



FIFTH NRN REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2011

January 14-16, 2011

Dubai, UAE

BACKGROUND:

The meeting of the International Coordination Council (ICC), held during March 20th, 2010, decided that the Fifth NRN Regional Conference (the "Conference") would be held in the UAE. NRNA Treasurer Mr. Rameshwar Shah was given the task of recommending a proper place and date for the conference. In its meeting on May 30, 2010, the ICC, after due consultation with recommendation made by Treasurer and representatives from Middle East, approved the proposal of the members from Middle East in the ICC to host the Fifth NRN Regional Conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from January 14 to 16, 2011. The same meeting also decided that Mr. Rameshwar Shah, Treasurer of the NRNA ICC, would be the Coordinator of the Conference.

Although the conference is termed regional, as it is being held in Middle East Region, NRNs from around the globe will be represented. The past four regional conferences were held in Doha, Qatar in January 2005, Bonn, Germany in 2006, Bangkok, Thailand in May 2008 and the fourth one in Houston, Texas, USA in May 2010. Such Regional Conferences, ranked second only to the Global NRN Conference in attendance and significance, are mandated by the NRNA constitution, which stipulates that a Regional Conference be organized outside of Nepal in between the global conferences. The Global Conference is held every two years in Nepal.

The Non Resident Nepali Association (NRNA) is a global organization with offices in 56 countries, representing over 3 million Nepalis outside of Nepal, or NRNs. An estimated 1,700,000 people of Nepali origin now work and live in the Middle East, and some 150,000 in the UAE. An estimated 500 participants including the delegates from all 56 NRNA National Coordination Councils (NCCs) scattered in all six regions (i.e., Asia Pacific, Oceania, Middle East, Africa, Europe and North America) of the world are expected to take part in this conference.

CONFERENCE DATE:

The Conference will be a three day event to be held from **January 14-16, 2011**. The main conference will be held on Friday, January 14th, 2011 followed by the ICC Meeting on January 16th, 2011. There will be a pre-conference welcome dinner on January 13th, 2011 while various presentations by TF's Chair, Women Forum and Youth Forum, reports by Regional Coordinators and NCC's, an individual recognition programme, conference declaration and the closing ceremony have been scheduled for January 15th, 2011. Additionally an Excursion Trip to Desert Safari with Dinner and Arabian Cultural programme has also been considered for the later part of January 15th, 2011.

Depending on requests by various local organizations and associated welfare associations, a number of pre-conference events or workshops will be organized simultaneously on **15th of January, 2011**.



CONFERENCE VENUE:

Dubai, UAE has been selected as the location for the 5th NRN Regional Conference 2011. The exact conference venue is:

Crowne Plaza Dubai

Sheikh Zayed Road, Dubai

United Arab Emirates

Tel: +971-4- 331-1111

Fax: +971-4-331-5555

Web: <http://www.crowneplaza.com/dubai>

CITY OF DUBAI:

Dubai is one of the seven emirates of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). It is located south of the Persian Gulf on the Arabian Peninsula and has the largest population with the second-largest land territory by area of all the emirates, after Abu Dhabi.

Today, Dubai has emerged as a global city and contemporary business hub as well as a beautiful tourism destination in the Middle East.

Although Dubai's economy was built on the oil industry, currently the emirate's model of business, similar to that of Western countries, drives its economy, with the effect that its main revenues are now from tourism, real estate, and financial services. Dubai has recently attracted world attention through many innovative large construction projects and sports events.

Ranked as the number one city in the UAE for economic growth and job opportunities, Dubai is home to world's tallest tower, Burj Khalifa, and is known for true multinational living.

Dubai is well connected within the Middle East and internationally. There are a number of daily direct flights from Dubai International Airport (DXB) to all major European and American cities, including New York, Washington DC, Houston, London, Paris, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Moscow and many more; to the Middle East (Doha, Manama, Cairo, Muscat, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Kuwait, etc.), and to Asia Pacific (Tokyo, Beijing, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, etc.). DXB is the main hub for Emirates Airlines and Fly Dubai whilst most of the world's airlines touch its ground.

There is also Abu Dhabi Airport (AUH) which connects many countries in the world through its national flag carrier, Etihad Airways. The conference hotel is just over an hour's drive from Abu Dhabi and about a 15-minute drive from Dubai. For more information please visit: <http://www.skyscanner.net> and/or <http://www.emirates.com> and/or, <http://www.etihadairways.com>

The average temperature in Dubai during the conference time would be in the range between 12°C and 25°C. January is considered the winter season in the Middle Eastern countries.



