Statement by H.E. Amrit Bahadur Rai, Ambassador / Permanent Representative of Nepal to the UN, at the HLM of the GA to Commemorate and Promote the “International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace”

GA Hall, New York, 24 April 2019,

3 minutes

At the outset, I begin by expressing my condolences to the people and Government of Sri Lanka on the loss of lives and serious injuries in the recent deadly attacks. Our hearts and minds are with those who lost their near and dear ones. Nepal stands by the people of Sri Lanka at this hour of grief.

Madam President,

I would like to thank you for convening today's High-Level Meeting to commemorate the first “International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace”.

I align my statement with the one delivered by the delegation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

The world today is much more interconnected and interdependent than ever before. There are enormous problems which do not respect national boundaries. Terrorism and transnational crimes must be curbed, pandemics have to be controlled and adverse effect of climate change must be checked. New technological achievements like artificial intelligence and cyber worlds need new regulations. The ever rising inequality and inequitable access to development resources have betrayed human's hope for a just and prosperous world. Leaving the planet livable for our future generations is our priority. These global
challenges require a global response. And the global response is only possible through multilateralism. Therefore, our resolve to promote and strengthen multilateralism is much more needed today than ever before.

Multilateralism is needed to achieve sustainable development goals as well as to ensure a peaceful world. It ensures effective implementation of international law, human rights, humanitarian and environmental laws. It provides voice and rightful place to many small and developing countries in the global stage. It empowers them to set the rules for the global order and ensures global solutions to global challenges.

Nepal firmly believes that the United Nations is an epitome of multilateralism. The principles of the UN charter and norms of world peace are the guiding posts for multilateralism. Diplomacy must be given every chance to prevent conflicts and promote international peace and security. The maturity of human civilization will only be reflected if we embrace diplomacy, not the war for settling our differences.

Nepal hopes that every year this day will remind us of our interwoven destiny in this interconnected world and reenergize us to work together for development and peace.

I conclude, **Madam President**, with an urge for further strengthening an equitable, transparent and rule-based multilateralism with the stronger and effective United Nations at the front and centre.

I thank you.