

AFGHANISTAN AGREEMENTS

*A Collection of Official Texts
from 2001 to 2011*



Disclaimer

This collection includes agreements and other documents which emerged from major conferences focused on Afghanistan. All the agreements included herein are the official versions, as published online through governmental websites. Neither their content nor their format have been modified.

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Background & Purpose

This collection of Afghanistan agreements emerged from the recognition that stakeholders interested in Afghanistan should be able to access major, official texts concerning Afghanistan in one document, without having to search through dozens of websites and files. A similar perception led to the development of other Afghanistan-related resources from the Civil-Military Fusion Centre (CFC), including the Afghanistan Provincial Indicators (API) resource, the Afghanistan Map Library (AML), the 2011 Bonn Conference page and the 2012 Tokyo Conference page. All of these resources are available at www.cimicweb.org.

The decision to include a particular agreement in this collection was based on several criteria. Firstly, all included agreements result from key international conferences whose agenda focused solely on Afghanistan. Secondly, the conference agreements were all endorsed or agreed – though not necessarily ratified in a formal sense – by a wide number of countries and/or organisations and revolve around a broad set of sectors and issues. Hence, agreements that focused solely on economic or legal matters or that only included a small number of countries or institutions, for instance, were not included. Finally, the chosen agreements were drawn from conferences at the level of heads of state and government.

The Afghanistan Team at the CFC is interested in producing further documents similar to this collection. Hence, we welcome readers to recommend further agreements for inclusion in this or additional collections. Please send any such recommendations or feedback to us via e-mail at afghanistan@cimicweb.org.

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Agreement on Provisional Arrangements in Afghanistan Pending the Re-establishment of Permanent Government Institutions

THE INTERIM AUTHORITY

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The participants in the UN Talks on Afghanistan,

In the presence of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for
Afghanistan,

Determined to end the tragic conflict in Afghanistan and promote national
reconciliation, lasting peace, stability and respect for human rights in the country,

Reaffirming the independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of
Afghanistan,

Acknowledging the right of the people of Afghanistan to freely determine their own
political future in accordance with the principles of Islam, democracy, pluralism and
social justice,

Expressing their appreciation to the Afghan mujahidin who, over the years, have
defended the independence, territorial integrity and national unity of the country and
have played a major role in the struggle against terrorism and oppression, and
whose sacrifice has now made them both heroes of jihad and champions of peace,
stability and reconstruction of their beloved homeland, Afghanistan,

Aware that the unstable situation in Afghanistan requires the implementation of
emergency interim arrangements and expressing their deep appreciation to His
Excellency Professor Burhanuddin Rabbani for his readiness to transfer power to an
interim authority which is to be established pursuant to this agreement,

Recognizing the need to ensure broad representation in these interim arrangements of all segments of the Afghan population, including groups that have not been adequately represented at the UN Talks on Afghanistan,

Noting that these interim arrangements are intended as a first step toward the establishment of a broad-based, gender-sensitive, multi-ethnic and fully representative government, and are not intended to remain in place beyond the specified period of time,

Recognizing that some time may be required for a new Afghan security force to be fully constituted and functional and that therefore other security provisions detailed in Annex I to this agreement must meanwhile be put in place,

Considering that the United Nations, as the internationally recognized impartial institution, has a particularly important role to play, detailed in Annex II to this agreement, in the period prior to the establishment of permanent institutions in Afghanistan,

Have agreed as follows:

THE INTERIM AUTHORITY

I. General provisions

- 1) An Interim Authority shall be established upon the official transfer of power on 22 December 2001.
- 2) The Interim Authority shall consist of an Interim Administration presided over by a Chairman, a Special Independent Commission for the Convening of the Emergency Loya Jirga, and a Supreme Court of Afghanistan, as well as such other courts as may be established by the Interim Administration. The composition, functions and governing procedures for the Interim Administration and the Special Independent Commission are set forth in this agreement.
- 3) Upon the official transfer of power, the Interim Authority shall be the repository of Afghan sovereignty, with immediate effect. As such, it shall, throughout the interim period, represent Afghanistan in its external relations and shall occupy the seat of Afghanistan at the United Nations and in its specialized agencies, as well as in other international institutions and conferences.
- 4) An Emergency Loya Jirga shall be convened within six months of the establishment of the Interim Authority. The Emergency Loya Jirga will be opened by His Majesty Mohammed Zaher, the former King of Afghanistan. The Emergency Loya Jirga shall decide on a Transitional Authority, including a broad-based transitional administration, to lead Afghanistan until such time as a fully representative government can be elected through free and fair elections to be held no later than two years from the date of the convening of the Emergency Loya Jirga.
- 5) The Interim Authority shall cease to exist once the Transitional Authority has been established by the Emergency Loya Jirga.

6) A Constitutional Loya Jirga shall be convened within eighteen months of the establishment of the Transitional Authority, in order to adopt a new constitution for Afghanistan. In order to assist the Constitutional Loya Jirga prepare the proposed Constitution, the Transitional Administration shall, within two months of its commencement and with the assistance of the United Nations, establish a Constitutional Commission.

II. Legal framework and judicial system

1) The following legal framework shall be applicable on an interim basis until the adoption of the new Constitution referred to above:

i) The Constitution of 1964, a/ to the extent that its provisions are not inconsistent with those contained in this agreement, and b/ with the exception of those provisions relating to the monarchy and to the executive and legislative bodies provided in the Constitution; and
ii) existing laws and regulations, to the extent that they are not inconsistent with this agreement or with international legal obligations to which Afghanistan is a party, or with those applicable provisions contained in the Constitution of 1964, provided that the Interim Authority shall have the power to repeal or amend those laws and regulations.

2) The judicial power of Afghanistan shall be independent and shall be vested in a Supreme Court of Afghanistan, and such other courts as may be established by the Interim Administration. The Interim Administration shall establish, with the assistance of the United Nations, a Judicial Commission to rebuild the domestic justice system in accordance with Islamic principles, international standards, the rule of law and Afghan legal traditions.

III. Interim Administration

A. *Composition*

1) The Interim Administration shall be composed of a Chairman, five Vice Chairmen and 24 other members. Each member, except the Chairman, may head a department of the Interim Administration.

2) The participants in the UN Talks on Afghanistan have invited His Majesty Mohammed Zaher, the former King of Afghanistan, to chair the Interim Administration. His Majesty has indicated that he would prefer that a suitable candidate acceptable to the participants be selected as the Chair of the Interim Administration.

3) The Chairman, the Vice Chairmen and other members of the Interim Administration have been selected by the participants in the UN Talks on Afghanistan, as listed in Annex IV to this agreement. The selection has been made on the basis of professional competence and personal integrity from lists submitted by the participants in the UN Talks, with due regard to the ethnic, geographic and religious composition of Afghanistan and to the importance of the participation of women.

4) No person serving as a member of the Interim Administration may simultaneously hold membership of the Special Independent Commission for the Convening of the Emergency Loya Jirga.

B. Procedures

- 1) The Chairman of the Interim Administration, or in his/her absence one of the Vice Chairmen, shall call and chair meetings and propose the agenda for these meetings.
- 2) The Interim Administration shall endeavour to reach its decisions by consensus. In order for any decision to be taken, at least 22 members must be in attendance. If a vote becomes necessary, decisions shall be taken by a majority of the members present and voting, unless otherwise stipulated in this agreement. The Chairman shall cast the deciding vote in the event that the members are divided equally.

C. Functions

- 1) The Interim Administration shall be entrusted with the day-to-day conduct of the affairs of state, and shall have the right to issue decrees for the peace, order and good government of Afghanistan.
- 2) The Chairman of the Interim Administration or, in his/her absence, one of the Vice Chairmen, shall represent the Interim Administration as appropriate.
- 3) Those members responsible for the administration of individual departments shall also be responsible for implementing the policies of the Interim Administration within their areas of responsibility.
- 4) Upon the official transfer of power, the Interim Administration shall have full jurisdiction over the printing and delivery of the national currency and special drawing rights from international financial institutions. The Interim Administration shall establish, with the assistance of the United Nations, a Central Bank of Afghanistan that will regulate the money supply of the country through transparent and accountable procedures.
- 5) The Interim Administration shall establish, with the assistance of the United Nations, an independent Civil Service Commission to provide the Interim Authority and the future Transitional Authority with shortlists of candidates for key posts in the administrative departments, as well as those of governors and uluswals, in order to ensure their competence and integrity.
- 6) The Interim Administration shall, with the assistance of the United Nations, establish an independent Human Rights Commission, whose responsibilities will include human rights monitoring, investigation of violations of human rights, and development of domestic human rights institutions. The Interim Administration may, with the assistance of the United Nations, also establish any other commissions to review matters not covered in this agreement.
- 7) The members of the Interim Administration shall abide by a Code of Conduct elaborated in accordance with international standards.
- 8) Failure by a member of the Interim Administration to abide by the provisions of the Code of Conduct shall lead to his/her suspension from that body. The decision to suspend a member shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of the membership of the Interim Administration on the proposal of its Chairman or any of its Vice Chairmen.
- 9) The functions and powers of members of the Interim Administration will be further elaborated, as appropriate, with the assistance of the United Nations.

IV. The Special Independent Commission for the Convening of the Emergency Loya Jirga

- 1) The Special Independent Commission for the Convening of the Emergency Loya Jirga shall be established within one month of the establishment of the Interim Authority. The Special Independent Commission will consist of twenty-one members, a number of whom should have expertise in constitutional or customary law. The members will be selected from lists of candidates submitted by participants in the UN Talks on Afghanistan as well as Afghan professional and civil society groups. The United Nations will assist with the establishment and functioning of the commission and of a substantial secretariat.

- 2) The Special Independent Commission will have the final authority for determining the procedures for and the number of people who will participate in the Emergency Loya Jirga. The Special Independent Commission will draft rules and procedures specifying (i) criteria for allocation of seats to the settled and nomadic population residing in the country; (ii) criteria for allocation of seats to the Afghan refugees living in Iran, Pakistan, and elsewhere, and Afghans from the diaspora; (iii) criteria for inclusion of civil society organizations and prominent individuals, including Islamic scholars, intellectuals, and traders, both within the country and in the diaspora. The Special Independent Commission will ensure that due attention is paid to the representation in the Emergency Loya Jirga of a significant number of women as well as all other segments of the Afghan population.
- 3) The Special Independent Commission will publish and disseminate the rules and procedures for the convening of the Emergency Loya Jirga at least ten weeks before the Emergency Loya Jirga convenes, together with the date for its commencement and its suggested location and duration.
- 4) The Special Independent Commission will adopt and implement procedures for monitoring the process of nomination of individuals to the Emergency Loya Jirga to ensure that the process of indirect election or selection is transparent and fair. To pre-empt conflict over nominations, the Special Independent Commission will specify mechanisms for filing of grievances and rules for arbitration of disputes.
- 5) The Emergency Loya Jirga will elect a Head of the State for the Transitional Administration and will approve proposals for the structure and key personnel of the Transitional Administration.

