



संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघका लागि नेपालको स्थायी नियोग  
PERMANENT MISSION OF NEPAL  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

**Press Release**

His Excellency Mr. Lok Bahadur Thapa, Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations, presented the Letter of Credence today to Her Excellency Ms. Leticia Reis de Carvalho, Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority (ISA) in Kingston, Jamaica.

Following the presentation of his Letter of Credence, Ambassador Thapa held a separate meeting with Secretary-General Carvalho. On the occasion, the Secretary-General warmly congratulated and welcomed Ambassador Thapa on his accreditation as the Permanent Representative of Nepal to the ISA and assured her full support. She also reaffirmed her commitment to working closely with all members including Nepal in promoting the sustainable, inclusive, and equitable governance of the international seabed area in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Secretary-General Carvalho underscored the importance of ensuring the meaningful participation of all Member States, particularly landlocked developing countries such as Nepal, in the Authority's decision-making processes.

During the meeting, Ambassador Thapa reaffirmed Nepal's strong commitment to the mandate and objectives of the International Seabed Authority and underscored the importance of the effective implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the Agreement under UNCLOS on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement).

He underscored the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources, the effective protection of the marine environment, and the equitable governance of the international seabed Area. Ambassador Thapa further emphasized the need to ensure the meaningful participation of all States, including landlocked developing countries, in decision-making processes and in the sustainable use of the resources of the Area, in accordance with the principle that the Area and its resources constitute the common heritage of humankind. He also underscored the need for extending support to countries like Nepal, through knowledge-sharing, the transfer of marine technology and capacity-building initiatives, with a view to enabling their effective participation in and contribution to the work of the Authority and the sustainable governance of the Area. The Secretary General responded positively and assured the Ambassador of her full support to this end.

The International Seabed Authority (ISA) is an autonomous international organization established under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the 1994 Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of UNCLOS. This is the first occasion on which Nepal formally accredited a Permanent Representative to the International Seabed Authority, underscoring its commitment to strengthening its engagement with the Authority and contributing to the sustainable governance of the international seabed area as the common heritage of humankind. The International Seabed Authority currently comprises 172 members, including 171 Member States and the European Union, reflecting its broad and inclusive global membership.

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