For Immediate Release

Nepal: Criminalize Torture

(Kathmandu, June 26, 2009)– We are observing UN International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. The expression itself reflects sorrow, tears and sufferings of the survivors of torture inflicted to them in political or other reasons of repression. Nepal is facing problem with torture and many of the victims of torture are facing innumerous problems attached to their physical and psychological conditions. The major concern that torture victims always take in their minds is impunity granted by the state to the perpetrators. We human rights defenders express our solidarity to them.

FOHRID has already prepared and submitted a draft bill to the Government of Nepal to criminalize torture and prosecute the torturers as well as repair the losses of the victims. On the occasion of this international day we would like to remind the government to expedite the process of legislating anti-torture law. We also ask the Members of the Constituent Assembly to come forward to pass the law without any delay with full consideration to our constitutional promise and international obligations in ending practice of torture and ensuring justice to the Victims.

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