V. Final provisions

- 1) Upon the official transfer of power, all mujahidin, Afghan armed forces and armed groups in the country shall come under the command and control of the Interim Authority, and be reorganized according to the requirements of the new Afghan security and armed forces.
- 2) The Interim Authority and the Emergency Loya Jirga shall act in accordance with basic principles and provisions contained in international instruments on human rights and international humanitarian law to which Afghanistan is a party.
- 3) The Interim Authority shall cooperate with the international community in the fight against terrorism, drugs and organized crime. It shall commit itself to respect international law and maintain peaceful and friendly relations with neighbouring countries and the rest of the international community.
- 4) The Interim Authority and the Special Independent Commission for the Convening of the Emergency Loya Jirga will ensure the participation of women as well as the equitable representation of all ethnic and religious communities in the Interim Administration and the Emergency Loya Jirga.
- 5) All actions taken by the Interim Authority shall be consistent with Security Council resolution 1378 (14 November 2001) and other relevant Security Council resolutions relating to Afghanistan.
- 6) Rules of procedure for the organs established under the Interim Authority will be elaborated as appropriate with the assistance of the United Nations.

This agreement, of which the annexes constitute an integral part, done in Bonn on this 5th day of December 2001 in the English language, shall be the authentic text, in a single copy which shall remain deposited in the archives of the United Nations. Official texts shall be provided in Dari and Pashto, and such other languages as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General may designate. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General shall send certified copies in English, Dari and Pashto to each of the participants.

For the participants in the UN Talks on Afghanistan:

Ms. Amena Afzali
Mr. S. Hussain Anwari
Mr. Hedayat Amin Arsala
Mr. Sayed Hamed Gailani
Mr. Rahmatullah Musa Ghazi
Eng. Abdul Hakim
Mr. Houmayoun Jareer
Mr. Abbas Karimi
Mr. Mustafa Kazimi
Dr. Azizullah Ludin
Mr. Ahmad Wali Massoud
Mr. Hafizullah Asif Mohseni
Prof. Mohammad Ishaq Nadiri
Mr. Mohammad Natiqi
Mr. Yunus Qanooni
Dr. Zalmai Rassoul
Mr. H. Mirwais Sadeq
Dr. Mohammad Jalil Shams
Prof. Abdul Sattar Sirat
Mr. Humayun Tandar
Mrs. Sema Wali
General Abdul Rahim Wardak
Mr. Pacha Khan Zadran

Witnessed for the United Nations by:

Mr. Lakhdar Brahimi
Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan

ANNEX I
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY FORCE

1. The participants in the UN Talks on Afghanistan recognize that the responsibility for providing security and law and order throughout the country resides with the Afghans themselves. To this end, they pledge their commitment to do all within their means and influence to ensure such security, including for all United Nations and other personnel of international governmental and non-governmental organizations deployed in Afghanistan.
2. With this objective in mind, the participants request the assistance of the international community in helping the new Afghan authorities in the establishment and training of new Afghan security and armed forces.
3. Conscious that some time may be required for the new Afghan security and armed forces to be fully constituted and functioning, the participants in the UN Talks on Afghanistan request the United Nations Security Council to consider authorizing the early deployment to Afghanistan of a United Nations mandated force. This force will assist in the maintenance of security for Kabul and its surrounding areas. Such a force could, as appropriate, be progressively expanded to other urban centres and other areas.
4. The participants in the UN Talks on Afghanistan pledge to withdraw all military units from Kabul and other urban centers or other areas in which the UN mandated force is deployed. It would also be desirable if such a force were to assist in the rehabilitation of Afghanistan's infrastructure.

* * *

ANNEX II

ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD

1. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General will be responsible for all aspects of the United Nations' work in Afghanistan.
2. The Special Representative shall monitor and assist in the implementation of all aspects of this agreement.
3. The United Nations shall advise the Interim Authority in establishing a politically neutral environment conducive to the holding of the Emergency Loya Jirga in free and fair conditions. The United Nations shall pay special attention to the conduct of those bodies and administrative departments which could directly influence the convening and outcome of the Emergency Loya Jirga.
4. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General or his/her delegate may be invited to attend the meetings of the Interim Administration and the Special Independent Commission on the Convening of the Emergency Loya Jirga.
5. If for whatever reason the Interim Administration or the Special Independent Commission were actively prevented from meeting or unable to reach a decision on a matter related to the convening of the Emergency Loya Jirga, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General shall, taking into account the views expressed in the Interim Administration or in the Special Independent Commission, use his/her good offices with a view to facilitating a resolution to the impasse or a decision.
6. The United Nations shall have the right to investigate human rights violations and, where necessary, recommend corrective action. It will also be responsible for the development and implementation of a programme of human rights education to promote respect for and understanding of human rights.

* * *

ANNEX III

REQUEST TO THE UNITED NATIONS BY THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE UN TALKS ON AFGHANISTAN

The participants in the UN Talks on Afghanistan hereby

1. Request that the United Nations and the international community take the necessary measures to guarantee the national sovereignty, territorial integrity and unity of Afghanistan as well as the non-interference by foreign countries in Afghanistan's internal affairs;
2. Urge the United Nations, the international community, particularly donor countries and multilateral institutions, to reaffirm, strengthen and implement their commitment to assist with the rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction of Afghanistan, in coordination with the Interim Authority;
3. Request the United Nations to conduct as soon as possible (i) a registration of voters in advance of the general elections that will be held upon the adoption of the new constitution by the constitutional Loya Jirga and (ii) a census of the population of Afghanistan.
4. Urge the United Nations and the international community, in recognition of the heroic role played by the mujahidin in protecting the independence of Afghanistan and the dignity of its people, to take the necessary measures, in coordination with the Interim Authority, to assist in the reintegration of the mujahidin into the new Afghan security and armed forces;

5. Invite the United Nations and the international community to create a fund to assist the families and other dependents of martyrs and victims of the war, as well as the war disabled;
6. Strongly urge that the United Nations, the international community and regional organizations cooperate with the Interim Authority to combat international terrorism, cultivation and trafficking of illicit drugs and provide Afghan farmers with financial, material and technical resources for alternative crop production.

* * *

ANNEX IV
COMPOSITION OF THE INTERIM ADMINISTRATION

Chairman: Hamid Karzai

Vice Chairmen:

Vice-Chair & Women's Affairs: Dr. Sema Samar
Vice-Chair & Defence: Muhammad Qassem Fahim
Vice-Chair & Planning: Haji Muhammad Mohaqqueq
Vice-Chair & Water and Electricity: Shaker Kargar
Vice-Chair & Finance: Hedayat Amin Arsala

Members:

Department of Foreign Affairs: Dr. Abdullah Abdullah
Department of the Interior: Muhammad Yunus Qanooni
Department of Commerce: Seyyed Mustafa Kazemi
Department of Mines & Industries: Muhammad Alem Razm
Department of Small Industries: Aref Noorzai
Department of Information & Culture: Dr. Raheen Makhdoom
Department of Communication: Ing. Abdul Rahim
Department of Labour & Social Affairs: Mir Wais Sadeq
Department of Hajj & Auqaf: Mohammad Hanif Hanif Balkhi
Department of Martyrs & Disabled: Abdullah Wardak
Department of Education: Abdul Rassoul Amin
Department of Higher Education: Dr. Sharif Faez
Department of Public Health: Dr. Suhaila Seddiqi
Department of Public Works: Abdul Khaliq Fazal
Department of Rural Development: Abdul Malik Anwar
Department of Urban Development: Haji Abdul Qadir
Department of Reconstruction: Amin Farhang
Department of Transport: Sultan Hamid Sultan
Department for the Return of Refugees: Enayatullah Nazeri
Department of Agriculture: Seyyed Hussein Anwari
Department of Irrigation: Haji Mangal Hussein
Department of Justice: Abdul Rahim Karimi
Department of Air Transport & Tourism: Abdul Rahman
Department of Border Affairs: Amanullah Zadran

Co-Chairs' Summary of Conclusions of the Tokyo Conference

International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan

Tokyo, January 2002



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.: General
31 January 2002

Original: English

General Assembly

Fifty-sixth session

Agenda items 20 (f) and 43

**Strengthening of the coordination
of humanitarian and disaster relief
assistance of the United Nations, including
special economic assistance: emergency
international assistance for peace, normalcy
and reconstruction of war-stricken
Afghanistan**

**The situation in Afghanistan and its
implications for international peace
and security**

Security Council

Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 30 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the co-chairs (Japan, Saudi Arabia, the United States of America and the European Union), I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the Co-chairs' Summary of Conclusions of the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan that took place in Tokyo on 21 and 22 January 2002 (see annex).

It would be highly appreciated if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 20 (f) and 43, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yukio Satoh

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations



Annex to the letter dated 30 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan, 21-22 January 2002: co-chairs' summary of conclusions*

1. The International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan was held at the ministerial level in Tokyo on 21 and 22 January with the participation of the Chairman of the Afghan Interim Administration, Hamid Karzai, and other representatives of the Administration. Japan, Saudi Arabia, the United States of America and the European Union were the co-chairs of the Conference.
2. The Conference provided the Afghan Interim Authority an opportunity to reaffirm its determination to pursue the process of reconciliation, reconstruction and development of Afghanistan, according to the Bonn Agreement, and provided the international donor community an opportunity to express its political support for this process with indications of concrete assistance.
3. Junichiro Koizumi, Prime Minister of Japan, addressed the Conference at the outset. Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations, also spoke before the Conference at the opening session.
4. Ministers and representatives from 61 countries and 21 international organizations attended. The discussions were based on input from the Afghan Interim Authority and built on the results of the senior officials' meeting, held in Washington on 20 November 2001, and the first Afghan Reconstruction Steering Group meeting, held in Brussels on 20 and 21 December 2001. Afghan and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) held a separate meeting. Experts also met to discuss military demobilization, military and police training, demining and counter-narcotics issues and alternative development.
5. The Conference demonstrated the strong commitment of the international community to reconstruction assistance to Afghanistan by making specific commitments and pledges.
6. The Conference stressed the importance of implementation of the Bonn process, including the time frame set in the Bonn Agreement. Assistance will be conditional on all Afghan parties positively contributing to the process and goals agreed in Bonn with the aim of establishing peace, representative governance and stability in Afghanistan, and eliminating terrorism and narcotics production and trafficking. It was noted that, as the efforts for reconstruction proceed, due geographical balance within Afghanistan should be taken into account in resource allocation.
7. Chairman Karzai and other representatives of the Afghan Interim Authority made presentations on their vision and policies for Afghan reconstruction and development. They expressed their resolve to pursue the process of reconciliation and reconstruction of Afghanistan on the basis of the Bonn Agreement and to work

* This document was prepared on the responsibility of the co-chairs from Japan, Saudi Arabia, the United States of America and the European Union.

towards these objectives in close coordination with the international donor community.

8. The Afghan Interim Authority identified the following several key priority areas for the reconstruction of their country:

- (a) Enhancement of administrative capacity, with emphasis on the payment of salaries and the establishment of the government administration;
- (b) Education, especially for girls;
- (c) Health and sanitation;
- (d) Infrastructure, in particular, roads, electricity and telecommunications;
- (e) Reconstruction of the economic system, in particular, the currency system;
- (f) Agriculture and rural development, including food security, water management and revitalizing the irrigation system.

Along with these priority areas, the Afghan Interim Authority stressed its commitment to transparency, efficiency and accountability. It strongly underscored the importance of reviving its tradition of private entrepreneurship as an engine of growth. The Afghan Interim Authority also emphasized the importance of community-building, which underlies all sectors in Afghanistan. The importance of demining and assistance to war victims and the disabled was also stressed. Without secure and active communities where refugees and internally displaced persons wish to return, any reconstruction effort will not reach its goal.

