

Press Release

Hon'ble Minister for Health confers with the Minister of Bhutan

A bilateral meeting was held on the sidelines of the World Health Assembly between Hon'ble Minister of Health, Mr. Shakti Bahadur Basnet and His Excellency Lyonpo Zangley Dukpa, Minister of Health of Bhutan, in Geneva this morning.

During the meeting, various matters of mutual interests and cooperation were discussed, in particular matters concerning public health. Hon'ble Minister appreciated Bhutan's role of leadership as the current Chair of SAARC and stressed that the regional association should be made more effective. He also highlighted the ongoing cooperation between the two countries in the areas of health including the development of human resources. He further stressed that there exists huge potential of bilateral cooperation in research, development and dissemination of Ayurvedic medicines. Minister Basnet also made a point about the need to ensure equitable representation in the international organizations including the WHO Regional Office and to enable it to represent more consolidated voice of the members of South East Asia Region.

Minister of Bhutan thanked Nepal for the latter's support in Bhutan's assuming SAARC Chairmanship and assured that Bhutan as the current SAARC Chair is committed to make the regional grouping more effective in addressing the common concerns of the region. He also thanked Nepal for helping in developing its human resources. The Bhutanese Minister underlined the possibilities for the two countries to work together in international fora like WHO. He also indicated that Bhutan seeks Nepal's support in its bid to be a member of the UN Security Council.

Also present in the meeting were Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Nepal in Geneva, Dr. Dinesh Bhattarai and Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Population, Dr. Sudha Sharma.

Permanent Mission of Nepal in Geneva
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