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Reviewerto Advisor: A Story to the rest of the world

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Mehraz Boolaky is working presently as an international advisor of International Journal of Environment (IJE) published by Progressive Sustainable Developers Nepal (PSD-Nepal). Mehraz is originally a citizen of the Republic of Mauritius. At present he is working as Professor of Marketing at the Asian Institute of Management, New Delhi, India. He is a Honorary Lecturer and Dissertation Advisor at the University of Liverpool/ Laureate. Earlier, he was a full time Professor of Marketing and Management at the Bang College of Business, Kazakhstan Institute of Management Economics and Strategic Research (KIMEP), Almaty, Kazakhstan.

I am an AuthorAID Mentor. I got information about the International Journal of Environment (IJE) from the AuthorAID and communicated to Govinda Bhandari for my interest to join the journal as a reviewer. I sent my CV and a motivation letter for my interest and in the mid of 2013, my interest was successful and I became the reviewer of IJE. After few days, I got a manuscript and an email from the Editor in Chief (EiC) for review and I could see the paper on the same day. The review revealed important shortcomings including the fact that the paper did not have much scientific content and lack originality of ideas. The methodology and findings were not clear. I sent email together with the completed evaluation form requesting to reject the paper and provided a detailed rationale for the same and some hints to the authors on how to improve for further considerations.. On the same day the feedback was acknowledged by the EiC. I was very much impressed by the fast communication and responses of the editor.

In the month of July 2013, I was selected as a board member of IJE. I got numbers of manuscripts for review, some were rejected and some were recommended for publication after minor/major modifications. I devoted quite some time to review the papers and tried my best to complete the task within the stipulated time. I always used to send the paper with comments before the deadline. I have reviewed 9 papers till now. 7 were recommended for publication and 2 were rejected.

I got an opportunity to attend the 30 minutes *e-Workshop* on Journal Quality Development from 25 - 28 Feb 2014. The workshop was facilitated by Govinda Bhandari, Editor in Chief, via SKYPE on which I got more information about publisher, journal and its peer review process. I was encouraged by the workshop and started to work harder for the development of the journal. On 5 June 2014, I was awarded with the Best Reviewer Award 2013. It was a great pleasure and honour.

At present, I am functioning as an international advisor of IJE. Besides, we (with a co author, Dr Debra Black) have already submitted a Chapter entitled Ecotourism: Current Perspectives to be published in a book entitled “Green Economy” that is edited by Govinda Bhandari, EiC, IJE Nepal.

IJE has become a good and timely platform for me to share my knowledge and learn new skills in research writing and publishing. IJE has introduced a thorough bred publishing in an extremely fast manner with excellent peer review process. This has certainly raised the bar in high quality scientific publications. I feel very proud to be associated with IJE team of national and international editorial members and professional staff.