The Afghan Interim Authority recognized that it holds primary responsibility for reconstruction. The international community concurred and expressed its determination to provide support and closely coordinate with the Afghan Interim Authority and the people of Afghanistan as they conduct reconstruction efforts.

9. There was recognition that the United Nations should continue to play a pivotal role. The Conference recognized and greatly appreciated the catalysing role that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Lakhdar Brahimi, has played and will continue to play in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan. As for reconstruction, which is inseparably linked to the political process, the Conference stressed the need to support activities under the auspices of the Special Representative. It also welcomed the fact that the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) had been appointed to lead the early recovery efforts on behalf of the United Nations system.

10. Strong emphasis was put on the importance of rapidly establishing a sound and comprehensive macroeconomic and monetary framework. Sustainable economic development and the effective use of donor funding urgently require that sound currency arrangements, as well as strong and transparent budgetary and treasury systems, are put in place. Donors pledged to provide the necessary technical and financial assistance to help the Afghan Interim Authority to create the essential institutional framework.

11. The Conference recognized the vital importance of security and counter-narcotics issues to the success of reconstruction and placed special emphasis on

providing systematic follow-up and sufficient assistance to ensure steady and irreversible progress.

12. The Conference emphasized the centrality of restoring the rights and addressing the needs of women, who have been the prime victims of conflict and oppression. Women's rights and gender issues should be fully reflected in the reconstruction process.

13. The Conference also stressed the key roles being played by Afghan and international NGOs. In the NGO meeting held on 20 January, Afghan and international NGOs participated and the results of the meeting were reported to the plenary session. The NGO representative reported that Afghan and international NGOs agreed that a focus on education and training is necessary, particularly for women, to build the capacity of the Afghan people to contribute to reconstruction. Continued dialogue and coordination between NGOs, international organizations, donors and the Afghan Interim Authority are essential to ensure efficient use of resources.

14. The Conference welcomed the preliminary needs assessment prepared by the World Bank, UNDP and the Asian Development Bank. Further work on a more comprehensive needs assessment is planned to take place in Afghanistan in full partnership with the Afghan Interim Authority in the coming weeks. Participants will review and monitor evolving reconstruction needs and progress reports of various projects at future meetings of the Afghan Reconstruction Steering Group.

15. In response to the vision and policies on reconstruction of the Afghan Interim Authority, participants in the Conference expressed their readiness to help the Afghan people in their reconstruction effort. To make concrete this commitment, pledges and contributions of over \$1.8 billion for 2002 were announced. Some donors made multi-year pledges and commitments of various time frames. The cumulative amount was more than \$4.5 billion. In addition, some countries offered support in kind without specifying a monetary value. Participants agreed on the urgency of rapid disbursement and the importance of addressing the immediate financial needs for the functioning of the Afghan Interim Authority over the next few months.

16. In view of the continuing necessity for humanitarian relief in and around Afghanistan, the Conference also reaffirmed the participants' firm intent to remain engaged in humanitarian assistance. Further, the Conference stressed the need for strong complementarity between humanitarian assistance, recovery, reconstruction and development.

17. Participants reaffirmed the usefulness of funding mechanisms, the Implementation Group and a common assistance databank to facilitate the implementation of international assistance as agreed at the first meeting of the Afghan Reconstruction Steering Group in Brussels.

18. Existing mechanisms will be a primary vehicle for major donors in financing reconstruction. In addition, a single trust fund will be established; administration of the proposed fund will be entrusted to the World Bank. Decisions about allocation of expenditures will be the responsibility of the World Bank, UNDP, the Asian Development Bank and the Islamic Development Bank in close cooperation with the Government of Afghanistan and in consultation with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. The trust fund should be established in a manner allowing for

quick and responsive distribution of its funds, while meeting its fiduciary responsibilities. Participants request that such a fund be established expeditiously.

19. To achieve strategic coherence and coordination among the Afghan Interim Authority, donors and NGOs, the Implementation Group will meet in Kabul. The Afghan Interim Authority will chair the Implementation Group. The World Bank, UNDP, Asian Development Bank, Islamic Development Bank and the Afghan Support Group Chair will serve as vice-chairs of the Implementation Group. The Conference confirmed the roles of, and the need for close coordination between, the Afghan Reconstruction Steering Group and the Implementation Group. The Implementation Group will be held at least quarterly in Kabul in order to conduct coordination among the Afghan Interim Authority and donors. The Afghan Interim Authority can call additional meetings of the Implementation Group, as necessary. The view was expressed of the importance of moving as quickly as possible towards a normal consultative group process for Afghanistan assistance. The Afghan Interim Authority Vice-Chairman and Finance Minister Hedayat Amin-Arsala chaired the first meeting of the Implementation Group on the margins of the Conference and indicated that the next meeting will be held in Kabul in March.

20. In order to facilitate information sharing, participating Governments and international organizations will contribute necessary information on assistance programmes to the common assistance databank to be established by the World Bank and UNDP.

21. The Conference noted the UNDP proposal for a code of conduct to avoid distortionary wage and rent inflation caused by the international presence and urged the Implementation Group to work further on the proposal.

22. The next meeting of the Afghan Reconstruction Steering Group will be held by the middle of the year to review developments and progress in the reconstruction process.

The Berlin Declaration

The International Conference on Afghanistan

Berlin, April 2004

***International Afghanistan Conference
in Berlin, 31 March – 01 April 2004***



Berlin Declaration

01 April 2004

We, the participants in the 2004 Berlin Conference on Afghanistan,

Committed to the vision of a secure, stable, free, prosperous and democratic Afghanistan as laid out in the Afghan Constitution and as reaffirmed in the speech of President Hamid Karzai held at this Conference, in particular welcoming the announcement to hold direct presidential and parliamentary elections in September 2004.

Noting with satisfaction the substantial progress achieved under the Bonn Agreement of December 2001 in fostering peace, stability, national unity, democratization, and economic development in Afghanistan, culminating in the adoption of a new Afghan Constitution in January 2004, which lays the groundwork for an elected Government and Parliament, and an independent Judiciary, which guarantees the constitutional rights of all its citizens – men and women – and adheres to the principle of human rights and the establishment of a self-sustaining, market-orientated economy.

Welcoming the achievements in the state and institution building process, in particular the peaceful holding of two Loya Jirgas which elected a President and adopted a Constitution, the progress in creating and strengthening the national security institutions, the adoption of key legislation, the re-establishment of a Central Bank and the successful launch of a new currency, the adoption of a National Development Framework and a National Budget, as well as the establishment of Commissions on Human Rights, Elections, Judiciary and Civil Service Reform,

Noting with satisfaction the progress made by Afghans and the international community in the fight against remnants of international terrorism, and the common resolve to defeat terrorists who undermine security and reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan,

Welcoming the contributions and pledges towards Afghanistan's reconstruction and reform programs made by countries at the Tokyo Conference of January 2002, that have helped avert a humanitarian crisis and resettle more than three million refugees and internally displaced people so far, and laid the foundation for economic development and growth in the future,

Determined to complete the Bonn Process by creating the conditions under which the people of Afghanistan can freely determine their own political future by establishing a fully representative government through free and fair elections in a secure and peaceful environment,

Determined to continue, in the spirit of the Bonn Agreement, as a common endeavor of the Afghan people and the international community, the tasks of rebuilding and reforming the political, social and economic structures of Afghanistan, with the aim of creating lasting peace, stability and economic development, and with a view to offering all Afghans in an equitable manner tangible prospects for a brighter future,

Agree

1. that while the responsibility for providing security and enforcing law and order throughout the country resides with the Afghans themselves, the engagement of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), mandated by the UN-Security Council and now under the command of NATO, and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) - at the request and welcomed by the Afghan Government - will be continued until such time as the new Afghan security and armed forces are sufficiently constituted and operational,
2. that the international community is determined to assist further in the stabilization of the security situation throughout the country, in particular with the deployment of Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRT), which also contribute to reconstruction and development efforts,
3. that it is necessary to implement vigorously the first phase of the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration program to be completed by the end of June 2004 as decided by the President of Afghanistan, thereafter to intensify the program ahead of the 2004 elections, and to continue the formation of the Afghan National Army and the National Police,
4. that further efforts will be necessary for the full establishment of the rule of law and a functioning judicial system as enshrined in the Constitution,
5. that opium poppy cultivation, drug production and trafficking pose a serious threat to the rule of law and development in Afghanistan as well as to international security, and that therefore Afghanistan and the international community shall do everything - including the development of economic alternatives - to reduce and eventually eliminate this threat,
6. that the investment program presented in the report "Securing Afghanistan's Future" outlines the substantial further assistance required to address Afghanistan's long term reconstruction needs, and that the implementation of this program depends as much on the continued commitment of donors as on the Afghan Government's success in achieving the ambitious targets it has set for itself.

7. that better predictability makes it desirable for the assistance to Afghanistan to be, if possible, in multi-year commitments and, with increasing absorption capacity for a growing share of this assistance to be channeled through the Afghan budget as direct budget support or as contributions to the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF) and to the Law and Order Trust Fund (LOTFA), and that the Government of Afghanistan will continue to make every effort to enhance domestic revenue mobilization,
8. Strongly to endorse the Workplan put forward by the Government of Afghanistan and annexed herewith, to stress the importance of the reform steps and actions outlined therein, and to note Afghanistan's determination to pursue this agenda,
9. that the international community's assistance to Afghanistan will have a particular focus on supporting the implementation of this Workplan,
10. That all efforts to build a new Afghanistan shall also reflect the aspirations of the Civil Society that is taking root in the country and promote the participation of women according to their rights under the Constitution,

Welcome

1. the multiyear commitments made at the Conference for the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan totalling US\$ 8.2 bn for the fiscal years 1383 – 1385 (March 2004 – March 2007), which includes a pledge of US\$ 4.4 bn for 1383 (March 2004 – March 2005),
2. the commitment by NATO to expand ISAF's mission by establishing five additional Provincial Reconstruction Teams by summer 2004 and further PRTs thereafter, as well as the readiness of ISAF and OEF to assist in securing the conduct of elections,
3. the further steps made by Afghanistan and its neighbors to foster regional cooperation under the auspices of the Kabul Declaration on Good Neighbourly Relations from December 22, 2002, in particular, the Declaration on Counter-Narcotics annexed herewith as well as the planned Conference on Regional Police Cooperation to be held in Doha on May 18 and 19,

Reaffirm on this basis that

Afghanistan and the international community shall continue to sustain a lasting partnership for the future, which will allow Afghanistan to complete the transition process begun with the Bonn Agreement, to reflect the will of its people, rebuild Afghanistan and create a secure, peaceful and stable country fully restored to its rightful place in the international community of free nations.

