



# **NEPAL BANKERS' ASSOCIATION**

July 2022

#### About Us

In view of growing banking business in Nepal, it has been felt necessary to establish an Association for collective efforts and participation of the banks to establish and enhance the interrelationship and co-ordination among the commercial banks incorporated in Nepal in order to develop a fair and healthy competition among the banks, to maintain uniformity in the policy and procedures to develop and adopt creative and modern technology, to make the banks more effective and efficient, and to identify the problems and implement the remedies associated with the business of the banks, and institution with the name "Nepal Bankers' Association" has been established under the Institution Registration Act, 2034.

#### Main Objectives

- 1. To develop and promote efficient, strong and creative banking activities and business within the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal based on the most recent and modern principles and prudent practices.
- 2. To adopt and implement necessary policies, procedures and technology for the purpose of providing prompt and useful banking services to the general public.
- 3. To assist and provide various suggestions to the members of the Association with regard to banking business and activities.
- 4. To provide suggestions to the Government of Nepal and Nepal Rastra Bank from time to time in connection with the formulation of necessary banking policies and to carry on timely reform in banking transactions.
- 5. To implement appropriate way out for remedying various problems and difficulties faced in connection with banking activities concerning the business, administration, legal, procedural, technical etc. by establishing mutual co-ordination and assistance among the banks.
- 6. To organize and conduct training, seminars, conferences from time to time with a view to enhance the knowledge, skill, efficiency and productivity of the employees in the banking sector.
- 7. To plan and conduct a study in an organized and coordinated manner for the further development of the banking activities, business, resources, human resources and management of the banks.
- 8. To work for the enhancement of positive attitude of the general public towards banking activities and services.



#### **Executive Committee**

President Mr. Anil Kumar Upadhyay Chief Executive Officer Agricultural Development Bank Ltd.

> Vice-President Mr. Sunil KC Chief Executive Officer NMB Bank Ltd.

Member Mr. Ajaya Bikram Shah Chief Executive Officer Laxmi Bank Ltd.

Member Mr. Krishna B. Adhikari Chief Executive Officer Nepal Bank Ltd.

Member Mr. Santosh Koirala Chief Executive Officer Machhapuchchhre bank Ltd.

Advisor Mr. Ashoke S. J. B. Rana Chief Executive Officer Himalayan Bank Ltd. Member Mr Dipak Kumar De Managing Director/ Chief Executive Officer Nepal SBI Bank Ltd.

Member Mr. Roshan K. Neupane Chief Executive Officer NIC Asia Bank Ltd.

Member Mr. Suman Sharma Chief Executive Officer Sunrise Bank Ltd.

Advisor Mr. Gyanendra Pd. Dhungana Chief Executive Officer Nabil Bank Ltd.

#### **Province Coordinators**

Province	Coordinator	Bank
Province 1	Mr. Vivek Kumar Niraula	Sunrise Bank Ltd.
Madesh Province	Mr. Ujwal Ghimire	Laxmi Bank Ltd.
Bagmati Province	Ms. Shangrila Shrestha	NCC Bank Ltd.
Gandaki Province	Mr. Samir K. C	Civil Bank Ltd.
Lumbini Province	Mr. Lekhanath Bhusal	Nepal Bank Ltd.
Karnali Province	Mr. Rajan Pokhrel	NIC Asia Bank Ltd.
Sudurpaschim Province	Mr. Biruram Jaishi	NMB Bank Ltd.



# **Recent Activities**

#### Interaction Program on Anti Money Laundering

July 11, 2022 - Office of the Prime Minister and the Council Ministers (OPMCM) organized a program on Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CFT) Mutual Evaluation and Effectiveness Response Report.

Dr. Hari Nepal, Deputy Director of NRB highlighted the progress made on AML/ CFT Effectiveness so far. The program was divided into two sessions: during the first session, few AML/CFT Heads from the member banks along with participants from various reporting entities were invited. During the second session, all the CEOs were invited.



Mr. Dharmaraj Gyawali, Secretary, OPMCM, Mr. Udaya Raj Sapkota, Secretary, Ministry of Law, Justice, and Parliamentary Affairs, Mr. Bambahadur Mishra, Deputy Governor NRB, CEOs of all commercial banks, attended the program.

Mr. Anil Kumar Upadhayay, President NBA, assured that banks are doing their level best on the matter and if there are any gaps or weaknesses, banks are ready to do the needful from their end. Mr. Dharmaraj Gyawali, Secretary, OPMCM, thanked all the participants for their valuable presence and requested for support and collaboration from all the concerned stakeholders to work closely with a special focus on upcoming Mutual Evaluation.