CONFERENCE FOCUS:

The Middle East is home to numerous world class business houses. Nepalis started to come to the Middle Eastern Region during the Sixties and Seventies for employment, and subsequently for business ventures. Over half the population of Non-Resident Nepalis live in this region. Subsequent generations have followed similar tracks in various sectors, and the Middle East has become a prime destination for foreign employment and business opportunities.. In addition, Nepalis in the Middle East have begun to embrace entrepreneurial and business endeavors, realizing that in a market economy, business is an even better route to achieve economic independence. As a result, the Middle Eastern Nepali Diaspora can boast many members who have achieved success in professions, foreign employment, and business. Nepal is one of the top five remittance receiving country in the world, with the Diaspora living in the Middle East contributing over half of the total remittances received by the country, which comprises a major portion of its economic development.

To best utilize the strength of the Diaspora in the region, the conference focuses on Collective Investment and Safe Migration/Foreign Employment. NRNA believes that such efforts are key to helping Nepal achieve multidimensional development goals including economic growth and un-employment issues. Accordingly, the theme of the conference is:

“Collective Investment and Safe Migration”

The main focus of the three-day conference will be on Collective Investment. We intend to come out with recommendations on a way forward and a common platform where the entire spectrum of NRNs, including lower income groups, will have the option to convert their small small savings into capital, hence providing equal investment opportunities to NRNs. Discussions will focus on issues and challenges related to Foreign Employment, possible opportunities for better management, tourism promotion, trade and investments, and charitable contributions for a prosperous Nepal. The diversified conference sessions will further revolve around addressing vital topics such as foreign investment, inclusion of youth and women in the Diaspora to support NRNA's initiatives for the development of Nepal, and issues and challenges faced by Middle East Diaspora and more.

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES:

The following are the objectives of the conference:

- Provide a forum for the Middle Eastern NRNs to present and discuss the specific issues and challenges faced by them;
- Explore how the Middle Eastern NRNs can contribute to the development of Nepal via different levels of investments opportunities;
- Discuss strategies and stress the need for better coordination among the agencies of GoN for Safe Migration (Foreign Employment) and effective Collective Investment;
- Suggest concrete policy and action measures to the Government of Nepal and other stakeholders on issues related to Foreign Employment;
- Devise specific suggestions for channeling skill, knowledge and expertise gained over the years by NRNs in this region and worldwide, as well as suggestions



for converting savings to productive investment to support Nepal's development efforts and create opportunities within Nepal;

- Suggest concrete steps to mobilize the passion and power of women, youth and other groups within the NRN community in the Middle East and the world to solidly support the NRNA initiatives in Nepal.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION:

- ▶ Each NCC from Middle East region is expected to participate with a delegation. Although it is a regional conference focusing primarily on the Middle Eastern Region, it is open to NCC delegations from around the globe, being an International Conference organized by the International Coordination Council of NRNA. The aim is to have participation from all 56 countries where NRNA has a National Coordination Council.
- ▶ Individual NRNs are also invited to participate in the conference.
- ▶ There will be an ICC meeting during the conference.
- ▶ Friends of Nepal - "Participants from Foreign Countries" -- and Nepalis who are interested in working with the NRN community for promoting NRNA's mission and objectives are also invited to participate.

REGISTRATION

Participation is based on registration. The registration fee for all international participants for 3 days is fixed at **US\$ 100** and **US\$ 50** for local participants who wish to participate on the main conference day only. The electronic registration forms are available at the official website of the NRNA - (<http://www.nrnuae.org>) and (<http://www.nrnuae.org>) or can be obtained through the NRNA Secretariat (nrn@nrn.org.np).

Registration will include a conference kit, lunch and dinners. (For Local Participants - conference kit, welcome dinner and one lunch; for International Participants - conference kit, 2 lunches and 2 dinners). The registration fee will not cover lodging and transportation.

Registration will be open until **Friday, December 31, 2010**. Intending participants can either send money to the NRNA account as noted below, or pay directly at the venue. (*Note: Only cash will be accepted at the venue*).

