



Press Release

**Representative of the Secretary-General in Nepal Karin Landgren meets
Minister for Peace and Reconstruction Rakam Chemjong**

25 February 2010

Representative of the Secretary-General in Nepal Karin Landgren met with Minister for Peace and Reconstruction Rakam Chemjong today afternoon to discuss the government's request for confidential data on Maoist army personnel.

UNMIN shared copies of the Agreement on Monitoring the Management of Arms and Armies (AMMAA), one of the key documents of Nepal's peace process, which provides that such information from the parties will be treated with appropriate confidentiality by the United Nations. (Article 2)

As UNMIN informed the Ministry on 16 February, the sharing of such data may be considered under suitable conditions. The request for data-sharing could, for example, be considered by the Joint Monitoring Coordination Committee (JMCC), the body in which the modalities for registration and confidentiality were originally agreed, and which is responsible for resolving any questions relating to implementation of the AMMAA.

UNMIN reiterated to the Ministry its readiness to assist in a manner which would not require the Mission to compromise United Nations obligations or impartiality.

On a separate matter, the issue of the number of Maoist army personnel present in cantonments was also discussed. It is the responsibility of the signatories to the AMMAA to provide accurate and updated numbers on their current personnel strength. Neither the Nepal Army nor the Maoist army has done so, an issue which was again brought to their attention at the Joint Monitoring Coordination Committee of 24 February 2010.