



United Nations Under Secretary-General and High Representative to visit Samoa

28 March, 2014 (Apia, Samoa) – The United Nations Under Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, Mr Gyan Acharya will be in Apia, Samoa from 31 March -1 April, 2014 as part of a Pacific tour of Samoa, Fiji and Solomon Islands.

Mr Acharya will meet with Government officials, private sector stakeholders and business leaders to discuss the Third International Conference on Small Island Development States in Samoa in September. Particular focus will be on the Private Sector Partnership Forum that will convene prior to the Conference including the announcement of concrete partnerships and ways forward to enhance the role of the private sector in achieving sustainable development in the region. He will also meet with members of the Diplomatic Corps, regional organizations and UN representatives.

- What:** Press Conference with focus on meetings with various stakeholders and conclusion of the Samoa visit
- When:** Tuesday 1 April at 2:00pm – 2:50pm
- Where:** UNDP Office Matautu-uta
- Who:** Mr. Gyan Acharya, United Nations High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States.

In 2013, Mr Acharya delivered the UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon's statement during the 44th Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting in the Marshall Islands. He called on the leaders to continue to dialogue with UN partners in areas like mitigating the effects of climate change, including the potential adverse impacts on regional peace and security. He reaffirmed the UN system's readiness to support preparations for the Third International Conference on Small Island Development States in Samoa.

The UN Office for the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States was established by the UN General Assembly in 2001 to guide the Organization's efforts in assisting countries as they cope with the unique challenges they face due to their levels of economic development, geographic isolation and susceptibility to natural disasters.

For more information or media interviews please contact: Mr. Filifilia Iosefa at filia.iosefa@one.un.org or call 23670 / 7723670

Members of the media are requested to confirm attendance by Monday 31st March 2014.