#### Meeting to Discuss on NFRS 3 and NFRS 9 Implementation

July 8, 2022 - Nepal Bankers' Association (NBA) organized a meeting to discuss on implementation of NFRS 3 and NFRS 9. The meeting was hosted to gain better insight into the implementation and understand the current position of banks with regards to NFRS 9, and the easing out the bargain purchase gain matter related to NFRS 3. Officials from Nepal Rastra Bank, Accounting Standard Board (ASB), Institute of Chartered Accountants Nepal (ICAN) and member CEOs participated in the program.

Mr. Manish Raj Upreti, FCA, Board Member, ASB made a presentation on NFRS 9 and detailed tasks/preparation required to implement NFRS 9 including the roles and responsibility of various stakeholders. Mr. Arun Raut, FCA, Board Member, ASB presented on NFRS 3 and way forward to ensure the level of understanding on the subject matter is same across all level.

Mr. Anil Kumar Upadhaya, President, appreciated the eagerness and supportiveness shown by NRB, ASB and ICAN on the subject matter and added that banking sector is keen to proceed with NFRS 9 implementation but due to several factors, additional time would be required for it. Likewise, on NFRS 3 he requested all the stakeholders to provide a clear Guidance so that there is no further dispute or confusion on it.











# Interaction and Networking Evening with NBI

July 6, 2022 - National Banking Institute (NBI) and Nepal Bankers' Association (NBA) collaborated to host an interaction session inviting the CEOs of all member banks.

Mr. Kumar Lamsal, Chief Executive Officer, NBI delivered a presentation highlighting the objectives, goals and future plans of NBI. He also talked about the range of activities conducted by NBI including their vision to make a talent hub to enhance the skills and knowledge level of employees in the banks.

NBA President Mr. Anil Kumar Upadhyay reinforced that NBA is ready to support NBI to meet their objective and appreciated the great efforts made by NBI in delivering valuable trainings, seminars and conferences.





# Interaction on CBDC and Upcoming Monetary Policy

July 1, 2022 - Nepal Bankers' Association (NBA) in coordination with Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB) organised an interaction program on Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) and Upcoming Monetary Policy at Pokhara on 1st July 2022. The objective of the program was to get input and suggestions from the CEOs of commercial banks by having a discussion on CBDC and the upcoming monetary policy.



The program started with welcome remarks from the NBA President Mr. Anil Kumar Upadhyay and NRB Director (Pokhara Office) Dr. Ram Saran Kharel where they highlighted the challenges and opportunities in the banking industry.

Mr. Sunil K. Pokharel, CEO, Civil Bank Ltd presented a paper on "The Future of CBDC and Its Impact on Banking Sector", which focused on the background, history and advantages of CBDC and the opportunities for the Central Bank and the entire banking sector on implementation of digital currency. Chief Guest of the program Honorable Governor Mr. Maha Prasad Adhikari welcomed the initiation taken by NBA and creating awareness on digital currency.





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Following the presentation, there was interaction on the upcoming Monetary Policy where the CEOs and Province Heads made some suggestions. Honorable Governor assured that the upcoming Monetary Policy shall focus on dealing with current financial difficulties and support the Fiscal Policy.

The program was hosted in the presence of NRB officials, CEOs and Gandaki Province Heads from member banks.





## CEOs Meeting with Mayor of Pokhara

July 1, 2022 - In the initiative of Nepal Bankers' Association (NBA), the Mayor of Pokhara Metropolitan City, Mr. Dhan Raj Acharya and all the CEOs of commercial banks met in Pokhara. The President of NBA Mr. Anil Kumar Upadhyay welcomed everyone to the session and admired the Mayor for attending the meeting despite the busy schedule.



The Mayor welcomed all the CEOs in the touristic city of Pokhara and thanked NBA for inviting him to the meeting. He highlighted the huge potential which Pokhara city has from tourism perspective and the necessity for investment in the city. He also shared his vision to develop Pokhara as the tourist capital. He discoursed the need for considerable investment in Pokhara's service sector, including hotels and schools, and advised CEOs to take an initiation on those projects because they carry less risk and high returns. Additionally, he expressed his willingness to remove any legislative barriers that are preventing the investment in Pokhara. The CEOs also participated in the discussion and shared their views.



