PRESS RELEASE

The Government of Norway has agreed to contribute an additional grant assistance of Norwegian Kroner 127 million (approximately NRs 1.83 billion) to the pool of School Sector Reform Program (SSRP). The Government of Nepal and the Government of Norway signed an addendum to the Financing Agreement at the Ministry of Finance, today.

The SSRP was implemented as the first support under Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) modality to the Government of Nepal where the Government takes lead in implementing, monitoring and evaluating its School Sector Plan and the contribution of development partners are pooled into one basket in harmonized and aligned manner.

Government of Norway has been one of the pool partners since its inception. This program mainly aims at reforming public schools with quality and inclusive education towards achieving the goal of "Education for all" in Nepal. This program was originally planned to complete in 2013/14. However, Government of Nepal has decided to extend for another two years considering its continued relevance. Government of Norway has been supporting SSRP as one of the prominent pool partners since 2009. The extended Joint Financing Arrangement (JFA) among pooling partners including Norway has already been signed as guiding framework for joint financing.

Addendum to the agreement was signed by Madhu Kumar Marasini, Joint Secretary and Chief of International Economic Coordination Division, Ministry of Finance and H.E, Mr.Kjell Tormod Petterson, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Norway to Nepal, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The Government of Nepal has expressed its sincere appreciation to the government of Norway for this assistance and also for its continued support in the socio-economic development of Nepal.

Ministry of Finance Singhadurbar, Kathmandu 05rd December, 2014 (Mangshir 19, 2071)