

**Statement by H.E. Bharat Kumar Regmi, Permanent Representative of Nepal
at the Thirty-Second Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and
Criminal Justice**

Vienna, 22-26 May, 2023

Mr. Chair,

Allow me to express my congratulations on your election as Chair of the 32nd Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), and to extend my well wishes to the other members of the Bureau for their respective elections. I am confident that under your able leadership, this Session will conclude successfully, and I assure you of my delegation's full support.

I would like to express my appreciation for the outstanding efforts made by the UNODC team and specifically thank Ms. Ghada Waly, the Executive Director, for her unwavering dedication and commitment.

Mr. Chair,

Nepal aligns itself with the statements delivered by G-77 and China and the Asia-Pacific Group and wishes to add the following points in its national capacity:

Nepal strongly emphasizes the importance of strengthening bilateral, regional, subregional, and international collaboration concerning criminal affairs with the objective of preventing and combating transnational organized crime, corruption, and terrorism. This includes matters concerning extradition and mutual legal assistance. We urge Member States to embrace practical measures that would promote and streamline such cooperation.

We strongly believe in the significance of the Kyoto Declaration as a crucial political document, requiring the implementation of appropriate policies, operational measures, and strong partnerships in crime prevention and criminal justice.

Nepal has implemented various national measures to prevent crime and promote criminal justice.

I would like to express Nepal's unwavering commitment to the principles of fairness, impartiality, and accountability within our criminal justice system. We have dedicated significant efforts towards establishing robust policies, comprehensive

plans, effective programs, and reliable institutions to prevent crimes and ensure the provision of criminal justice.

It is important to highlight that we have taken concrete steps to implement various acts, such as those on mutual legal assistance, extradition, the elimination of organized crime, and combating money laundering. These acts are essential in our fight against transnational organized crimes.

Through these measures, Nepal strives to enhance its capacity to combat transnational crimes, promote international cooperation, and protect the integrity of our justice system. We are steadfast in our determination to eliminate organized crime and uphold the principles of justice, ensuring that offenders are held accountable for their actions.

Nepal is a party to major international legal instruments for the suppression of such crimes, including the United Nations Transnational Organized Crime Convention, the parent convention of the Trafficking in Person and Smuggling of Migrant Protocols. We are also working towards ratifying the Protocols. The provisions of those legal instruments have been incorporated into our domestic legislation. Nepal is closely working with International Criminal Police Organization to ensure the prosecution of perpetrators.

Nepal's legislation focuses largely on human trafficking and has made amendments to its legislation to try to bring it in line with international standards in recent years. The illegal wildlife trade stands as one of the areas of successful government action in combating organized crime.

Nepal remains resolute in its commitment to creating a criminal justice system that is fair, impartial, and accountable to all its citizens.

Mr. Chair,

We warmly welcome this year's theme of "Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels," particularly in the context of crime prevention and criminal justice. The COVID-19 pandemic has posed significant challenges to global security and the rule of law, necessitating a comprehensive response to ensure a safe and just society. By aligning our efforts with the 2030 Agenda, we can address the root causes of crime, strengthen crime prevention measures, and promote effective criminal justice systems. It is imperative to prioritize sustainable and inclusive approaches that uphold human rights, promote social cohesion, and tackle the

underlying factors contributing to criminal behavior. We are committed to collaborating with international partners, sharing best practices, and utilizing innovative strategies to accelerate the recovery process while advancing crime prevention and criminal justice initiatives in line with the sustainable development goals.

We emphasize on full and effective implementation of UNCAC and UNTOC, and their review mechanisms, and to enhance tailor made capacity-building and technical assistance, particularly for LDCs and Countries in Transition, taking into account the realities and priorities of the State Parties.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate that Nepal is fully committed to supporting the efforts of this Commission in preventing crime and promote criminal justice.

Thank you, Chair.