## Meeting with Proparco

June 10, 2022 - A meeting between officials of Proparco and NBA. ON behalf of Proparco Ms. Diane Jegam, Regional Director South Asia and Mr. Lucas Pizzini, Investment Officer In-charge of Nepal, and on behalf of NBA Mr. Anil Kumar Upadhaya, President and Mr. Anil Sharma, Executive Director attended the meeting.

The meeting focused on the issues of inclusive, green, and solidary growth in South Asia and how Nepal may seize the chance since is considered as a vibrant and full of opportunity market. The discussion also focused on the ways in which Proparco could assist the private sector financially and technically in fostering equitable and sustainable growth, with a particular focus on financial institutions through creative and alluring financing.



# APRACA Membership

June 10, 2022- The Executive Committee Meeting # 486 approved the proposal of Nepal Bankers' Association to become a member of Asia-Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA).

APRACA is a Regional Association that promotes cooperation and facilitates mutual exchange of information and expertise in the field of rural finance. A total of 87 institutions from 24 countries in the Asia-Pacific Region are affiliated with the APRACA as its members. It is being believed that NBA's association with APRACA will help advancing agriculture and rural financial services in Nepal.



June 10, 2022- The Executive Committee Meeting # 486 approved the proposal for Nepal Bankers' Association (NBA) to become a member of Asian Bankers Association (ABA) as it would be of great value addition to the industry.

ABA is common forum for bank associations, banks and relevant stakeholders in the region. It aims to provide a forum for advancing the cause of the banking and finance industry in the region and promoting regional economic cooperation.



# Program on Warehouse Receipt Financing of Agricultural Commodities

June 3, 2022 - Nepal Bankers' Association (NBA) President Mr. Anil Kumar Upadhyay participated in a high level Stakeholders' Meeting on Warehouse Receipt Financing of Agricultural Commodities. The objective of the program was to generate ideas for - key issues/content for policy framing; choice and feasibility of policy instrument type for the current context; where there are no clear policies formulated to facilitate, monitor, and regulate the warehouse receipt financing of agricultural commodities. Diverse organizations' members had participated in the lively conversation.

# MOU Signed with Fintelekt Advisory Services

May 25, 2022 - Nepal Bankers' Association (NBA), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Fintelekt Advisory Services, a global specialist in Anti-Money Laundering (AML), Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CFT) and Financial Crime Compliance (FCC).



The MOU signing took place on May 25th at NBA's office in Kathmandu between Mr. Anil Kumar Upadhyay, President, Nepal Bankers' Association and Mr. Shirish Pathak, Managing Director, Fintelekt and formalized a collaboration that will facilitate AML/CFT webinars, workshops and executive briefing sessions for NBA member banks. The two organizations will also conduct research studies to aid policy decisions within banks and to provide feedback to regulators on various aspects within AML/CFT. Fintelekt will also provide its strategic advisory services to enable banks to enhance their AML/CFT governance frameworks.

Speaking about the partnership with Fintelekt NBA president Mr. Anil Kumar Upadhyay said that the engagement with Fintelekt is very much in line with NBA's aims of improving the knowledge, skill, efficiency, and productivity of employees in the banking sector, particularly in this crucial area of AML and CFT. It is being strongly believed that in the case where money laundering and financial crimes have grown significantly after Covid 19, the collaboration will improve banking industries' ability to cope with AML/CFT.

#### Meeting with IMF Mission

April 26, 2022 – The newly appointed International Monetary Fund's Resident Representative to Nepal Ms. Teresa Daban Sanchez met with NBA office bearers. The introductory meeting focused on IMF's Extended Credit Facility (ECF) First Review Mission to Nepal. During the meeting the current challenges and opportunities in the banking sector was also discussed.

Meeting with Asian Development Bank

April 17, 2022 – The newly appointed Asian Development Bank (ADB) Vice-President (Operations 1) Mr. Shixin Chen arranged a high-level interaction with banking and business community where NBA President Mr. Anil Kumar Upadhyay attended.

Mr. Upadhyay shared his views on Nepal's economy, its current state, near- and medium-term priorities. In addition, he offered suggestions to attract foreign investments.

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# Meeting with French Regional Economic Service

April 6, 2022 - Mr. David Karmouni, Deputy Head of the Regional Economic Service stationed in the French Embassy in Delhi, met the NBA office bearers led by Mr. Sunil KC, Vice-President, NBA.

The meeting was mainly focused on learning about the economic situation and outlook for the year to come; Nepalese banking industries' main engine of growth, credit cycle, situation of non-performing loans and issues of financial inclusion; financial inclusion including remittance channels; among others.

