



Press Release
By the local European Union
Presidency



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“Strengthen the peace process to make elections a success”

At the end of December the United Kingdom will hand over the local Presidency of the European Union to France, which will be representing Slovenia until July 2008 and then in its own right until the end of 2008.

Over the last six months, EU Heads of Mission and Representatives in Kathmandu have emphasised the need for progress towards credible elections, which would include addressing the concerns of marginalised groups; improvement in public security; and action to tackle human rights abuses and impunity by state and non-state actors.

More work needs to be done on these three issues and the EU will continue to urge the political parties to take action. The EU will continue to support the peace process and political parties in working together towards credible elections. An EU Election Observation Mission stands ready to return to Nepal when requested.

British Ambassador Andrew Hall said: “the priority for all must be to rebuild confidence in the peace process and work together towards credible elections. The EU, a long term friend of Nepal and its largest development partner, is ready to support Nepal and help it make progress towards credible elections, improved public security and tackling impunity”.

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