Statement by H.E. Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations at the First Committee on Agenda 98 (g) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific.

New York, 21 October 2010

(Check against delivery)

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation has the honor to introduce a draft resolution under the agenda item 98 (g) entitled “United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific” contained in document A/C.1/65/L 56.

The sponsors of draft resolution are Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Maldives, Micronesia (Federate State of), Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam and my own country Nepal. My delegation expresses sincere gratitude to all the sponsors and those delegations that will co-sponsor the text.

Besides the factual and technical updates, a new text was introduced in Operative Paragraph 1 with a view to reflect on increasing interests of the member states of the Asia-Pacific region in the work of the Centre and to further enable it as an effective regional mechanism for the implementation of measures of peace and disarmament in the region.

After its relocation from New York to Kathmandu in 2008, the UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific has been steadily increasing its collaboration with member states in the region in the various aspects of peace and disarmament, particularly in the field of small arms and light weapons, nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

As the host country of the Regional Centre, Nepal pledges its commitment to providing full support to the Centre to make it an effective United Nations regional entity dealing with disarmament and non-proliferation issues in the region.
I would like to take this opportunity to express Nepal’s gratitude to the Member States for their continued support to the Regional Centre, including the voluntary contributions for the program and activities of the Centre. We are confident that more member states will come forward to lend their support to the Centre in days ahead enabling the Centre to gear up its activities in its mandated field.

Mr. Chairman,

Continued regional dialogue, exchange of views and sharing good practices among the member states in the region are some of the essential elements for creating conducive environment for disarmament and non-proliferation. As the primary UN regional machinery for peace and disarmament, United Nations Regional Centre can play an important role towards this end by providing the permanent platform to Member States for constant dialogue and exchange of views.

Regional endeavors and initiatives on peace, disarmament and non-proliferation are critical elements for wider arrangement of global peace and security. Region understands in a better way where the nuances of regional issues lie and what could be the durable solutions vis-à-vis differences among the member states in the region. Peace and disarmament would not foster where the cloud of suspicion and misunderstanding are dense. Frequent interactions among the member states in the region would greatly help dispel misunderstanding and create a sense of confidence. It is our belief that the UN Regional Centre could be fully utilized for nurturing regional understanding and cooperation in the field of peace, disarmament and non-proliferation.

With this conviction, my delegation has the honor to introduce, on behalf of the co-sponsors, draft resolution L56 entitled “United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asian the Pacific” before this Committee. As in the previous years, the draft resolution aims at sustained and effective role for the Centre as UN regional entity that could better respond to the actual needs of Member States in the region in the field of peace and disarmament.

My delegation is confident that the Committee will adopt the draft resolution by consensus.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.