

Hands around Mt. Everest

Full Text:

Acknowledgments

Many institutions and people contributed to the success of this second Transboundary Exchange visit. We would like to offer special thanks to the following institutions and people for their valuable contributions that resulted in a productive and enjoyable experience for all.

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- The Working Commission of the Qomolangma Nature Preserve and especially Mrs. Drolma Yangzom, Deputy Director for hosting the exchange.
- Shigatse Prefecture Government and Management Bureau of Qomolangma Nature Preserve, Shigatse, especially the Deputy Commissioner, Director Yian Ying Lian, and Director of Tibet Shigatse Tourism Bureau Mr. Cidanjiabu.
- The County governments and QNP staff in Dingri, Kyirong, Nyalam, and Dingye including Mr. Pemba, Mr. Ngotrup Tsering, Mr. Pubu Tsering and Mr. Nawang for joining the meetings and hosting the field visits.

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- Ministry of Finance and King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation for joining the team
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J.Gabriel Campbell

Director Himalaya Program, The Mountain Institute

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Executive Summary

Three of Nepal's national parks, Sagarmatha, Langtang and Makalu-Barun, and Tibet's Qomolangma Nature Preserve, extend protected area status across nearly 40,000 square kilometers of the central Himalaya. (Everest is known as Mount Sagarmatha to Nepalis and Qomolangma to Tibetans). The greater Mount Everest Ecosystem, comprising these four protected areas, have much more in common than an international border, however. They share a dynamic history of cultural and biological exchange that is now being strengthened through a transboundary program supporting cooperative natural resource management and enhancement of local livelihoods through traditional trade, tourism and conservation. Supported by a grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, The Mountain Institute (TMI), an international NGO based in West Virginia, U.S.A. and the Governments of Nepal and China, have initiated a series of discussions and activities to promote transboundary collaboration, applied research, and participatory management in biodiversity and cultural conservation between QNP and the three adjoining mountain parks of Nepal. In September 1996, one year after the first transboundary workshop was held in Nepal, a second exchange was held in Tibet involving high level officials of both the Governments of Nepal and the Tibet Autonomous Region, as well as Park and Preserve managers and field directors.

The outcome of this second meeting was a commitment to continue working together toward the effective control of environmentally damaging cross-border activities including forest fires, wildlife poaching, illegal timber cutting and trade in wildlife products; toward initiating the opening of new border crossings for tourists and developing opportunities for local peoples to engage in related income-generating activities; and to formalize transboundary cooperation for these purposes at both the national and local levels.

Specific actions to be undertaken include:

Research into the historic, current and potential status of cross-border travel routes;

Analysis of illegal wildlife trade and poaching, wildlife migration patterns, and wildfire instances;

Publication of the results of transboundary activities;

Formation of a Central Level Transboundary Coordinating Committee to facilitate national and local government support; and the involvement of border residents in transboundary exchanges and studies.

Introduction

The Himalaya represent a formidable physical barrier and a political boundary between the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) of China and Nepal. Yet the deep gorges, high passes, and open skies have also provided porous corridors through which rivers flow, people trade, cultures mingle, and wildlife migrate.

Centuries of such exchanges have led to mutually beneficial interdependencies between the wildlife, people, and ecosystems on both sides of the Himalayan border. These organisms and environments depend on the continued availability of genetic and subsistence resources, shared knowledge, and conservation of their natural and cultural heritage.

With the establishment of three mountain protected areas in Nepal - Sagarmatha and Langtang National Parks, and Makalu-Barun National Park and Conservation Area (MBNPCA) - and the formation of the Qomolangma Nature Preserve (QNP) in Tibet, a major step has been taken toward the protection of the Greater Mount Everest Ecosystem and some of the richest biodiversity in the world. Now, to truly conserve this unique mountain environment, and the cultures and indigenous wisdom of its peoples, effective transboundary cooperation is needed.

With financial support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, The Mountain Institute (TMI), an international NGO based in West Virginia, U.S.A. and the Governments of Nepal and China, have initiated such a transboundary program. A "bottom up" approach to transboundary exchanges began with occasional research and study tours by managers and scientists from the two countries, facilitated by The Mountain Institute which works in partnership with protected area management authorities in both countries and which was instrumental in the establishment of both MBNPCA and QNP.

