

## **The Rising Nepal**

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### **New UN Resident Coordinator for Nepal joins office [ 2008-3-12 ]**

By A Staff Reporter

Kathmandu, March 11: The newly appointed Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator of the United Nations System's Operational Activities for Development in Nepal and the Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Robert Piper, called on the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sahana Pradhan Tuesday to present the letter of Credentials from the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

Immediately prior to coming to Nepal he was the UNDP Director of the US\$ 700 million Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund and Senior Advisor on UN Reform in New York.

Beginning his career at AusAID, over the last 20 years, Piper has assumed positions of increasing importance in a number of countries and UNDP headquarters including Thailand, Cambodia, and Fiji, the UN information center said in a press release.

From 2005 to 2006, Piper worked on the Tsunami Recovery process serving as Chief of Staff to the UN Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery, former US President Bill Clinton.

He was then UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Serbia, Kosovo from March 2002 to July 2004.

Upon assuming office, Piper said, "I feel privileged to be taking up this assignment at such a historic time. Perhaps more than ever in our 40-year history in Nepal, the UN's development and humanitarian organisations have a critical role to play in lending our expertise, energies and resources to the Government and people of Nepal. Peace and development are the two sides of the same coin."

Piper, an Australian national, is a political science graduate and a Yale University World Fellow 2004.

Piper arrived in Nepal on 10 March 2008.