



Embassy of Nepal/Mission of Nepal to the European Union Brussels, Belgium

Press Release

Hon. Dr. Prakash Sharan Mahat, Minister for Foreign Affairs, had a meeting with H.E. Mr. Xavier Bettel, Prime Minister of Luxembourg, at the latter's office in Luxembourg today.

On the occasion, Hon. Foreign Minister expressed happiness over the excellent state of bilateral relations existing between Nepal and Luxembourg and acknowledged the support received from Luxembourg, particularly through the EU and other international organizations, in Nepal's development efforts as well as in the ongoing reconstruction process.

Recalling the visit of former Prime Minister of Nepal late Sushil Koirala, to Luxembourg in September 2014 as the first ever visit of Nepal's Head of Government, Hon. Foreign Minister stated that exchange of visits at various levels have contributed to strengthening the bonds of friendship between Nepal and Luxembourg.

He also apprised Prime Minister H.E. Mr. Bettel of the recent political developments in Nepal, including the amendment of the constitution and preparations for holding of elections in the stipulated time frame.

H.E. Mr. Bettel appreciated the progress made by Nepal with regard to institutionalizing the democratic gains over the years and expressed the commitment of his government to extend possible support to Nepal in the days to come.

Earlier today, Hon. Foreign Minister had a meeting with his Luxembourgish counterpart H.E. Mr. Jean Asselborn, Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Luxembourg, followed by a working lunch with him.

The two Foreign Ministers discussed diverse issues pertaining to Nepal-Luxembourg relations during the meeting.

While discussing the existing economic relations between Nepal and Luxembourg, the two Foreign Ministers agreed on the importance of expanding engagements in trade, investment and tourism for the benefit of two countries. Emphasising on Nepal's huge potential in the sectors of renewable energy, hydropower, tourism, agriculture and agro-food processing and infrastructure, among others, Hon. Foreign Minister said that Nepal expected Luxembourg's cooperation in encouraging business persons and potential investors to engage in such sectors in Nepal.

Later on the day, Hon. Dr. Mahat also had a meeting with H.E. Mr. Romain Schneider, Minister for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs of Luxembourg. Hon. Dr. Mahat appreciated Luxembourg's assistance in the fields of education, environment and health. He requested H.E. Mr. Schneider to include Nepal in Luxembourg's official ODA recipient countries.

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Reaffirming Luxembourgish Government's commitment to extend support in Nepal's development efforts, Minister Schneider said that Nepal would be given positive consideration during the next review of the list of countries receiving the Luxembourgish ODA.

Hon. Foreign Minister also addressed an interaction programme organized by the Non-Resident Nepalese Association before he left for Brussels from Luxembourg.

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