Through such reciprocal visits, Nepali national park and QNP managers became aware of the opportunities to learn from each other, and took encouragement from the idea of linking "hands around Mt. Everest" to preserve a common global treasure. This led to a working level meeting between nine officials of QNP and their Nepali counterparts in Sagarmatha National Park in October 1995. The participants from both sides agreed to continue holding regular exchanges, and to undertake certain collaborative and cooperative activities. The second exchange visit, of Nepalis officials and park managers to Tibet, was held during September 1996. This report summarizes the discussions and outcome of that visit.

Objectives of the Exchange Visit

The main objectives of the second exchange visit were to follow up on the recommendations made at the 1995 workshop in Sagarmatha National Park.

These were:

1. To explore the possibility of forming a Transboundary Conservation Action Committee to implement initiatives related to transboundary co-operation.
2. To discuss legal mechanisms and protocols for dealing with trade of prohibited wild plants and animal products.
3. To assess the feasibility of opening Nangpa La as a border crossing for eco-tourism development with the aim of uplifting the socio-economic conditions of border peoples.
4. To collaborate on a joint presentation at the Transboundary Mountain Protected Areas Workshop in Australia.

Summary of Activities, Presentations and Meeting Discussions

Lhasa Activities

A team of eleven participants from Nepal flew to Lhasa on September 21 joining Dr. Gabriel Campbell, Director of Himalayan Programs, and Brian Peniston of The Mountain Institute, who travelled to Tibet from the United States. Nepali officials represented the Ministries of Forest and Soil Conservation, and Finance, the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, the Makalu-Barun Conservation Project, Sagarmatha National Park, and the King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation (see Appendix 1:

Participant List).

Deputy Director of the QNP Working Commission, Lhasa, Ms. Drolma Yangzom, received the delegation at Lhasa's Gonggar airport, offering khata, the Tibetan white silk blessing scarf. While in Lhasa, the team visited the Potala Palace, the traditional home of the Dalai Lamas, undoubtedly the most significant cultural attraction and dominant physical feature of ancient capital.

A formal meeting was held with QNP Working Commission members. Deputy Permanent Secretary of the People's Government of Tibet Autonomous Region and Chair of the QNP Working Commission Mr. Zailun Wu welcomed the visitors and highlighted the importance of the exchange in sharing ideas and learning from each others' experiences. He emphasized the need for nature protection as well as economic development for the people. Mr. Wu assured participants that he would do all he could to support the recommendations of the forthcoming transboundary exchange workshop to be held Shigatse.

The Deputy Director of TAR Forest Department Mr. Zhu Leike briefed the participants on the specific achievements of QNP, including preparation of the Master Plan, drafting of the management regulations, and establishment of management offices. He highlighted the national recognition that QNP has received, and the visible impact that QNP programs are having on the forest and wildlife of Tibet.

The Secretary of the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation and leader of the Nepali Delegation Mr. N. R. Tiwari thanked the hosts for their invitation and the warm welcome. The Secretary highlighted the values of the shared mountains, wildlife, history and culture between the two nations, and expressed his willingness to share ideas and develop a plan of action to save the common heritage. Mr. Tiwari also reflected on the recent visit to TAR by His Majesty the King of Nepal and expressed confidence that high level visits such as this will further strengthen the relationship and foster cooperation at various levels. He also acknowledged The Mountain Institute's role in initiating and making the transboundary conservation exchanges a reality.

Asia Program Director of The Mountain Institute Dr. Gabriel Campbell thanked the Deputy Permanent Secretary of the People's Government of Tibet Autonomous Region, Mr. Wu, and Deputy Director of the QNP Working Commission, Ms. Drolma Yangzom for their warm welcome, and praised the spirit of cooperation among exchange participants. He expressed his pleasure at bringing together TMI partners from both sides of the Himalaya and reaffirmed TMI's willingness to continue supporting and coordinating transboundary exchange activities.

The Deputy Director of Foreign Affairs Office of TAR Mr. Yang Zhikuang said that the Himalayan environment has become the focus of international attention, and it is imperative that both countries collaborate to look after it. He assured participants that the Foreign Affairs office will make every effort to facilitate continued exchanges in the future.

The Director General of the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC), Nepal, Dr. Tirtha Man Maskey, expressed his willingness to discuss and find workable solutions to transboundary conservation issues such as poaching, trade in endangered wildlife products, and forest fire control.

Shigatse Exchange Workshop

On September 23, the Nepal delegation and TMI representatives travelled to Shigatse by road to attend a two-day workshop at the QNP Management Bureau Office. The workshop was presided over by the Deputy Director of the Shigatse Tourism Bureau, Mr. Cidanjiabu, and attended by 28 participants.

