



## **WORLD PEACE COUNCIL**

**10 OTHONOS ST. 10557 ATHENS GREECE**  
**TEL: +30-210- 3316326 FAX: +30-210-3224302**  
[www.wpc-in.org](http://www.wpc-in.org), e-mail: [info@wpc-in.org](mailto:info@wpc-in.org) , [wpc@otenet.gr](mailto:wpc@otenet.gr)

### Speech of Greetings of Iraklis Tsavdaridis, Executive Secretary WPC at the inaugural session of the regional meeting Asia&Pacific of the WPC Kathmandu 12-13 June 2009

Distinguished members of the government and MPs of Nepal  
Dear representatives of the political and social organisations of Nepal  
Dear comrades from the peace and solidarity movements of the region  
Dear comrades of the host organisation Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council

It is with great pleasure to be here today attending the regional meeting of Asia&Pacific of the WPC and to convey to all of you the most militant anti-imperialist solidarity greetings of the leadership of the World Peace Council.

The holding of the regional meeting of WPC in Kathmandu is of historical and political importance. After decades the WPC is holding again a constitutional meeting in Nepal, hosted by the Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council, which is carrying forward the long traditions of the peace loving people of Nepal and contributing by this to the further strengthening of the WPC in the region and worldwide.

It is the first regional meeting of Asia&Pacific after the successful holding of the Assembly of WPC last year in Caracas in which more than 125 Organisations from 83 countries participated, including the delegation from NPSC.

Our meeting will contribute also to the better preparation of the coming Executive Committee Meeting of WPC to be held on October 23-25 in Damascus, Syria.

This meeting takes place in Nepal, in a moment the Nepali people are on their way for their new Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal. The peace loving people of Nepal are sending a message to all the peoples of the world, that the people can become masters of their fortunes without discrimination of religion, ethnicity, sex or caste, overcoming feudal and monarchical domination in a peace process which will close the wounds of the armed conflict which lasted from 1996-2006 and for ever.

We would like to congratulate all of you representatives of Nepali Organisations for these achievements, expressing at the same time our full hearted solidarity with your struggle.

The World and in particular Asia and the Pacific, the peoples and nations in your region are facing to a great extend huge social problems, like unemployment, poverty, underdevelopment, diseases and marginalisation of big parts of the population. One reason is still the consequences of the colonial rule and exploitation for centuries, but also the neo-colonial dependence and imperialist domination in the whole region. Peace and Security is at stake on daily level due to the imperialist plans, the war drive policies of imperialism and the local oligarchies which are using amongst others religious extremism in order to dilute, divide and subjugate the peoples. The amount of money which is being spent by the Asian governments on armament and weapons could solve all problems multiple times. The few multi-billionaires and the Multinational corporations continue increasing their wealth and profits, despite the world economic crisis. They need Asia as provider of cheap labour and as markets for their products. In order to secure their interests, the imperialists are building up huge military machineries, foreign military bases and fleet like the 7<sup>th</sup> US fleet in the Pacific with willing allies all over Asia. The will of the peoples is hardly asked or respected. The records of war, invasions and occupation of Imperialism, of support to dictatorial regimes and oppression are very long till today. The double standard and double moral of the imperialist forces is increasing the injustice and violates every sense of International law.

We want to express from this meeting our unconditional support and solidarity to the peoples in the region who are fighting against all this injustice and for the right to determine their future without foreign interference, in peace and with full sovereignty.

Our member Organisations in the WPC are in the forefront of this struggle, playing a major role in their countries. At the same time they show their internationalist solidarity to other peoples in other regions in need, regardless if it is Palestine, Cuba or the peoples struggling in the developed capitalist countries against the same enemy for the same ideals.

These two days we will discuss and exchange experience and information, we will plan common actions and we are sure that the outcome of the meeting will be an important contribution to the global struggle of WPC.

We salute the Nepali peace loving people and forces and express our congratulations for the holding of this important meeting.

Lal Salam!