### Program on Environmental and Social Risk Management (ESRM)

April 4, 2022 - Nepal Bankers' Association (NBA) in a coordination with FMO and Dolma Consultant organized an interaction program on Effective Implementation of Environmental and Social Risks Management (ESRM). CEOs and Chief Risk Officers of the member banks participated in the program.

The prime objective of the workshop was to enhance the capacity of the banks and raise awareness, commitment, and collaborative action towards delivering sustainable environmental and social outcomes for the Nepalese banking industry and the best implementation of ESRM. The program also demanded the feedback and suggestions to improve the implementation of ESRM.



#### Meeting with Finance Minister

March 28, 2022 —The Finance Minister Mr. Janardan Sharma invited the CEOs of all member banks to understand the current issues and challenges faced by the banking industry. The meeting also focused on Policy level changes required from the Government level to ease out the situation. The interactive session was fruitful as several issues and suggestions from the banking sector was shared during the session.

# Agri Loan Fair

March 23-24, 2022 - In collaboration with other member organizations and various other stakeholders, Nepal Bankers' Association (NBA) hosted the Agro Loan Fair (Krishi Karja Mela) on March 23-24, 2022 at Bharatpur, Chitwan.

The main objective of the program was to connect various service providers and financial institutions with their agro loan services to farmers and agro entrepreneurs, and connect them through a single platform.

The event was inaugurated by Honorable Governor Mr. Maha Prasad Adhikari. The event had several panel discussion sessions and group activities. The program provided a forum for farmers, financial institutions, local authorities and various related agencies to discuss on availing agri loan, understanding banking processes, policies and regulatory guidelines.





### Department of Money Laundering Investigation Program

March 16, 2022 - Nepal Bankers' Association (NBA) in coordination with Department of Money Laundering Investigation (DMLI) organized an interaction program on "The Role and Interconnectedness of Reporting Entities, Regulatory Agencies and Investigating Agencies for Mutual Evaluation". Officials from DMLI, Financial Information Unit (FIU), Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB) and all member CEOs were invited to the program.

There were several presentations throughout the day - Mr. Prem Prasad Bhattarai, Director General, DMLI, presented on "Summary of Nepal's AML/ CFT Framework"; Mr. Dirgha Bahadur Rawal, Director, FIU presented on "Financial Intelligence and Reporting"; Mr. Hari Nepal, Deputy Director, NRB presented on "Related FATF Standards with regards to Immediate Outcomes"; Mr. Angaraj Timilsina, specialist, delivered the concluding paper on "Overall Financial Crimes: Emerging Issues and Challenges, Preventative Measures to be Used for the Protection of the Banking System from Misuse".

# MOU Signed between NBA and AMN

Feb 22, 2022- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between Nepal Bankers' Association (NBA) and Annapurna Media Network (AMN) with the common goal of "Unity for Sustainability". Mr. Anil K. Upadhyay, President, NBA and Mr. Sanat Neupane, CEO, AMN signed the MOU at NBA office, Thapathali.

The main objective of the collaboration was to work together to minimize the impact of climate change; emphasizing on investment promotion in the field of renewable and alternative energy, capacity building in entrepreneurship development, conservation of biodiversity, promotion of tourism and sustainable development. With this MOU, both the institutions will join forces for the promotion of ecology friendly business growth as well as publicity campaign to promote sustainable development in Nepal.





Online Consultation with Infectious Diseases Consultant

Jan 20, 2022- Nepal Bankers' Association (NBA) conducted an online consultation session with infectious diseases consultant Dr. Anup Subedee. The session was attended by CEOs and HR Heads from member banks.

The session was arranged in view of the rise in Covid cases and to raise awareness about the measures to be taken so that customers and the employees may be safeguarded from potential risks. The meeting also covered current best practices for handling the situation, necessary preventive actions and steps to follow in case one if infected.

Post-Covid Revival Conference

December 12, 2021 - Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) organized Post-Covid Revival Conference. The primary theme of the program was based on uplifting various sectors of the economy in a given dynamic environment thereby accomplishing sustainable economic development.





The program was inaugurated by Honorable Finance Minister Mr. Janardan Sharma. Honorable Governor Mr. Maha Prasad Adhikari, ILO Country Director Dr. Richard Haward, FNCCI President Mr. Shekhar Golchha, President of Nepal Bankers' Association Mr. Anil Upadhaya and other high profile dignitaries were present in the program. During the program, Mr. Upadhaya highlighted the support provided by banking industry to the bowers in order to support their business revival and assured that banks would continue the support them in the days as well.





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