



# INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS

Commission internationale de juristes - Comisión Internacional de Juristas

*" dedicated since 1952 to the primacy, coherence and implementation of international law and principles that advance human rights "*

## COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE - COMUNICADO DE PRENSA

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### **ICJ begins high level mission to Nepal to explore inclusion of human rights in Nepal's peace process**

The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) today began a five-day high-level mission to Nepal to assess the human rights and rule of law situation in the country and to discuss with the government, the Maoists, the judiciary and civil society effective means to ensure that human rights is an integral part of Nepal's emerging peace process.

"I have learned from experience in many countries that addressing current and past human rights violations and the underlying causes of the conflict are essential if the peace process is to be stable and long term", said Nicholas Howen, ICJ Secretary-General. "During my visit I will explore with Nepalis how they believe the human rights issues could be tackled in a way that works for this country and its people".

The mission is led by ICJ Secretary-General, Nicholas Howen, accompanied by Susan Appleyard, Programme Officer for Asia-Pacific.

While in Nepal, the mission team will meet with officials of the Nepali Government, and the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist), the Nepal Army, senior members of the judiciary and bar, non-governmental human rights organisations, the United Nations and the international diplomatic community.

This is Nicholas Howen's fourth visit to Nepal as the ICJ Secretary-General since 2004.

**A press conference will be held at the completion of the mission at 9am on Friday, 3 November at the Annapurna Hotel.**

*For further information contact Susan Appleyard, Programme Officer, at +9779803256461.*

The ICJ is an international non-governmental organisation comprising sixty of the world's most eminent jurists and has a worldwide network of national sections and affiliated organisations

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