

Kathmandu Declaration on Local Self-Governance

We, the United Cities and Local Government-Asia Pacific [UCLG-ASPAC] Council and Executive Bureau Members, upon intensive discussion at the 3rd Annual Seminar and Executive Bureau and Council meeting held during 28-29 April 2009 at Kathmandu, Nepal;

Recalling IULA World Wide Declaration of Local Self-Government adopted by the IULA Council, Toronto, June 1993; and such principles being subsequently re-affirmed by UCLG.


Considering that democratically elected local government, as an integral part of the national governance structure, is the sphere of government closest to the citizens and first school of democracy, ensuring inclusive governance, strengthening democratic norms and values at the local as well as national level and providing effective public service delivery to general populace;

Determined that there must be a renewed and concerted campaign to promote and promulgate the essential nature of democratic local self-government in the national Constitution of respective countries;


Believing that a harmonious community to which citizens feel they belong to and for which they assume responsibility can best be created at the local level;

Hereby declare;

1. UCLG-ASPAC members aspire to achieve functional and a more effective democratic local government, thereby improving the social and economic well-being of our populations.
2. UCLG-ASPAC extends solidarity to the ongoing movement of local government associations of Nepal and civil society for ensuring explicit and detailed constitutional provisions for local self-government in Nepal. UCLG-ASPAC supports the fulfillment of local governments in Nepal through a speedy democratic election process.
3. UCLG ASPAC and its predecessor organization, IULA, strongly supported the return of democracy in Nepal and extended moral support of international forums, now pledges itself to support the expeditious return of democratically elected local self-government in the federal democratic Republic of Nepal.


.....
Emeritus Mayor Peter Woods,
OAM
Secretary General
UCLG-ASPAC


.....
Krishna Prasad Jaishi
Co-President
UCLG-ASPAC


.....
Mayor Kim Bumil
President
UCLG-ASPAC

Adopted in Kathmandu, Nepal on April 29, 2009