

## UNI Apro Finance Salutes the Finance Sector Employees

16 April 2020

Dear Friends and Colleagues of UNI Apro Finance,

We all departed Kathmandu last year happily without any clue that the whole world will be engulfed to a devastating pandemic in few months into 2020. As at present, over 210 countries are battling with the COVID-19 outbreak losing precious lives of so many, including the frontline medical staff. Our thoughts and concerns are with them, your global union, and the UNI General Secretary Sister Christy Hoffman, has assured to enlist the collective power and resolve to bear in our sectors to achieve standards which apply to workers across the world.

Brother Minao Noda, President of UNI Apro, emphasized to believe in ourselves counting on the wealth of collective experiences available at our disposals. United workers had overcome similar challenges in the past in solidarity for the common good and emerged more energetic, in his video message President Noda stressed that: “The night is long that never finds the day.”

We salute all our Sisters and Brothers in the banking and finance industry, committing themselves to provide the essential financial services risking their health to ease the burdens in the community. UNI Apro Finance is also proud to note that our affiliated unions in Asia & Pacific have negotiated with management to secure safe working conditions to maintaining the financial services at trying conditions as responsible social partners.

By encouraging our customers to use the existing digital and remote services widely, they too can play a vital role in slowing the spread of COVID-19 Virus. Our unions must also grab the opportunity to offer new customer experiences for those who are unfamiliar with the digital tools helping them to manage debt and their businesses by utilizing various state assistance schemes introduced by the respective government. Spotting such pro-active measures is the way forward to impress on the relevance of trade unions in practicing SMART partnership industrial relations culture.

Problems are opportunities in work clothes. Our solidarity is the strength to remain relevant to our members to secure their employability during exceedingly difficult times. We look forward to receiving your stories of success and the challenges confronted to share with the UNI Finance to find solutions through our collective efforts. Be confident, and healthy we can overcome the obstacles unfolding bringing hardships and sufferings to many, as we believe in together, we can.

Also, we would like to wish you all and your families good health, expressing hope to see each other in the face to face meetings soon.

Strong UNI Apro Finance, Today and Tomorrow!

In Solidarity,

*Michimasa Sakaida*

**Michimasa Sakaida**  
President  
UNI Apro Finance



**Jayasri Priyalal**  
Regional Director  
UNI Apro Finance