The Afghanistan Compact

The International Conference on Afghanistan

London, 2006

**BUILDING ON SUCCESS
THE LONDON CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISTAN**

**THE
AFGHANISTAN
COMPACT**

LONDON 31 JANUARY – 1 FEBRUARY 2006

THE LONDON CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISTAN

31 January – 1 February 2006

THE AFGHANISTAN COMPACT

The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the international community:

Determined to strengthen their partnership to improve the lives of Afghan people, and to contribute to national, regional, and global peace and security;

Affirming their shared commitment to continue, in the spirit of the Bonn, Tokyo and Berlin conferences, to work toward a stable and prosperous Afghanistan, with good governance and human rights protection for all under the rule of law, and to maintain and strengthen that commitment over the term of this Compact and beyond;

Recognising the courage and determination of Afghans who, by defying violent extremism and hardship, have laid the foundations for a democratic, peaceful, pluralistic and prosperous state based on the principles of Islam;

Noting the full implementation of the Bonn Agreement through the adoption of a new constitution in January 2004, and the holding of presidential elections in October 2004 and National Assembly and Provincial Council elections in September 2005, which have enabled Afghanistan to regain its rightful place in the international community;

Mindful that Afghanistan's transition to peace and stability is not yet assured, and that strong international engagement will continue to be required to address remaining challenges;

Resolved to overcome the legacy of conflict in Afghanistan by setting conditions for sustainable economic growth and development; strengthening state institutions and civil society; removing remaining terrorist threats; meeting the challenge of counter-narcotics; rebuilding capacity and infrastructure; reducing poverty; and meeting basic human needs;

Have agreed to this Afghanistan Compact.

PURPOSE

The Afghan Government has articulated its overarching goals for the well-being of its people in the Afghanistan Millennium Development Goals Country Report 2005 – Vision 2020. Consistent with those goals, this Compact identifies three critical and interdependent areas or pillars of activity for the five years from the adoption of this Compact:

1. Security;
2. Governance, Rule of Law and Human Rights; and
3. Economic and Social Development.

A further vital and cross-cutting area of work is eliminating the narcotics industry, which remains a formidable threat to the people and state of Afghanistan, the region and beyond.

The Afghan Government hereby commits itself to realising this shared vision of the future; the international community, in turn, commits itself to provide resources and support to realise that vision. Annex I of this Compact sets out detailed outcomes, benchmarks and timelines for delivery, consistent with the high-level goals set by the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS). The Government and international community also commit themselves to improve the effectiveness and accountability of international assistance as set forth in Annex II.

PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION

As the Afghan Government and the international community embark on the implementation of this Compact, they will:

1. Respect the pluralistic culture, values and history of Afghanistan, based on Islam;
2. Work on the basis of partnership between the Afghan Government, with its sovereign responsibilities, and the international community, with a central and impartial coordinating role for the United Nations;
3. Engage further the deep-seated traditions of participation and aspiration to ownership of the Afghan people;
4. Pursue fiscal, institutional and environmental sustainability;
5. Build lasting Afghan capacity and effective state and civil society institutions, with particular emphasis on building up human capacities of men and women alike;
6. Ensure balanced and fair allocation of domestic and international resources in order to offer all parts of the country tangible prospects of well-being;
7. Recognise in all policies and programmes that men and women have equal rights and responsibilities;
8. Promote regional cooperation; and
9. Combat corruption and ensure public transparency and accountability.

SECURITY

Genuine security remains a fundamental prerequisite for achieving stability and development in Afghanistan. Security cannot be provided by military means alone. It requires good governance, justice and the rule of law, reinforced by reconstruction and development. With the support of the international community, the Afghan Government will consolidate peace by disbanding all illegal armed groups. The Afghan Government and the international community will create a secure environment by strengthening Afghan institutions to meet the security needs of the country in a fiscally sustainable manner.

To that end, the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), the US-led Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and partner nations involved in security sector reform will continue to provide strong support to the Afghan Government in establishing and sustaining security and stability in Afghanistan, subject to participating states' national approval procedures. They will continue to strengthen and develop the capacity of the national security forces to ensure that they become fully functional. All OEF counter-terrorism operations will be conducted in close coordination with the Afghan Government and ISAF. ISAF will continue to expand its presence throughout Afghanistan, including through Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs), and will continue to promote stability and support security sector reforms in its areas of operation.

Full respect for Afghanistan's sovereignty and strengthening dialogue and cooperation between Afghanistan and its neighbours constitute an essential guarantee of stability in Afghanistan and the region. The international community will support concrete confidence-building measures to this end.

GOVERNANCE, RULE OF LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Democratic governance and the protection of human rights constitute the cornerstone of sustainable political progress in Afghanistan. The Afghan Government will rapidly expand its capacity to provide basic services to the population throughout the country. It will recruit competent and credible professionals to public service on the basis of merit; establish a more effective, accountable and transparent administration at all levels of Government; and implement measurable improvements in fighting corruption, upholding justice and the rule of law and promoting respect for the human rights of all Afghans.

The Afghan Government will give priority to the coordinated establishment in each province of functional institutions – including civil administration, police, prisons and judiciary. These institutions will have appropriate legal frameworks and appointment procedures; trained staff; and adequate remuneration, infrastructure and auditing capacity. The Government will establish a fiscally and institutionally sustainable administration for future elections under the supervision of the Afghanistan Independent Electoral Commission.

Reforming the justice system will be a priority for the Afghan Government and the international community. The aim will be to ensure equal, fair and transparent access to justice for all based upon written codes with fair trials and enforceable verdicts. Measures will include: completing legislative reforms for the public as well as the private sector; building the capacity of judicial institutions and personnel; promoting human rights and legal awareness; and rehabilitating judicial infrastructure.

The Afghan Government and the international community reaffirm their commitment to the protection and promotion of rights provided for in the Afghan constitution and under applicable international law, including the international human rights covenants and other

instruments to which Afghanistan is party. With a view to rebuilding trust among those whose lives were shattered by war, reinforcing a shared sense of citizenship and a culture of tolerance, pluralism and observance of the rule of law, the Afghan Government with the support of the international community will implement the Action Plan on Peace, Justice and Reconciliation.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Afghan Government with the support of the international community will pursue high rates of sustainable economic growth with the aim of reducing hunger, poverty and unemployment. It will promote the role and potential of the private sector, alongside those of the public and non-profit sectors; curb the narcotics industry; ensure macroeconomic stability; restore and promote the development of the country's human, social and physical capital, thereby establishing a sound basis for a new generation of leaders and professionals; strengthen civil society; and complete the reintegration of returnees, internally displaced persons and ex-combatants.

Public investments will be structured around the six sectors of the pillar on economic and social development of the Afghanistan National Development Strategy:

1. Infrastructure and natural resources;
2. Education;
3. Health;
4. Agriculture and rural development;
5. Social protection; and
6. Economic governance and private sector development.

In each of these areas, the objective will be to achieve measurable results towards the goal of equitable economic growth that reduces poverty, expands employment and enterprise creation, enhances opportunities in the region and improves the well-being of all Afghans.

COUNTER-NARCOTICS – A CROSS-CUTTING PRIORITY

Meeting the threat that the narcotics industry poses to national, regional and international security as well as the development and governance of the country and the well-being of Afghans will be a priority for the Government and the international community. The aim will be to achieve a sustained and significant reduction in the production and trafficking of narcotics with a view to complete elimination. Essential elements include improved interdiction, law enforcement and judicial capacity building; enhanced cooperation among Afghanistan, neighbouring countries and the international community on disrupting the drugs trade; wider provision of economic alternatives for farmers and labourers in the context of comprehensive rural development; and building national and provincial counter-narcotics institutions. It will also be crucial to enforce a zero-tolerance policy towards official corruption; to pursue eradication as appropriate; to reinforce the message that producing or trading opiates is both immoral and a violation of Islamic law; and to reduce the demand for the illicit use of opiates.

COORDINATION AND MONITORING

The Afghan Government and the international community are establishing a Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board for the implementation of the political commitments that comprise this Compact. As detailed in Annex III, this Board will be co-chaired by the Afghan Government and the United Nations and will be supported by a small secretariat. It will ensure greater coherence of efforts by the Afghan Government and international community to implement the Compact and provide regular and timely public reports on its execution.

ANNEX I

BENCHMARKS AND TIMELINES

The Afghan Government, with the support of the international community, is committed to achieving the following benchmarks in accordance with the timelines specified.

SECURITY

International Security Forces

Through end-2010, with the support of and in close coordination with the Afghan Government, the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and their respective Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs) will promote security and stability in all regions of Afghanistan, including by strengthening Afghan capabilities.

Afghan National Army

By end-2010: A nationally respected, professional, ethnically balanced Afghan National Army will be fully established that is democratically accountable, organized, trained and equipped to meet the security needs of the country and increasingly funded from Government revenue, commensurate with the nation's economic capacity; the international community will continue to support Afghanistan in expanding the ANA towards the ceiling of 70,000 personnel articulated in the Bonn talks; and the pace of expansion is to be adjusted on the basis of periodic joint quality assessments by the Afghan Government and the international community against agreed criteria which take into account prevailing conditions.

Afghan National and Border Police

By end-2010, a fully constituted, professional, functional and ethnically balanced Afghan National Police and Afghan Border Police with a combined force of up to 62,000 will be able to meet the security needs of the country effectively and will be increasingly fiscally sustainable.

Disbandment of Illegal Armed Groups

All illegal armed groups will be disbanded by end-2007 in all provinces.

Counter-Narcotics

By end-2010, the Government will strengthen its law enforcement capacity at both central and provincial levels, resulting in a substantial annual increase in the amount of drugs seized or destroyed and processing facilities dismantled, and in effective measures, including targeted eradication as appropriate, that contribute to the elimination of poppy cultivation.

By end-2010, the Government and neighbouring and regional governments will work together to increase coordination and mutual sharing of intelligence, with the goal of an increase in the seizure and destruction of drugs being smuggled across Afghanistan's borders and effective action against drug traffickers.

Mine Action and Ammunition

By end-2010, in line with Afghanistan's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Afghanistan's Ottawa Convention obligations, the land area contaminated by mines and unexploded ordnance will be reduced by 70%; all stockpiled anti-personnel mines will be located and destroyed by end-2007; and by end-2010, all unsafe, unserviceable and surplus ammunition will be destroyed.

GOVERNANCE, RULE OF LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Public Administrative Reform

By end-2010: Government machinery (including the number of ministries) will be restructured and rationalised to ensure a fiscally sustainable public administration; the civil service commission will be strengthened; and civil service functions will be reformed to reflect core functions and responsibilities.

A clear and transparent national appointments mechanism will be established within 6 months, applied within 12 months and fully implemented within 24 months for all senior level appointments to the central government and the judiciary, as well as for provincial governors, chiefs of police, district administrators and provincial heads of security.

By end-2006 a review of the number of administrative units and their boundaries will be undertaken with the aim of contributing to fiscal sustainability.

By end-2010, in furtherance of the work of the civil service commission, merit-based appointments, vetting procedures and performance-based reviews will be undertaken for civil service positions at all levels of government, including central government, the judiciary and police, and requisite support will be provided to build the capacity of the civil service to function effectively. Annual performance-based reviews will be undertaken for all senior staff (grade 2 and above) starting by end-2007.

Anti-Corruption

The UN Convention against Corruption will be ratified by end-2006, national legislation adapted accordingly by end-2007 and a monitoring mechanism to oversee implementation will be in place by end-2008.

The Census and Statistics

The census enumeration will be completed by end-2008 and the complete results published.

Reliable statistical baselines will be established for all quantitative benchmarks by mid-2007 and statistical capacity built to track progress against them.

National Assembly

The National Assembly will be provided with technical and administrative support by mid-2006 to fulfil effectively its constitutionally mandated roles.

