I just want to synthesize what other colleagues have said. Think about how to disseminate the message of the campaign. Everyone is concentrated upon how to make constitution now. This is right time for the campaign.

**Sudha Khatiwada, Kathmandu Academy of Law**

We have to create pressure to punish past violations, include provisions in the new constitution and avert future violations. Be careful to avoid impunity in the future. Lets divide work such as recommendation can be led by lawyers, dissemination of information by others. Lets ponder over why we could not punish past atrocities so that we can learn for the future.

**Bishnu Khatri, Youth Action Nepal**

All sectors of stakeholders including rights campaigners should be included in the team. Sub-committees can be formed for themes such as ICC, TRC, disappearance, torture, implementing reports of Rayamajhi. Individual organization should coordinate such sub-committees and inform other organizations to participate in the programs of its theme. The three member committee, formed already should be expanded to include all stakeholders.

**Bhola Bhattarai, Amnesty International**

We can prepare programs for lobbying with CA members. I support the idea of celebrating a week of each month with a specific theme.

**Bijaya Kumar Son, COCAP**

We have worked to sensitize youth on ICC through street drama. This activity was taken from Mechi to Mahakali. But we have not received expected support. We have planned to take it in the western region very soon with additional documentary show (being released at Yala Maya Kendra at 12 noon on 13 Jestha). The collection of the program will be used to fund our future campaign. I request you all to support to sustain such initiatives.

Thank you for your solidarity.

Sincerely

**Task Force to Combat against Impunity**

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