

## **Press Release**

The government of Nepal has received communications from the SAARC Secretariat transmitting the diplomatic notes from four SAARC member states namely, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan and India in which they have conveyed their inability to participate in the 19th SAARC summit scheduled for November 9 and 10, 2016 in Islamabad stating that current regional environment is not conducive to the successful holding of the Summit. We have taken this development seriously.

As the current chair of SAARC, the government of Nepal strongly urges that a conducive environment be created for the 19<sup>th</sup> SAARC Summit soon by ensuring the participation of all member states in line with the spirit of the SAARC Charter.

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**Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

**Kathmandu**