Elections

The Afghanistan Independent Electoral Commission will have the high integrity, capacity and resources to undertake elections in an increasingly fiscally sustainable manner by end-2008, with the Government of Afghanistan contributing to the extent possible to the cost of future elections from its own resources. A permanent civil and voter registry with a single national identity document will be established by end-2009.

Gender

By end-2010: the National Action Plan for Women in Afghanistan will be fully implemented; and, in line with Afghanistan's MDGs, female participation in all Afghan governance institutions, including elected and appointed bodies and the civil service, will be strengthened.

Rule of Law

By end-2010, the legal framework required under the constitution, including civil, criminal and commercial law, will be put in place, distributed to all judicial and legislative institutions and made available to the public.

By end-2010, functioning institutions of justice will be fully operational in each province of Afghanistan, and the average time to resolve contract disputes will be reduced as much as possible.

A review and reform of oversight procedures relating to corruption, lack of due process and miscarriage of justice will be initiated by end-2006 and fully implemented by end-2010; by end-2010, reforms will strengthen the professionalism, credibility and integrity of key institutions of the justice system (the Ministry of Justice, the Judiciary, the Attorney-General's office, the Ministry of Interior and the National Directorate of Security).

By end-2010, justice infrastructure will be rehabilitated; and prisons will have separate facilities for women and juveniles.

Land Registration

A process for registration of land in all administrative units and the registration of titles will be started for all major urban areas by end-2006 and all other areas by end-2008. A fair system for settlement of land disputes will be in place by end-2007. Registration for rural land will be under way by end-2007.

Counter-Narcotics

By end-2010, the Government will increase the number of arrests and prosecutions of traffickers and corrupt officials and will improve its information base concerning those involved in the drugs trade, with a view to enhancing the selection system for national and sub-national public appointments, as part of the appointments mechanism mentioned earlier in this annex.

Human Rights

By end-2010: The Government's capacity to comply with and report on its human rights treaty obligations will be strengthened; Government security and law enforcement agencies will adopt corrective measures including codes of conduct and procedures aimed at preventing arbitrary arrest and detention, torture, extortion and illegal expropriation of property with a view to the elimination of these practices; the exercise of freedom of expression, including freedom of media, will be strengthened; human rights awareness will be included in education curricula and promoted among legislators, judicial personnel and other Government agencies, communities and the public; human rights monitoring will be carried out by the Government and independently by the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC), and the UN will track the effectiveness of measures aimed at the protection of human rights; the AIHRC will be supported in the fulfilment of its objectives with regard to monitoring, investigation, protection and promotion of human rights.

The implementation of the Action Plan on Peace, Justice and Reconciliation will be completed by end-2008.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

INFRASTRUCTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Roads

Afghanistan will have a fully upgraded and maintained ring road, as well as roads connecting the ring road to neighbouring countries by end-2008 and a fiscally sustainable system for road maintenance by end-2007.

Air Transport

By end-2010: Kabul International Airport and Herat Airport will achieve full International Civil Aviation Organisation compliance; Mazar-i-Sharif, Jalalabad and Kandahar will be upgraded with runway repairs, air navigation, fire and rescue and communications equipment; seven other domestic airports will be upgraded to facilitate domestic air transportation; and air transport services and costs will be increasingly competitive with international market standards and rates.

Energy

By end-2010: electricity will reach at least 65% of households and 90% of non-residential establishments in major urban areas and at least 25% of households in rural areas; at least 75% of the costs will be recovered from users connected to the national power grid. A strategy for the development and the use of renewable energies will be developed by end-2007.

Mining and Natural Resources

An enabling regulatory environment for profitable extraction of Afghanistan's mineral and natural resources will be created by end-2006, and by end-2010 the investment environment and infrastructure will be enhanced in order to attract domestic and foreign direct investment in this area.

Water Resource Management

Sustainable water resource management strategies and plans covering irrigation and drinking water supply will be developed by end-2006, and irrigation investments will result in at least 30% of water coming from large waterworks by end-2010.

Urban Development

By end-2010: Municipal governments will have strengthened capacity to manage urban development and to ensure that municipal services are delivered effectively, efficiently and transparently; in line with Afghanistan's MDGs, investment in water supply and sanitation will ensure that 50% of households in Kabul and 30% of households in other major urban areas will have access to piped water.

Environment

In line with Afghanistan's MDGs, environmental regulatory frameworks and management services will be established for the protection of air and water quality, waste management and pollution control, and natural resource policies will be developed and implementation started at all levels of government as well as the community level, by end-2007.

EDUCATION

Primary and Secondary Education

By end-2010: in line with Afghanistan's MDGs, net enrolment in primary school for girls and boys will be at least 60% and 75% respectively; a new curriculum will be operational in all secondary schools; female teachers will be increased by 50%; 70% of Afghanistan's teachers will have passed a competency test; and a system for assessing learning achievement such as a national testing system for students will be in place.

Higher Education

By end 2010: enrolment of students to universities will be 100,000 with at least 35% female students; and the curriculum in Afghanistan's public universities will be revised to meet the development needs of the country and private sector growth.

Skills Development

A human resource study will be completed by end-2006, and 150,000 men and women will be trained in marketable skills through public and private means by end-2010.

Afghan Cultural Heritage

A comprehensive inventory of Afghan cultural treasures will be compiled by end-2007. Measures will be taken to revive the Afghan cultural heritage, to stop the illegal removal of cultural material and to restore damaged monuments and artefacts by end-2010.

HEALTH

Health and Nutrition

By end-2010, in line with Afghanistan's MDGs, the Basic Package of Health Services will be extended to cover at least 90% of the population; maternal mortality will be reduced by 15%; and full immunisation coverage for infants under-5 for vaccine-preventable diseases will be achieved and their mortality rates reduced by 20%.

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Agriculture and Livestock

By end-2010: The necessary institutional, regulatory and incentive framework to increase production and productivity will be established to create an enabling environment for legal agriculture and agriculture-based rural industries, and public investment in agriculture will increase by 30 percent; particular consideration will be given to perennial horticulture, animal health and food security by instituting specialised support agencies and financial service delivery mechanisms, supporting farmers' associations, branding national products, disseminating timely price and weather-related information and statistics, providing strategic research and technical assistance and securing access to irrigation and water management systems.

Comprehensive Rural Development

By end-2010: Rural development will be enhanced comprehensively for the benefit of 19 million people in over 38,000 villages; this will be achieved through the election of at least a further 14,000 voluntary community development councils in all remaining villages, promoting local governance and community empowerment; access to safe drinking water will be extended to 90% of villages and sanitation to 50%; road connectivity will reach 40% of all villages, increasing access to markets, employment and social services; 47% of villages will benefit from small-scale irrigation; 800,000 households (22% of all Afghanistan's

households) will benefit from improved access to financial services; and livelihoods of at least 15% of the rural population will be supported through the provision of 91 million labour days.

Counter-Narcotics

By end-2010, the Government will design and implement programmes to achieve a sustained annual reduction in the amount of land under poppy and other drug cultivation by the strengthening and diversification of licit livelihoods and other counter-narcotics measures, as part of the overall goal of a decrease in the absolute and relative size of the drug economy in line with the Government's MDG target.

SOCIAL PROTECTION

Poverty Reduction

By end-2010, in line with Afghanistan's MDGs, the proportion of people living on less than US\$1 a day will decrease by 3% per year and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger will decrease by 5% per year.

Humanitarian and Disaster Response

By end-2010, an effective system of disaster preparedness and response will be in place.

Disabled

By end-2010, increased assistance will be provided to meet the special needs of all disabled people, including their integration in society through opportunities for education and gainful employment.

Employment of Youth and Demobilised Soldiers

By end-2010, employment opportunities for youth and demobilised soldiers will be increased through special programmes.

Refugees and IDPs

By end-2010, all refugees opting to return and internally displaced persons will be provided assistance for rehabilitation and integration in their local communities; their integration will be supported by national development programmes, particularly in key areas of return.

Vulnerable Women

By end-2010, the number of female-headed households that are chronically poor will be reduced by 20%, and their employment rates will be increased by 20%.

Counter-Narcotics

By end-2010, the Government will implement programmes to reduce the demand for narcotics and provide improved treatment for drug users.

ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE AND PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

Financial Management

By end-2007, the Government will ensure improved transparent financial management at the central and provincial levels through establishing and meeting benchmarks for financial management agreed with and monitored by the international community, including those in the anticipated Poverty Reduction Growth Facility (PRGF). In turn, and in line with improved government accountability, donors will make more effort to increase the share of total external assistance to Afghanistan that goes to the core budget.

Domestic Revenues

Afghanistan's total domestic budgetary revenue – equivalent to 4.5% of estimated legal GDP in 1383 (2004/05) – will steadily increase and reach 8% of GDP by 1389 (2010/11). The ratio of revenue to estimated total recurrent expenditures, including estimated recurrent expenditures in the core and external development budgets, is projected to rise from 28% in 1383 (2004/05) to an estimated 58% in 1389, resulting in a continuing need, in accord with the principles in Annex II, for (1) external assistance to the core budget and (2) increasing cost-effectiveness of assistance that funds recurrent expenditure through the external development budget.

Private Sector Development and Trade

All legislation, regulations and procedures related to investment will be simplified and harmonised by end-2006 and implemented by end-2007. New business organisation laws will be tabled in the National Assembly by end-2006. The Government's strategy for divestment of state-owned enterprises will be implemented by end-2009.

Financial Services and Markets

Internationally accepted prudential regulations will be developed for all core sectors of banking and non-bank financial institutions by end-2007. The banking supervision function of Da Afghanistan Bank will be further strengthened by end-2007. Re-structuring of state-owned commercial banks will be complete by end-2007. State-owned banks that have not been re-licensed will be liquidated by end-2006.

Regional Cooperation

By end-2010: Afghanistan and its neighbours will achieve lower transit times through Afghanistan by means of cooperative border management and other multilateral or bilateral trade and transit agreements; Afghanistan will increase the amount of electricity available through bilateral power purchase; and Afghanistan, its neighbours and countries in the region will reach agreements to enable Afghanistan to import skilled labour, and to enable Afghans to seek work in the region and send remittances home.

ANNEX II

IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF AID TO AFGHANISTAN

The international community has made a significant investment in the future of a democratic state of Afghanistan since December 2001. This Compact is an affirmation of that commitment. The Afghan Government and the international community are further committed to improving the effectiveness of the aid being provided to Afghanistan in accordance with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (2005), recognising the special needs of Afghanistan and their implications for donor support.

Consistent with the Paris Declaration and the principles of cooperation of this Compact, the Government and the international community providing assistance to Afghanistan agree that the principles for improving the effectiveness of aid to Afghanistan under this Compact are:

1. Leadership of the Afghan Government in setting its development priorities and strategies and, within them, the support needs of the country and the coordination of donor assistance;
2. Transparency and accountability on the part of both the Government and the donors of the international assistance being provided to Afghanistan.

