---- Original Message -----

From: **EEC-NEPAL** 

**To:** <u>Stephan Müchler</u>; <u>Anna Högberg</u> **Cc:** <u>nishikant.hate@ec.europa.eu</u>

**Sent:** Friday, December 21, 2007 4:19 PM

Subject: Re: European Economic Chamber (EEC), Nepal; # 133-329;

Title: Enhancing the Capacity of Intermediary Business Organizations in Nepal (ECIBON)

Mr. Stephan Müchler President and CEO

Sydsvenska Industri- och Handelskammaren

(Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Southern Sweden)

Industrie- und Handelskammer Südschweden

Skeppsbron 2 S-211 20 Malmö

Dear Mr. Müchler:

I am writing this letter to you as per the news received from Mr. Nishikant Haté, Advisor - European Commission, New Delhi regarding ECIBON Project.

During the kick-off meeting, you had clearly stated that you will be closing international department and will stop your engagement. Thus, you had requested to pre-pone all your activities in Nepal. Accordingly, as per your request, we designed the plan of action to suit your requirements.

As per the discussion in London during the month of October, we requested you time and again to send us Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for partnership agreement and also send us the necessary invoices for expenses incurred for your involvement to redesign the project in London. Unfortunately, we received none of the request made by us.

We were all prepared to expedite ECIBON project. Your involvement in the project has been widely circulated as well amongst the potential Intermediary Business Organizations (IBOs) in Nepal and funding agencies like European Commission, and likeminded agencies such as UNDP, Asian Development Bank, World Bank, GTZ, SNV, among others.

Nepalese IBOs had high hopes that your expertise in chamber management would be significantly utilized to achieve the objectives of the project. Moreover, we were optimistic that your professionalism would be imparted to the beneficiaries of the project in the context of globalization.

We know that you had played a significant role in building a pragmatic proposal for getting EU funded grant for this project. Even before starting meaningful activities, your pulling out from the project in the beginning reflects on your professionalism.

As per our understanding in London, we were all prepared to expedite the activities of the project for the fiscal year 2007/2008/2009 which is already prepared with detail action plans and expected outcomes in action matrix form.

Now we have come to know from Mr. Haté about your intention to pull out from the project as one of the partners. With this news, we are totally astonished.

In order to fill the vacuum created by your action, we are overburdened with additional expenses in which we will be compelled to search other alternatives.

You had earlier committed to hold programs; however, your deviation may cost both of us a lot as we have made all the necessary programs keeping your organization in mind for support and training in the following activities:

- -Seminar on 'Chamber management and Administration' and 'Membership Recruitment' for IBOs in Nepal.
- -Seminar on 'How to arrange and carry out Match-Making activities and events' and 'How to prepare and participate in Trade Fairs and Exhibitions'.
- -Seminar on International Documents and Payments' and 'Regional policy in Economy and Infrastructure -Lobbying and Advocacy-.

- -General assessment of trade related procedures and requirements with specific reference to trade between Nepal and the EU partner
- -Determination of the system to exchange business information between Nepali IBOs and European partners.

In this regard, how do you plan to compensate on this? Please let us know at the earliest possible.

Thanking you for your initiative.

Regards,

Pravakar Bickram Rana Project Manager ECIBON Project

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European Economic Chamber (EEC) - Nepal

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---- Original Message -----From: HATE Nishikant (RELEX)

To: EEC-NEPAL

Cc: eectci-nepal@ncec.com.np; ILLES Laszlo (RELEX)

Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2007 9:33 PM

Subject: European Economic Chamber (EEC), Nepal; # 133-329;

Title: Enhancing the Capacity of Intermediary Business Organizations in Nepal (ECIBON)

Dibya Mani RAJBHANDARI

President

European Economic Chamber of Trade, Commerce & Industry (EEC)

Nepal

Dear Mr. Rajbhandari:

This is to inform you that we have received a notification (appended below) from one of your project partners, withdrawing their support to the above EC co-funded project.

Please let us know what will be the repercussions on the project activities and how you propose to proceed in the new circumstances.

Best Regards

## Nishikant HATÉ

Advisor

European Union

Delegation of the European Commission to India, Bhutan and Nepal 65 Golf Links, New Delhi 110 003 INDIA [ 49 Sunder Nagar, N.D. ]

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cc: Pravakar Bickram Rana Project Manager ECIBON Project

From: Stephan Müchler [mailto:Stephan.Muechler@handelskammaren.com]

Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2007 7:35 PM

**To:** HATE Nishikant (RELEX)

Cc: Anna Högberg; Ingemar Nilsson; Jörgen Nilsson

Subject: Contract No: ASIE/2007/133-329

Dear Mr. Haté,

The Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Southern Sweden must, with regret, withdraw its cooperation in the project "Enhancing the Capacity of Intermediary Business Organizations in Nepal" ECIBON (Contract No: ASIE/2007/133-329) funded by the European Union under Asia Invest Program.

Our organisation is not at this time able to provide the support or training that it volunteered for the project application in 2006.

Please advice on how to formally proceed.

Sincerely, Stephan Müchler

President and CEO Sydsvenska Industri- och Handelskammaren Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Southern Sweden Industrie- und Handelskammer Südschweden S-211 20 Malmö Skeppsbron 2 Tel. +46 40 690 24 00 Fax. +46 40 690 24 90 www.handelskammaren.com