Secretary Tiwari of the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation delivered an opening speech on behalf of the Nepali delegates. The Director General of DNPWC Dr. T.M. Maskey introduced Nepal's national park and reserve system and the evolution of its management strategies.

The Deputy Commissioner of Shigatse Prefecture highlighted the excellent relations between Nepal and China, and said that Shigatse Prefecture in particular has very strong links with Nepal. The Commissioner also mentioned that the 1995 transboundary exchange visit to Nepal by the QNP delegation under the leadership of Mr. Tentsin Drokdrack, Deputy Director of Shigatse Prefecture, was fruitful. The Commissioner wished the visiting Nepali team a successful visit to QNP.

The Director of QNP Shigatse Management Bureau Mr. Yian Ying Lian presented facts and figures about Qomolangma Nature Preserve, and highlighted its major achievements (litter control, logging control, preventing inappropriate development), and proposed a number of issues of mutual interest for discussion. Deputy Director of the QNP Working Commission Office Ms. Drolma Yangzom spoke on the organizational and functional aspects of QNP.

Director of Shigatse Forestry Bureau Mr. Sangpo briefed the session about distribution patterns and management systems of the Shigatse district forest, and pointed out some of the transboundary problems encountered.

Senior Program Officer of the King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation (KMTNC) Mr. Shailendra Thakali introduced KMTNC and its approach in managing the Annapurna Conservation Area. He also mentioned the possibility for future KMTNC involvement in conserving the Manaslu area which will share its border with QNP.

Mr. Rabi Aryal, Legal Officer of the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation (MOFSC), spoke on the legalities of transboundary collaboration from Nepal's perspective.

Mr. Ang Rita Sherpa, Tourism Development Officer for the Makalu-Barun Conservation Project, gave a slide presentation on ecotourism management in the Makalu-Barun National Park area.

Mr. Shailendra Pokharel, Bung Sector Manager of the Makalu-Barun Conservation Project, spoke on community involvement and development activities in Bung Sector.

Mr. Megh Bahadur Pandey, Chief Warden of Sagarmatha National Park, spoke on the park, local people and tourism relationships in Sagarmatha National Park and highlighted the growing local support for Park activities.

Topical Discussions

Discussions were held on a number of topics:

1. Formation of a Transboundary Conservation Action Committee:

Representatives from both Nepal and Tibet agreed to form a joint Action and Implementation Committees to ensure effective implementation of transboundary activities and problem solving. The Nepal team worked out a proposed organizational structure and procedures necessary to form a Transboundary Action Committee. These include:

a) Formation of a Central Coordinating Committee with membership from various pertinent government and non-government organizations. The Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation may act as an anchor agency. The functions of the Coordinating Committee may include execution of policy level decisions related to transboundary collaboration, and issue directives to subordinate offices for action.

b) Formation of at least five local level Implementing Committees in various districts (Sankhuwasabha, Solukhumbu, Dolakha, Rasuwa and possibly in Gorkha Districts) to work with counterparts from QNP. The lead agency of the Nepal Implementing Committees shall be the National Park office. Where there is no National Park office, the District Forest Office shall be the anchor organization. Other members of the implementing committee shall include the local VDC, and local Administration, Immigration and Customs representatives (if available).

Coordinating committees are already in place in QNP. Ms. Drolma Yangzom maintained that the QNP Working Commission in Lhasa is an interagency committee consisting of 16 members representing various organizations, set up for the purpose of coordination, and that the Working Commission of the QNP can effectively provide necessary coordination for transboundary activities as well. Similarly, the respective Counties of Kyirong, Nyalam, Dingri and Dingjie will form the local implementing Committees to link up with Nepal partners. Mr. Ming Ma, the Deputy Magistrate of Nyalam County, suggested that much of the transboundary problems can be resolved at the local level by the border County officials working with the Nepal counterparts.

The Implementing Committees of both sides will cooperate in the following areas:

- facilitating transborder tourism
- controlling trade in prohibited wildlife products
- preventing wildlife poaching
- controlling forest fires
- exchanging information and executing joint research
- preventing livestock disease spread
- promoting traditional transborder trade
- conducting training in handicraft production and tourism services

2. Opening of New Tourism Ports

At the 1995 exchange workshop in Sagarmatha National Park, it was agreed that Nangpa La, which links Sagarmatha with Dingri region in Tibet, is one of the most suitable transboundary routes for potential tourist use.

