

Report on
‘Towards Socially Responsible
Business and
Impact of Conflict on Business’

December 24, 2005
Chamber of Industries, Morang, Biratnagar

ORGANIZED BY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Lotus Opportunities and **ActionAid Nepal** in association with **National Business Initiatives** organized a half-day seminar on "**Towards Socially Responsible Business and impact of conflict on business**" on December 24, 2005 at Chamber of Industries, Morang, Biratnagar. The objective behind this seminar was to create awareness of CSR among the local businesses in Biratnagar and also to discuss the impact of conflict on businesses

Mr. Ashok Murarka, President of CIM, Biratnagar welcomed all the guests and reporters from various media participating in the seminar. His message was to stop conflict and prevail peace, as it is the most important thing over the country.

Mr. Dina Mani Pokharel, ActionAid Nepal shared that the voluntary aspect of CSR may not be sustainable in the long run therefore all the businesses should be made accountable to CSR through law. Mr. Padma Jyoti, National Business Initiative gave the history of NBI and how it has started and its objectives. Mr. Umesh Shrestha, PABSON presentation was focused the impact of conflict on Education in Nepal and he stressed that private sectors should work together for peace.

Mr. Rajiv Pradhan, Lotus Opportunities presentation focused on the theory and principles of CSR and mentioned that to have a successful society, successful business is needed therefore businesses have to think about long term profit on a sustainable way through CSR. Mr. Birendra Basnet, Buddha Air explained their CSR policy in their organization and said that the organization first priority is the employees then the customers.

Mr. Eak Raj Bhattarai and Mr. Ramesh Chandra Poudyel presented a paper on the impact of conflict on business and said that private sector have to take initiative on raising the voice for peace. Mr. Shiv Prasad Ghimire, Petroleum Dealers Association Nepal the local partner for the seminar thanked the entire participants and the speaker of the seminar and urged everybody to seriously think about stopping conflict and move towards peace building activities.