Beneficiary: FNCCI-NRNA

Name of the Bank: Bank of Kathmandu, Kamaladi, Kathmandu, Nepal

Account No: 070000065952

Swift: BOKLNPKA

VISA, ACCOMMODATION and TRANSPORTATION:

Nepali nationals need pre visa to travel to the United Arab Emirates. PNOs holding foreign passports should check with the UAE Embassies (or relevant UAE mission) if they need visa to enter the United Arab Emirates. A visa for UAE can also be obtained from some of the UAE Embassies in the respective countries.. However, in most cases visitors would require a local sponsor from the UAE before the respective country



embassy would issue a visitor's visa to the United Arab Emirates. Hence, to facilitate this, arrangement has been made with Crowne Plaza Dubai to arrange required visa with a fee of Dhs 500/- all inclusive. All intending participants needing a UAE Visa should immediately contact:

Mr. Suresh Basyal,
General Secretary and
Chair, Invitation, Travel & Visa Facilitation Committee
Email: sureshbasyal@gmail.com
Phone: (+971) (50) 251-0419

Accommodation for the delegates has been arranged at the conference venue itself, i.e., Crowne Plaza Dubai, for US \$75 net for single occupancy and US \$90 net for double occupancy including breakfast. Participants are encouraged to book the hotel room in advance. The cut-off date for reserving the room at this special rate is Wednesday, December 15, 2010 and is on first come, first served basis. Online hotel reservation can be made at: [Click here](#) or, follow below link:

<http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/cp/1/en/advancedsearch?whichtype=room&roomResult=none&hotelCode=dubtc&quickRes=city&GPC=EFW&checkInDate=13&checkOutMonthYear=002011&checkInMonthYear=002011&checkOutDate=16&requestid=711510>

Accommodation and transportation as well as other expenditures except those covered under the registration package will be on a self-paying basis. The transport arrangements from airport to the hotel have to be made by the participants themselves. However, if you send your itinerary in advance, volunteers of the Local Hospitality Committee will be able to pick you up at the airport. Please contact **Eng. Mohan Sharma**, Advisor, NCC-UAE and Chair of the Conference Local Hospitality Committee at msharma@emirates.com and/or **Mr. Pradeep Kumar Basnet**, Member, NCC-UAE and Chair of Conference Transport Management Committee at pkbasnet@gmail.com for assistance with airport pick-up.

CULTURAL PROGRAM

A Nepali and Arabian cultural program is being organized by the Local Hospitality Committee respectively on Friday, January 14, 2011 and Saturday, January 15, 2011. The Friday cultural program will be performed by local Nepali talent as well as Nepalese artists and singers from Nepal. The Desert Safari followed by Dinner and Arabian night programme is being organized for the international delegates.

BUSINESS DELEGATION

A business delegation from Nepal is invited. The delegation will have interaction with the local business community as well.

SOUVENIR

A souvenir will be published dedicated to the 5th NRN Regional Conference 2011. For ads and article, please contact Chair of the Souvenir & Articles Committee, Dr. Mani Raj Pokharel, via email at drmrp59@gmail.com



FINANCING

Every NRNA conference needs to be self sustaining. The NCCs and Nepali owned and associated businesses can become partners of the conference. For NCCs to be partners of the conference, the fee has been fixed at **US \$1,000**. For companies/ businesses, the sponsorship fee has been fixed as per table below:

SN	Category	Amount to be contributed	
		NRs.	US (\$)
I	Platinum Partner	375,000/-	5,000
II	Gold Partner	220,500/-	3,000
III	Silver Partner	150,000/-	2,000
IV	NRNA – NCC	-	1,000

(Note: The Nepali Rupees rates are for Nepal based enterprises and US dollar rate are for enterprises based outside of Nepal.)

Benefits for the partners:

- ▶ Opportunity to showcase their business or organization among the global Nepali family.
- ▶ The logo of the partner will appear in the backdrop of the conference.
- ▶ The logo will also appear on the NRNA website.
- ▶ The partners will be allowed to have a complimentary one page advertisement in the souvenir publication. Partners will be acknowledged during the inauguration session
- ▶ Promotional material (should be handy and of small size – brochure, pen, calendar) of the sponsor can be included in conference kit.
- ▶ Partner's name will be incorporated in the conference report and materials.
- ▶ The partners will be allowed registration of 3, 2 and 1 person free of charge (Kit, 2 Lunches and 2 Dinners).
- ▶ The partners will be provided with a token of appreciation and/or a certificate shall be provided at a proper function during the conference

CONTACT:

For additional information or queries, please contact:

Mr. Rameshwar Shah

Coordinator

5th NRN Regional Conference, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Email: rameshwar.shah.np@gmail.com

URL: <http://www.nrn.org.np>

Mr. Hom Raj Acharya, Executive Director

Non-Resident Nepali Association (NRNA) Secretariat

FNCCI Building

Pachali Shahid Shukra FNCCI Milan Marg, Teku,

PO Box 269, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Tel: (+977-1) 4215247/4262061

Fax: (+977-1) 4215247

Email: nrn@nrn.org.np

URL: <http://www.nrn.org.np>