Mr. Megh Bahadur Pandey, Chief Warden of Sagarmatha National Park (SNP), said tourism has helped gain local support for conservation in the Park because local people are dependent on tourism and the Park helps attract tourists. Of Nepal's total 360,000 tourists, over 20% visit the national parks, including Sagarmatha. Mr. Pandey feels that the opening of Nangpa La as a transboundary tourism route would be beneficial to both QNP and SNP.

Mr. Cidanjiabu, Director of Tibet Shigatse Tourism Bureau, favored the initial opening of the Kyirong-Rasuwa border crossing as a new transboundary tourism port. According to Mr. Cidanjiabu, the Nangpa La is only a traditional trading route and can not be as easily opened as a state level port. Kyirong, with its historical, cultural, and scenic attractions, has the potential for developing as an important trade and tourism port, and the establishment of associated infrastructures such as customs, immigration, and security support is much easier than it would be for Nangpa La.

The Nepal team assured that necessary actions will be initiated to open suitable tourism routes, and recommended that it would be fitting to coincide the opening of such a new transborder tourist access with Visit Nepal year 1998.

Note: The Tourism Master Plan study for QNP, also undertaken during September 1996, complements the Transboundary Exchange program interest in developing transborder tourism. Nepal has yet to conduct such a study on improving the quality and scope of mountain tourism, nor an assessment of potential transborder crossings and needed management infrastructure.

3. Legal Mechanisms and Protocols for Controlling the Illegal Trade of Wild Plants and Animal Products, and Wildlife Poaching

Mr. Lian of Shigatse Management Bureau suggested that relevant officials from Nepal and Tibet should report to each other when a citizen from across the border is caught poaching or smuggling wildlife products in the other country. Deputy Director of the Shigatse Forestry Bureau Mr. Sangpo said that illegal hunters operate on both sides of the border, and assured participants that appropriate punishment will be given to people found hunting illegally. Dr. Maskey, Director General of the DNPWC, said that Nepal faces similar transboundary challenges along its southern border with India. He informed the group that authorities of Nepal and India are in the process of organizing transboundary discussions to promote joint efforts in wildlife conservation, research, and control of illegal trade of wildlife products.

The Legal Officer of the MOFSC Mr. Rabi Aryal said that Nepal has a number of acts and regulations that are effective in dealing with the illegal poaching and trade of protected species within Nepal. But, these acts and regulations have no provisions for dealing with transboundary trade or poaching. The two countries must have an extradition agreement in order to take proper legal action against poachers and illegal traders from one country operating within the other. Although Nepal has an Extradition Act, it does not have an extradition agreement with China.

Nepal is a member of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) which can be an important source of support for controlling trade in endangered species. The Nepali participants suggested that China and Nepal use CITES as another tool for controlling illegal trade.

4. Cross-Border Forest Fire Prevention

Director of Shigatse Forestry Bureau Mr. Sangpo said that the County office, Forestry Office and Police are responsible for forest fire suppression, and poaching control. These are problematic issues on both sides. He said that one cause of border forest fires is Nepali traders, who after cooking their meals in the forest, do not adequately extinguish the fire. As well, Nepalis traditionally burn grasslands and shrub land to clear it for agricultural cultivation; such fires sometimes spread across the border. In Tibet, people are prohibited from entering the forest during high fire hazard periods.

Discussion continued with the concern that fire suppression in protected areas will neither be possible nor beneficial on a permanent basis; fires should be managed rather than suppressed, and can be either human-caused or naturally occurring. Participants noted that active fire suppression should be carried out only if human life and properties are at risk. Management tools such as limited controlled burns, creation of fire lines, and local awareness building and participation are potential hazard reduction measures that require area-specific joint studies. Secretary Tiwari of the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation assured that the Nepal side is prepared to work on a joint action plan to deal with these problems of mutual interest.

5. Economic Development for Local Residents

Deputy Permanent Secretary of TAR and Chair of the QNP Working Commission Mr. Wu said that the Himalaya are beautiful but that the people who reside close to them are economically weak. Thus, the TAR Government is seriously thinking about the economic upliftment of these local peoples. The importance of economic development for improved local living standards has been highlighted by participants from both Nepal and Tibet.

The opening of transborder tourism will be one means by which to improve the local economies. This would need skillful management based on good information.

Dr. T.M. Maskey explained how, after 25 years of management, Nepal's protected area system finally developed a sustainable mechanism to assist local people. He described how "at first we created parks for biodiversity only, and ignored the people. This led to the establishment of people-focussed protected areas such as ACAP. Again, we learned that people's development priorities and biodiversity conservation goals are not entirely reconcilable within the same area. This realization led to the creation of Makalu-Barun Conservation Project which has a core national park surrounded by a buffer conservation area dedicated to sustainable community development and resource management. Presently, we are in the process of replicating the Makalu-Barun model in other protected areas by creating buffer zones around them and making legal provisions to share the park's revenue with the local people".

