



**European Union  
Election Observation Mission**  
Nepal Constituent Assembly Election

**The European Union has deployed an Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) to Nepal for the Constituent Assembly election scheduled for 10 April 2008**

**Who are the people working for the EU EOM?**

The EU Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) is headed by the Chief Observer, Jan Mulder, who is a Dutch Member of the European Parliament (MEP).

A core team of nine election experts from five different EU member states arrived in Kathmandu on 9 March to set up and co-ordinate the mission. The core team analyses political, electoral and legal issues and is supported by logistical and security experts.



Jan Mulder

The mission has 40 long-term observers from 15 different EU member states as well as Norway and Switzerland, who have been working in teams of two in districts across Nepal since 25 March. They observe the electoral process in their area and report back to the core team in Kathmandu.

Around 70 short-term observers will join the mission the week before the election. On election day they will observe voting and counting in polling stations throughout the country.

The EU EOM will stay in Nepal for several weeks after election day.

**What is the mandate of the EU EOM?**

The EU was invited to set up an EOM for the election in Nepal by the Government of Nepal.

The mission's mandate is to observe all aspects of the electoral process and assess the extent to which the election complies with international standards for elections, as well as with Nepalese law.

The EU EOM is independent from the European Commission Delegation to Nepal and EU member states.

The EU EOM will observe the entire electoral process including:

- the legal framework and its implementation
- the work of the election administration
- campaign activities
- the role of State institutions and civil society
- the conduct of the media
- voting, counting and tabulation, and
- the environment in which the election is being conducted.

The EU EOM will publish its findings after the election.

EU EOM uses the following assessment criteria during its observation of an electoral process:

- the degree of impartiality shown by the election administration;
- the degree of freedom of political parties and candidates to assemble and express their views;
- the fairness of access to state resources during the election;
- the universal franchise afforded to voters;
- the degree of access for political parties and candidates to the media, in particular the state media;
- any other issue which concerns the democratic nature of the election (e.g. campaign violence; rule of law; legal framework);
- the conduct of polling and counting of votes.

**Background to EU Election Observation**

The EU has an established methodology for observing elections. Observers cannot interfere in the electoral process and have no authority to change or correct any shortcomings. All EU election observers are bound by a strict code of conduct that guarantees their neutrality and impartiality.

The EU EOM is funded under the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR).

The main objectives of election observation are:

- to enhance public confidence in the electoral process
- to deter fraud
- to strengthen respect for human rights and the rule of law
- to contribute to resolution of conflict

**How do I contact the EU EOM?**

The EU EOM offices are at: Hotel Yak and Yeti, Kathmandu  
Tel: +977 1 4441501/2  
Fax: +977 1 4441448 email: info@eueomnepal.org

For further details see:

**www.eueomnepal.org**