Under these principles and towards the goal of improving the effectiveness of aid to Afghanistan, the Government will:

- Provide a prioritised and detailed Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) with indicators for monitoring results, including those for Afghanistan's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);
- Improve its abilities to generate domestic revenues through, *inter alia*, customs duties and taxes; and to achieve cost recovery from public utilities and transportation;
- Agree with donors, international financial institutions and United Nations agencies on the benchmarks for aid channelled through the Government's core budget and for the utilisation of such aid; and monitor performance against those benchmarks; and
- Provide regular reporting on the use of donor assistance and performance against the benchmarks of this compact to the National Assembly, the donor community through the Afghanistan Development Forum and the public at large.

The donors will:

- Provide assistance within the framework of the Afghanistan National Development Strategy; programmes and projects will be coordinated with Government in order to focus on priorities, eliminate duplication and rationalise donor activities to maximise cost-effectiveness;
- Increasingly provide more predictable and multiyear funding commitments or indications of multiyear support to Afghanistan to enable the Government to plan better the implementation of its National Development Strategy and provide untied aid whenever possible;

- Increase the proportion of donor assistance channelled directly through the core budget, as agreed bilaterally between the Government and each donor, as well as through other more predictable core budget funding modalities in which the Afghan Government participates, such as the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF), the Law and Order Trust Fund for Afghanistan (LOTFA) and the Counter-Narcotics Trust Fund (CNTF);
- Provide assistance for the development of public expenditure management systems that are essential for improving transparency and accountability in the utilisation of donor resources and countering corruption;
- Recognise that, because of the need to build Afghan capacity, donor assistance provided through the external budget will be designed in such a manner as to build this capacity in the Government as well as the private sector and non-profit sector;
- Ensure that development policies, including salary policies, strengthen national institutions that are sustainable in the medium to long term for delivery of programmes by the Government;
- For aid not channelled through the core budget, endeavour to:
 - Harmonise the delivery of technical assistance in line with Government needs to focus on priority areas and reduce duplication and transaction costs;
 - Reduce the external management and overhead costs of projects by promoting the Afghan private sector in their management and delivery;
 - Increasingly use Afghan national implementation partners and equally qualified local and expatriate Afghans;
 - Increase procurement within Afghanistan of supplies for civilian and military activities; and
 - Use Afghan materials in the implementation of projects, in particular for infrastructure;
- Within the principles of international competitive bidding, promote the participation in the bidding process of the Afghan private sector and South-South cooperation in order to overcome capacity constraints and to lower costs of delivery;
- Provide timely, transparent and comprehensive information on foreign aid flows, including levels of pledges, commitments and disbursements in a format that will enable the Afghan Government to plan its own activities and present comprehensive budget reports to the National Assembly; this covers the nature and amount of assistance being provided to Afghanistan through the core and external budgets; and
- For external budget assistance, also report to the Government on: the utilisation of funds; its efficiency, quality and effectiveness; and the results achieved.

These mutual commitments are intended to ensure that the donor assistance being provided to Afghanistan is used efficiently and effectively, that there is increased transparency and accountability, and that both Afghans and the taxpayers in donor countries are receiving value for money.

ANNEX III

COORDINATION AND MONITORING

The Afghan Government and the international community recognise that the success of the Afghanistan Compact requires strong political, security and financial commitment to achieve the benchmarks within the agreed timelines. Equally, the success of the Compact relies on an effective coordination and monitoring mechanism.

To this end, and in addition to existing sectoral coordination mechanisms, the Afghan Government and the international community are establishing a Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board with the participation of senior Afghan Government officials appointed by the President and representatives of the international community. The Board will be co-chaired by a senior Afghan Government official appointed by the President and by the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Afghanistan. Its purpose would be to ensure overall strategic coordination of the implementation of the Compact.

The Board will have a small secretariat staffed by the Afghan Government and the United Nations. It will be supported by technical experts, as needed. The Board will hold periodic meetings and special sessions as required to review the implementation of this Compact and suggest corrective action, as appropriate.

Afghan state institutions and sectoral coordination mechanisms involved in the implementation of the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) will provide inputs to the Board with regard to the implementation of the Compact. In addition, in carrying out its assessments, the Board will consider inputs from the international community, including United Nations agencies, international financial institutions, donors, international security forces and relevant non-governmental organisations and civil society representatives.

Periodic progress reports on the implementation of the Compact prepared by the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board will be made public.

ANNEX IV

Participants at the London Conference on Afghanistan

Participating Countries

Afghanistan (co-Chair)	Kuwait
Australia	Kyrgyzstan
Austria	Lithuania
Bahrain	Luxembourg
Belgium	Malaysia
Brazil	Netherlands
Brunei	New Zealand
Bulgaria	Norway
Canada	Pakistan
China	Poland
Czech Republic	Portugal
Denmark	Qatar
Egypt	Romania
Finland	Russia
France	Saudi Arabia
Germany	Spain
Greece	Sweden
Hungary	Switzerland
Iceland	Tajikistan
India	Turkey
Iran	Turkmenistan
Italy	United Arab Emirates
Japan	United Kingdom (co-Chair)
Jordan	United States of America
Kazakhstan	Uzbekistan
Korea (Republic of)	

Participating Organisations

Aga Khan Foundation	North Atlantic Treaty
Asian Development Bank	Organisation
European Commission	Organisation of Islamic
European Union	Conference
Islamic Development Bank	United Nations (co-Chair)
International Monetary Fund	World Bank

Observers

Argentina	Malta
Chile	Oman
Croatia	Organisation for Security and
Cyprus	Cooperation in Europe
Estonia	Singapore
Ireland	Slovakia
Latvia	Slovenia
Macedonia (FYR)	

**Declaration of the International
Conference in Support of Afghanistan**

International Conference on Afghanistan

Paris, June 2008

Declaration of the International Conference in Support of Afghanistan

Issued Under the Authority of the Three Co-chairs

The President of the French Republic,
The President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan,
The Secretary-General of the United Nations

Paris, 12 June 2008



The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the international community met today in Paris to reaffirm their long-term partnership to serve the people of Afghanistan, their security, prosperity and human rights.

This conference marks a new commitment to work more closely together under Afghan leadership to support the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS). We reaffirm that the Afghanistan Compact remains the agreed basis for our work. We will give priority to strengthening institutions and economic growth, particularly in agriculture and energy. By focusing on these sectors, we will also accelerate progress in areas where important achievements have already been made. The Afghan Government has committed itself to pursuing political and economic reform. The international community has agreed to provide increased resources and to use them in a more effective way. We all commit ourselves to work in a more coordinated way.

We welcome the Review of the Afghanistan Compact prepared by the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board co-chairs, which underlines the significant progress that has been made, most notably in health and education, in infrastructure and economic growth, as well as in building stronger Afghan national security forces. However, it also shows that daunting challenges remain, especially in the areas of rule of law and law enforcement, government capacity, development, private sector growth, and the personal security of all Afghan citizens. We endorse its substantive conclusions.

We welcome the commitments made to ensure the security and stability of Afghanistan, reaffirmed most recently at the Bucharest summit.

Today we have emphasized the following key elements that will be essential for the security and prosperity of the Afghan people:

To strengthen democracy in Afghanistan: We underlined the importance of the holding of elections in 2009 and 2010 as a crucial step to consolidate democracy for all Afghans. The international community pledged its strong support to help make the elections free, fair, and secure.



To support the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) in order to give the Afghan people a better future: This strategy, which was presented to us today, will be our roadmap for joint action over the next five years and sets our shared priorities. We will align our efforts behind the financing and implementation of the ANDS in order to achieve the objectives agreed in the Afghanistan Compact. We have agreed that to be successful the ANDS must have a substantial impact in every district and village throughout Afghanistan.

To stimulate investment in infrastructure, especially in the agriculture and energy sectors: The international community welcomed the determination of the Afghan Government to give priority to the agriculture, irrigation and energy sectors, while continuing support for roads, education and health. We promised to support efforts to expand agricultural production and to extend rural development, as well as to invest in larger scale power generation, transmission, and distribution, in order to stimulate Afghanistan's economic development and generate employment. We agreed to continue to work towards food security for all Afghans and to respond to current food shortages.

To create opportunities for Afghans through private sector growth: The Afghan Government committed itself to support private sector growth, including in the sectors mentioned above. It also committed itself to improve revenue collection and to create a legislative and regulatory environment that will attract investment and generate employment. The Afghan Government and the international community agreed to work together to promote freer trade that will benefit countries in the region, based on mutual friendship and trust, and adherence to international obligations.

To strengthen Afghan government institutions and improve delivery of services to all Afghans: In order to ensure that the progress achieved during the past six years is sustained, the Afghan Government agreed to take action to increase trust in government by improving public administration, local governance, justice, police and other law enforcement institutions. In this context, it committed itself to ensure that appointments are made on the basis of merit. In support of these efforts, the international community agreed to increase support for strengthening state institutions at the national and sub-national level, including through larger scale civil service capacity-building.

To improve aid effectiveness and ensure the benefits of development are tangible for every Afghan: The international community agreed to provide increased, more predictable, transparent and accountable assistance. They agreed that all their development assistance would be delivered in a more coordinated way. It will be increasingly channeled through the national budget as strengthened, and accountable government institutions acquire greater capacity for management. The international community also committed itself to providing aid in a way that promotes local procurement and capacity-building. We agreed that the benefits of development must reach all provinces equitably. We also agreed to focus on state building efforts and avoid parallel structures.



To combat corruption: The Afghan government reaffirmed its commitment to intensify actions to combat corruption and to take concrete steps to that effect. The international community will support such actions. The Afghan Government and international community will undertake professional audits, including joint audits, of programmes financed through the core and external budgets, and will strengthen government capacity for audit and financial accountability.

To intensify counter-narcotics efforts: We expressed our concern that drug production and trafficking networks continue to threaten Afghan development, particularly in a few provinces. At the same time we welcomed the increased number of poppy-free provinces. We must ensure that these provinces receive the support required to sustain this achievement. The Afghan Government committed itself to taking more effective measures to counter the production and trade of illicit narcotics. The international community committed itself to provide coordinated practical assistance and other resources to support Government plans and efforts, especially alternative livelihood programmes.

To ensure greater civil society participation in the nation-building process: The international community welcomed the strong commitment of the Afghan Government to continue a productive dialogue with civil society and communities, and to reach out to disaffected groups to promote peace and participation of the people in shaping a democratic and pluralistic Islamic society.

To promote respect for human rights for all Afghans: We noted the vital importance for the protection of human rights of establishing the rule of law. We committed to support the implementation of the National Action Plan for Women. In particular, we emphasized the continuing need to ensure respect for International Humanitarian Law. As reaffirmed recently in Bucharest, we will continue to ensure that every measure is taken to avoid civilian casualties.

To strengthen regional cooperation: We highlighted the importance of regional cooperation on political, economic and security matters. We agreed that Afghanistan's neighbouring countries have an essential role to play in supporting Afghan Government efforts to build a stable Afghanistan with secure borders.

We underlined the expanded role of the Special Representative of the Secretary General and UNAMA in leading all aspects of coordination and committed ourselves to making full use of this role both with regards to coordination of international efforts and in coordination between the Afghan Government and the international community.

Today in Paris, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the international community have made a commitment to a strengthened partnership, based on Afghan leadership, on a set of agreed priorities, and on mutual obligations. We have reaffirmed our determination to fulfill the vision of a democratic, peaceful, pluralistic, and prosperous state based on the principles of Islam, as set out in the Bonn Agreement in 2001 and in the Afghanistan Compact of 2006.