6. Sharing of Information and Research Collaboration The Nepal participants proposed that there be joint scientific investigation relative to transboundary protected area collaboration. It was felt that there is a need for better communication, and information sharing to deal with issues such as fire control, wildlife and timber poaching. This would also require detailed studies to ensure sound policy decisions.

7. Man Power Training in Tourism Services

Mr. Cidenjiabu, Deputy Director of the Shigatse Tourism Bureau, expressed interest in tourism services training in Tibet by collaborating with Nepali tourism professionals, such as some of the Sherpas who have excelled in the tourism industry and who have a good understanding and relationship with foreign tourists. A number participants advised that local people be trained and encouraged to work with tourists instead of allowing outsiders to take up this economic opportunity.

In response, Mr. Lian, the Director of the Shigatse Management Bureau, provided two reasons for such training: Sherpas have an excellent spirit and provide good service; and they will provide examples to the local people in QNP. Since Tibetans are more accustomed to learning by participation rather than through classroom training, participatory training seems to be a sound approach. Mr. Cidenjiabu said they have made contact with Nepal's tourism agencies in the past, and hoped that TMI will be able to play a coordinating role in future.

Mr. Lila Nidi Koirala, Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation, suggested that Nepal and China carry out joint transboundary tourism planning, joint promotion of tourism, and strengthen the service sector.

8. Livestock Health Checks

The QNP participants suggested that the health of Nepali cattle that enter QNP and livestock that enter Nepal from Tibet (as pack animals on trading mission, or for grazing, etc.) be checked to ensure that livestock diseases from one country do not spread to the other. The Nepal participants informed that there are veterinary care facilities in all the districts of Nepal, and that such facilities can be strengthened in areas where transboundary travel of livestock takes place.

9. Reciprocal Exchanges

Participants highlighted the importance of transboundary protected area exchanges and the value of learning from each other. Deputy Permanent Secretary Wu had said in Lhasa that Nepal has a long experience in protected area management and that he welcomed comments on QNP's management system. Mr. Lian said that QNP presently lacks trained protected area managers but has strong involvement of local government.

Although Nepal has long experience in technical management of protected areas, QNP's unique approach of involving interagency committees (Working Commission) and local governments (Counties) in nature preserve management should be of special interest to Nepal.

Mr. Shailendra Thakali of KMTNC said that the Annapurna Conservation Area and proposed Manaslu Protected Area share their borders with Tibet. He expressed interest in exploring possibilities for collaboration in wildlife conservation and promotion of traditional trade to improve the livelihoods of the local people. Mr. Shailendra Pokharel said that there are many similarities between QNP and MBCP in terms of their approaches. The sharing of experiences through regular exchanges will be mutually beneficial. TMI Himalayan Program Director Dr. J. G. Campbell highlighted the excellent progress made in technical exchanges, and expressed interest in involving local people in future transboundary exchanges.

10. Collaboration on a Joint Presentation at the Transboundary Mountain Protected Area Workshop in Australia

Former managers of Makalu-Barun and Langtang National Parks (both parks bordering QNP), Mr. Narayan Poudel and Mr. Laxmi Manandhar, had participated in the Australia transboundary workshop held during October 1996. Professor Li Bosheng from the Institute of Botany, China, had also attended the program representing QNP.

As none of these persons were present at the current transboundary exchange, information on the workshop was shared by other DNPWC representatives and from a newsletter on Mountain Protected Areas. It was mentioned that altogether 26 participants from 17 countries attended the session in Australia, and that a publication setting forth the benefits, problems, and criteria for effective transboundary cooperation, including various formal and informal agreements, and a series of case studies, will be brought out. Participants hoped that the joint presentation of QNP and Nepal's mountain protected areas will be mentioned in such publication and look forward to receiving it.

Joint Recommendations of the Second Transboundary Exchange

A set of joint recommendations of the second transboundary exchange was prepared and signed by the Director General of DNPWC/Nepal, and Deputy Director of the Qomolangma Nature Preserve Management Bureau of Shigatse (see Appendix 2). The recommendations read:

1. Both sides will work together to increase information sharing and improved communications. This will include joint studies on issues of common concern, such as forest fire control, wildlife poaching, illegal timber cutting, and illegal trade in prohibited wildlife products.
2. Both sides will initiate action to open new border crossing routes in a phased manner for promotion of ecotourism and for the improved livelihood of local people. Both sides will develop and coordinate plans for implementation of such new routes. These plans will increase opportunities for cooperation in developing handicraft, tourism services, and facilities including personnel training and tourism business contacts.
3. Both sides, if necessary, will amend their management regulations to provide a better legal basis for transboundary conservation.
4. Both sides will initiate the following actions:
 - a) Form a joint committee to coordinate transboundary conservation activities; and
 - b) Form local level joint committees to implement cooperation and collaboration activities including conservation awareness.
5. Both sides request The Mountain Institute to continue facilitating and supporting transboundary cooperation.

Follow-up Actions

The Mountain Institute should continue to play a coordinating and supporting role to carry out the joint recommendations.

The Mountain Institute should support the following actions to carry out the Joint Recommendations:

- 1) Joint studies on historical and contemporary transboundary linkages through various border crossing points (Kyirong-Rasuwa, Khumbu-Dingri, Upper Arun River-Gamma Valley, etc.), and assess their potential as transboundary tourism ports.
- 2) Joint studies on cross-border fire spread, poaching, and wildlife migration patterns.
- 3) Publication of magazine/newspapers articles and workshop presentations on transboundary exchanges between QNP and Nepal's bordering mountain protected areas.
- 4) Support the involvement of local people in the third phase transboundary exchange.

The Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, Nepal should proceed with the formation of a Central Level Transboundary Coordinating Committee.

The members of the Coordinating Committee should direct their respective local level subordinate offices to join the transboundary implementing Committee in the specified districts.

The Wardens of Nepal's mountain national parks, or where there is no national park, the DFO, should take lead responsibility for overseeing transboundary activities in the field.

QNP should submit the transboundary recommendations to the Government and provide feedback to TMI so that activities could be synchronized.

Appendix 1: Participants List

Nepal Participants

1. Mr. N. R. Tiwari, Secretary of the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation
2. Dr. Tirtha Man Maskey, Director General of the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation
3. Mr. Bijaya Koirala, Kathmandu Liaison Officer, Makalu-Barun Conservation Project
4. Mr. Lila Nidi Koirala, Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation
5. Mr. Shailendra Thakali, Program Officer of King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation
7. Mr. Megh Bahadur Pandey, Chief Warden, Sagarmatha National Park
8. Mr. Rabi Aryal, Legal Officer of the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation
9. Mr. Ananta Ram Regmi, Section Officer, Ministry of Finance
10. Mr. Ang Rita Sherpa, Tourism Development Officer, Makalu-Barun Conservation Project
11. Mr. Lhakpa Norbu Sherpa, Research Ecologist/Consultant

TMI Representatives

12. Dr. J. Gabriel Campbell, Director of Himalayan Programs, The Mountain Institute, USA
13. Mr. Brian Peniston, Co-Manager of the Makalu-Barun Conservation Project, and TMI Representative

TAR Participants

14. Mr. Zailun Wu, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the People's Government of Tibet Autonomous Region
15. Mr. Zhu Leike, Deputy Director of TAR Forest Department
16. Mr. Yang Zhikuang, Deputy Director of Foreign Affairs Office of TAR
17. Ms. Drolma Yangzom, Deputy Director of the QNP Working Commission Office, Lhasa
18. Mr. Ciren Daji, Staff of the Foreign Affairs Office of TAR
19. Mr. Cidanjiabu, Director of Tibet Shigatse Tourism Bureau
20. Mr. Yian Ying Lian, Director of QNP Management Bureau, Shigatse
21. Mr. Shang Pu, Director of Forestry Bureau, Shigatse District
22. Mr. Soquie Zouma, Staff of Bureau of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Shigatse District
23. Mr. Wang Ziu, Vice-Magistrate of Dingri County
24. Mr. Awang, Director of the Management Bureau, Dingjie Country
25. Mr. Chang Jie, Vice-Magistrate of Dingri County
26. Mr. Biangba, Director of Management Bureau of Dingri County
27. Mr. Ming Ma, Vice-Magistrate of Nyalam County
28. Mr. Oudrop Tsering, Director of Management Bureau of Nyalam County
29. Mr. Poqong, Deputy Director of QNP Management Bureau of Shigatse
30. Mr. Laba Ciren, Staff of the QNP Management Bureau, Shigatse
31. Mr. Wang Quing, Staff of the QNP Management Bureau, Shigatse

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