London Conference Communiqué

*The London Conference: Afghan Leadership, Regional Cooperation,
International Partnership*

London, January 2010

Communiqué of “Afghanistan: The London Conference”

Afghan Leadership, Regional Cooperation, International Partnership

1. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the international community met today in London to renew their mutual commitment towards helping Afghanistan emerge as a secure, prosperous, and democratic nation. Today’s Conference represents a decisive step towards greater Afghan leadership to secure, stabilise and develop Afghanistan. The international community underlined its support for the Government of Afghanistan and its security, development and governance.
2. At the London Conference, President Hamid Karzai built on commitments set out in his inauguration speech, which articulated clear priorities for stabilising and developing Afghanistan.
3. The international community pledged to maintain its long-term commitment to Afghanistan, as previously set out in the 2001 Bonn Agreement, in the 2002 Tokyo Conference, the 2006 Afghanistan Compact, the 2008 Paris Declaration and the 2009 The Hague Conference Declaration. The international community re-affirmed its support for the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions upholding the security, stability and prosperity of Afghanistan and in particular the role of the UN itself in achieving this goal.
4. Conference Participants emphasised that the Afghan Government and the international community are entering into a new phase on the way to full Afghan ownership. Conference Participants re-affirmed the goals of greater Afghan Leadership, increased Regional Cooperation and more effective International Partnership. Together we are committed to make intensive efforts to ensure that the Afghan Government is increasingly able to meet the needs of its people through developing its own institutions and resources.
5. The London Conference will be followed by a conference in Kabul later this year, hosted by the Afghan Government, where it intends to take forward its programme with concrete plans for delivery for the Afghan people. These should be based on democratic accountability, equality, human rights, gender equality, good governance and more effective provision of government services, economic growth, as well as a common desire to live in peace under the Afghan Constitution. We remain convinced that together we will succeed.
6. The challenges in Afghanistan particularly in political, economic, development and security areas are significant and inter-related. It is in our shared interest to overcome them and we re-affirmed our commitment to doing so. The nature of international engagement in Afghanistan continues to evolve, in favour of increasingly supporting Afghan leadership in the areas of security, development, governance and economic assistance.

Security

7. Conference Participants expressed gratitude to Afghan citizens, Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF), and to those nations whose citizens and military personnel have served in Afghanistan. Conference Participants expressed their sorrow for all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for a secure and stable Afghanistan. Conference Participants also thanked those countries that have provided transit and related facilities to International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and the ANSF.
8. Conference Participants reiterated their resolve to combat terrorism, in particular Al Qaeda, and commended Afghan efforts to this end. Conference Participants condemned in the strongest terms all attacks by the Taliban and their extremist allies, including Improvised Explosive Devices, suicide attacks and abductions, targeting civilians, and Afghan and international forces. These attacks undermine stabilisation, reconstruction and development efforts in Afghanistan.
9. Conference Participants noted that most civilian casualties are caused by insurgent attacks. Conference Participants welcomed the determination by ISAF, in partnership with the Afghan Government and ANSF, to

continue to do their utmost to protect and further reduce the risk to civilians and jointly to investigate civilian casualties.

10. Conference Participants welcomed the progress made by the Afghan security forces as they increasingly take responsibility for military operations. Conference Participants also welcomed the Government of Afghanistan's stated goal of the ANSF taking the lead and conducting the majority of operations in the insecure areas of Afghanistan within three years and taking responsibility for physical security within five years. To help realise this, the international community committed to continue to improve the capability and effectiveness of the ANSF. Conference Participants also committed to providing the necessary support to the phased growth and expansion of the Afghan National Army (ANA) and Afghan National Police (ANP) in order to reach 171,600 and 134,000 personnel by October 2011, as approved by the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board (JCMB) on 20 January 2010. The international community also showed its full support for the continued development and implementation of the National Police Strategy. Beyond this, the Government of Afghanistan and the international community will decide if this is sufficient, based on the prevailing security situation and long term sustainability.

11. Conference Participants welcomed the decision by the North Atlantic Council, in close consultation with non-North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) ISAF partners, in full agreement with the Government of Afghanistan and in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 9762, to develop, by the Kabul Conference, a plan for phased transition to Afghan security lead province by province, including the conditions on which transition will be based. Further to this, Conference Participants welcomed the shared commitment to create the conditions to allow for transition as rapidly as possible. This is with a view to a number of provinces transitioning to ANSF lead, providing conditions are met, by late 2010/early 2011, with ISAF moving to a supporting role within those provinces. Conference Participants welcomed the intention to establish a process among the Government of Afghanistan, ISAF and other key international partners to assess progress and monitor in areas other than security that influence transition.

12. Conference Participants welcomed:

- ISAF's increased focus on partnering ANSF and the principle that Afghan forces should progressively assume the leading role in all stages of operations;
- the Government of Afghanistan's determination to assume greater responsibility for detentions, in keeping with the growth of Afghan capacity, in accordance with international standards and applicable national and international law;
- the contribution the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan (NTM-A) is making towards the growth and expansion of the ANSF and urged the international community to meet outstanding requirements for trainers and mentoring teams, and to continue efforts in this respect;
- the contribution made by EUPOL to monitoring, mentoring and advising the Ministry of Interior and supporting national and provincial level Afghan-led police reform and urged partners to reinforce and provide logistical support to EUPOL, especially in the provinces;
- bilateral support to the ANSF from a range of countries and urged the international community to coordinate closely in this work with the NTM-A and EUPOL, including through the International Police Coordination Board (IPCB);
- the Government of Afghanistan's commitment to continue development of a National Security Strategy with the support of the international community; and
- the Government of Afghanistan's commitment to devise and implement a National Security Policy, which is to be presented at the Kabul Conference and which outlines the security infrastructure and roles and responsibilities of the different security agencies.

13. In the context of a comprehensive, Afghan-led approach, Conference Participants reinforced the need for an effective and enduring framework to create and consolidate a stable and secure environment in which Afghan men and women of all backgrounds and perspectives can contribute to the reconstruction of their country. In this context, Conference Participants welcomed the plans of the Government of Afghanistan to offer an honourable

place in society to those willing to renounce violence, participate in the free and open society and respect the principles that are enshrined in the Afghan constitution, cut ties with Al-Qaeda and other terrorist groups, and pursue their political goals peacefully.

14. Conference Participants welcomed:

- the Government of Afghanistan's commitment to reinvigorate Afghan-led reintegration efforts by developing and implementing an effective, inclusive, transparent and sustainable national Peace and Reintegration Programme;
- plans to convene a Grand Peace Jirga before the Kabul Conference; and
- the international community's commitment to establish a Peace and Reintegration Trust Fund to finance the Afghan-led Peace and Reintegration Programme. Conference Participants welcomed pledges to the Trust Fund and encouraged all those who wish to support peace-building and stabilisation efforts in Afghanistan to contribute to this important initiative.

15. Conference Participants recognised the seriousness of the humanitarian situation in different areas of the country, particularly food insecurity. Conference Participants invited the international community to support the 2010 Humanitarian Action Plan.

Development and governance

16. Afghanistan faces formidable development challenges, which require sustained, long-term support from the international community. A better coordinated and resourced civilian effort is critical to overcoming these challenges. Economic growth, respect for Rule of Law and human rights alongside creation of employment opportunities, and good governance for all Afghans are also critical to counter the appeal of the insurgency, as well as being vital to greater stability in Afghanistan.

17. The international community noted the progress that the Afghan Government has made on economic development, including reaching the completion point under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, which will provide Afghanistan with up to \$1.6 billion in debt relief from major creditors. This takes total debt relief to around \$11 billion. Conference Participants agreed that the priority, as established by the Government of Afghanistan, is accelerated progress on agriculture, human resources development and infrastructure, and to ensure these are underpinned by expanded capacity and structural reforms. Conference Participants looked forward to the new economic development plan, and to the start of discussions on a new Afghan-led IMF programme and to continued IMF in-country engagement.

18. Conference Participants welcomed the Government of Afghanistan's commitment to assume increasing financial responsibility for its own affairs, and underlined that critical reforms were needed to maximise domestic earnings, with a view to attaining fiscal sustainability over time, including:

- increasing tax and customs revenues;
- restructuring public enterprises in order to ensure greater accountability and efficiency; and
- pursuing the Road Map of the 2007 Enabling Environment Conference as reflected in the ANDS;
- continuing regulatory reforms including implementation of the new mining regulations and bearing in mind Afghanistan's current commitments under the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.

19. Conference Participants welcomed:

- the Government of Afghanistan's plans for more coherent and better coordinated development. This involves aligning key ministries into development and governance clusters and refining the Afghan National Development Strategy development priorities, in particular infrastructure, rural development,

human resources development, agriculture and the main areas of governance. It also involves developing a work plan, which should be completed by the Kabul Conference;

- Conference Participants supported the ambition of the Government of Afghanistan whereby donors increase the proportion of development aid delivered through the Government of Afghanistan to 50% in the next two years, including through multi donor trust funds that support the Government budget e.g. the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund and the Law and Order Trust Fund for Afghanistan. But this support is conditional on the Government's progress in further strengthening public financial management systems, reducing corruption, improving budget execution, developing a financing strategy and Government capacity towards the goal. Conference Participants confirmed their intention to establish a detailed roadmap with the Government of Afghanistan, before the Kabul Conference, and to provide technical assistance to help develop the Government's capacity to achieve its goal;
- The Government of Afghanistan's plans to implement budgetary reforms, to increase budget execution rates and to take steps to improve domestic revenue collection in parallel with enhancing anti-corruption practices and institutions with the aim of achieving fiscal sustainability.

20. Conference Participants welcomed the Government of Afghanistan's commitment to develop an overall plan for more effective and accountable national civilian institutions, including the civil service. They welcomed the Government of Afghanistan's decision to approve the Sub-National Governance Policy and prepare implementing legislation in advance of the Kabul Conference. Conference Participants committed to support the enhancement of sub-national governance through the Government of Afghanistan's single framework of priority programmes. To facilitate its implementation, the Government of Afghanistan intends to publish the criteria for administrative boundaries. Conference Participants welcomed commitments made by the Government of Afghanistan and urged the international community to provide additional support to train 12,000 sub-national civil servants in core administrative functions in support of provincial and district governors by the end of 2011.

21. Conference Participants acknowledge the Government of Afghanistan's increasing efforts to implement the National Justice Programme with a view to making more transparent, fair, and accessible provision of justice available to all Afghans equally.

22. Conference Participants commended the Government of Afghanistan's commitment to improve access to justice and respect for human rights, including through its Justice and Human Rights Programme, political and financial support for the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, and the adoption and implementation of a new national policy as soon as possible on relations between the formal justice system and dispute resolution councils. The Government of Afghanistan reiterated its commitment to protect and promote the human rights of all Afghan citizens and to make Afghanistan a place where men and women enjoy security, equal rights, and equal opportunities in all spheres of life. Conference Participants also committed to strengthening the role of civil society.

23. Conference Participants welcomed the Government of Afghanistan's whole-of-government approach to fighting corruption, and its ongoing work to mount a concerted effort to tackle the key drivers of corruption, through development of clear and objective benchmarks and implementation plans, in advance of the Kabul Conference, including but not limited to:

- empowering an independent High Office of Oversight to investigate and sanction corrupt officials, and lead the fight against corruption, through decree within one month;
- during 2010, establishing a statutory basis for related anti-corruption bodies, including the Major Crimes Task Force and the Anti-Corruption Tribunal, guaranteeing their long-term independence;
- enhancing the effectiveness of the senior civil service appointments and vetting process and revising the civil service code. This will include, by the time of the Kabul Conference, identifying the top level civil service appointments;
- the intention of the President to issue a decree prohibiting close relatives of Ministers, Ministerial advisers, Members of Parliament, Governors and some Deputy Ministers from serving in customs and revenue collection departments throughout government;

- as a priority during 2010, adopting comprehensive legislation agenda to make Afghan laws consistent with the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, including the Anti-Corruption Penal Code, to expand provisions related to asset declaration; and
- inviting Afghan and other eminent experts to participate in an independent Ad Hoc Monitoring and Evaluation Mission which will make its first monitoring visit to Afghanistan within three months, develop clear and objective benchmarks for progress and prepare periodic reports on national and international activity for the Afghan President, Parliament and people, as well as the international community.

24. Conference Participants committed to helping the Government of Afghanistan's anti-corruption efforts by providing assistance to the new institutions and committed to increase the transparency and effectiveness of its own aid in line with the June 2008 Paris Conference Declaration and the United Nations Convention Against Corruption. In particular, Conference Participants agreed to:

- work with the proposed anti-corruption bodies to review existing procedures and investigate instances of corruption that involve internationals; and
- work with the Government to improve procurement processes, including establishing additional measures to ensure due diligence in international contracting procedures.

25. Conference Participants noted the decision by the Afghan Independent Election Commission to postpone Parliamentary elections until 18 September in accordance with the Afghan Constitution and electoral law. In this regard, Conference Participants welcomed the Government of Afghanistan's commitment to ensuring the integrity of the 2010 Parliamentary elections and to preventing any irregularities and misconduct. Conference Participants also welcomed the Government of Afghanistan's commitment to work closely with the UN to build on the lessons learned from the 2009 elections to deliver improvements to the electoral process in 2010 and beyond.

26. The international community welcomed the Government of Afghanistan's commitment to implement the National Action Plan for Women of Afghanistan and to implement the Elimination of Violence Against Women Law. Conference Participants welcomed the Government of Afghanistan's commitment to strengthen the participation of women in all Afghan governance institutions including elected and appointed bodies and the civil service.

27. Conference Participants emphasised the pernicious links between the narcotics trade, the insurgency and other criminal activity, including corruption and human trafficking. Conference Participants therefore welcomed:

- the recent progress the Government of Afghanistan has made including the 22% reduction in poppy cultivation last year and increase in the number of poppy free provinces from 6 in 2006 to 20 in 2009;
- the undertaking by the Government of Afghanistan to update the National Drugs Control Strategy during 2010, which will include targeted programmes of agricultural development and the reduction of poppy cultivation;
- the ongoing support of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the International community to support the Government of Afghanistan to counter this trade;
- the continuation of the "Paris-Moscow" process in counter-acting illegal production, consumption and trafficking of narcotics and the elimination of poppy crops, drug laboratories and stores. Also the interception of drug convoys as well as the continuation of consultations on the marking of pre-cursors and greater bilateral regional cooperation; and
- the contribution to multilateral anti-narcotics efforts by the Plan of Action of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Members, adopted in March 2009 by the Special Conference on Afghanistan in Moscow.

Regional cooperation/international architecture

28. Conference Participants reaffirmed their support for a stable, secure and democratic Afghanistan, acknowledged Afghanistan's potential role as a land-bridge between South Asia, Central Asia, the Middle East and the Far East and renewed their pledge to work together actively to this end. Conference Participants

underscored that regionally-owned and steered initiatives stood the best chance of success and welcomed a number of recent initiatives that showed the need for neighbouring and regional partners to work constructively together. In this context Conference Participants noted the recent Istanbul Regional Summit on Friendship and Cooperation in the “Heart of Asia” and its Statement. This regional co-operation includes reaffirming the principles of the Good Neighbourly Relations Declaration of 2002, and working actively for:

- Afghan sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity;
- Non-intervention in Afghanistan’s internal affairs and mutual non-interference;
- Afghan-led peace, reintegration and reconciliation efforts;
- Ending support wherever it occurs on each other’s territory for illegally-armed groups, parallel structures and illegal financing directed towards destabilising Afghanistan or individual neighbours;
- Combating terrorism including but not limited to increased intelligence- sharing, dismantling the logistical, financial and ideological support for terrorist networks and tackling the causes of radicalisation;
- Development of trans-regional trade and transit; including work on infrastructure and progress on energy, power transmission lines and transport infrastructure, including railway networks;
- Conducive conditions for the return of Afghan refugees; and
- Trans-regional co-operation against the narcotics trade.
- Supporting people-to-people contact, including interaction and exchanges between the civil society, academia, media and private sector.

29. Conference Participants welcomed the fact that Afghanistan and its regional partners would have opportunities in 2010 to develop and co-ordinate contributions to advance these principles. Conference Participants noted the value of a more coherent and structured approach to individual initiatives. In this respect, Conference Participants welcomed the fact that Afghanistan has invited the relevant regional bodies (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan, Shanghai Cooperation Organisation and Economic Cooperation Organisation in accordance with their respective mandates) and others including the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) to develop as soon as possible a co-ordinated plan for Afghanistan’s regional engagement. Conference Participants invited the countries, regional organisations and fora concerned to offer regular updates, including at the Kabul Conference.

30. Emphasising the theme of enriching regional cooperation, Conference Participants welcomed the contribution made by specific bilateral and regional projects including that of the OIC on education and tackling radicalisation, the OSCE and the Afghanistan-Pakistan Cooperation Workshop (Dubai Process) on border management. Conference Participants were grateful for the information given by several countries on bilateral initiatives including the Afghanistan-Pakistan Trade and Transit Agreement, on which they welcomed progress achieved and looked forward to a timely conclusion, and the Indonesian programmes for capacity building including technical cooperation in the fields of education, health, agriculture, poverty reduction, renewable energy and small and medium enterprises.

31. Conference Participants recalled that the international community was engaged in Afghanistan in support of the Government of Afghanistan. Until such time as the Government of Afghanistan is able to assume the responsibility, Conference Participants noted with appreciation that UNAMA continues to be the primary international organisation for coordinating international support in line with the UNSCR 1868. Conference Participants welcomed:

- the Afghan Government’s presentation of clear priorities;
- the international community’s commitment to more effective and properly resourced civilian engagement to support the Afghan Government in order to improve the impact of international civilian assistance;
- the international community’s commitment to align its assistance more closely with Afghan priorities, in keeping with Paris Principles on aid effectiveness, thereby increasing Afghan government capacity;
- the international community’s intention to work closely with UNAMA to reinvigorate civilian delivery;
- the appointment of a new NATO Senior Civilian Representative; and
- the decision of the EU to strengthen its presence in Kabul under one single representative.

32. Conference Participants welcomed the decision by the UN Secretary General to appoint Staffan di Mistura; the decision by the NATO Secretary General to appoint Mark Sedwill; and the forthcoming appointment from the European Union (EU) High Representative; and looked forward to their taking up their jobs in the first few months of 2010. Conference Participants invited them to work closely together to ensure closer coordination in Kabul. Furthermore while noting recent improvements in the functioning of the JCMB, Conference Participants invited the co-chairs of the JCMB to recommend to its members additional measures to make the JCMB ever more effective.

33. Conference Participants took the opportunity to thank the incumbents: UN SRSG Kai Eide, NATO SCR Fernando Gentilini and EUSR Ettore Sequi and EC Head of Delegation Hansjörg Kretschmer for their invaluable work and commitment to Afghanistan.

34. We look forward to reviewing mutual progress on commitments at the Kabul Conference later this year.

Kabul Conference Communiqué

The Kabul International Conference on Afghanistan

Kabul, July 2010

KABUL CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUÉ



A Renewed Commitment by the Afghan Government to the Afghan People A Renewed Commitment by the International Community to Afghanistan

PREAMBLE

1. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the international community (“Participants”) held a historic meeting today in Kabul to renew their commitment to the Afghan people. The Conference marked a new phase in their partnership, the *Kabul Process*, and a heightened commitment to a secure, prosperous and democratic Afghanistan. Participants affirmed support for the Afghan Government’s leadership in exercising its sovereign authority. The Afghan Government’s programme is defined by measurable benchmarks contained in this document, as well as the detailed National Priority Programmes supported by the Conference that together represent the prioritized requirements of the Afghan National Development Strategy.
2. The hallmark of the Kabul Process, which began with President Hamid Karzai’s second inaugural speech in November 2009, is Afghan leadership and ownership. The consensus of the nation is being translated into a vision through a concrete programme of action for the renewal of the state. The Consultative Peace Jirga of June 2010 was an expression of national consensus and gave a mandate to adopt a “whole of the state” approach and “whole of government” path to national renewal. The essence of the “whole of the state” is constitutionalism: to strengthen each of the three branches of the government and to reinforce the constitutional checks and balances that guarantees and enforces citizen rights and obligations. The essence of the “whole of government” approach is structural reform to create an effective, accountable and transparent government that can deliver services to the population and safeguard national interests. Together, these complementary approaches, by putting people at the core, are key to stability and prosperity.
3. The Kabul Process is built upon deep and broad international partnerships. The United Nations mandate, expressed through the consensus of the General Assembly in 2001, and renewed through a series of Security Council resolutions, provides the international legitimacy and manifests the will of the international community to secure Afghanistan’s future. Our meeting in Kabul has been made possible by intense work that took place at the London Conference, and consultations with international partners since the London Conference. These events reaffirmed the commitment of the Afghan Government to improve security, governance and economic opportunity for its citizens. In addition, these events reaffirmed the international community’s commitment to support the transition to Afghan leadership and its intention to provide security and economic assistance to realise our shared objectives.

Participants affirmed their support for relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions upholding the security, prosperity and human rights of all Afghans and in particular the central role of the UN to support the Afghan Government's efforts in achieving these goals.

4. Given Afghanistan's location at the heart of Asia, its newly affirmed natural wealth, and the expanding Asian economy, Afghanistan is poised to become a centre of regional cooperation. Peace yields a much higher dividend than conflict. Participants invited Afghanistan's neighbors to join with urgency in a common quest for stability and prosperity to overcome the recent legacy of conflict and poverty.
5. In support of Afghanistan's vision of renewal and programmes to deliver concrete benefits to its citizens, the international community intends to realign its assistance to advance Afghanistan's priorities, reaffirming the commitments made at the London Conference to channel increasing international resources through the Afghan Government budget, and in greater alignment with Afghan priorities. The international community welcomes the Afghan Government's committed reforms outlined in its new National Priority Programmes, particularly those related to accountability and anti-corruption. Appreciating the role that international financial institutions have played in the management of the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF) and their support for national programmes, Participants invited them to provide their support and expertise for the Afghan Government's programme of renewal.
6. The Kabul Process recognises that the Afghan Government can guarantee security only when its people are confident in its ability to deliver public services, good governance, human rights protection including gender equality, and economic opportunities. All parties recognise that the chance to deliver on these commitments has been earned through tragic losses, including civilian casualties, and the tremendous sacrifices of the Afghan and international armed forces currently engaged in the struggle for peace and stability in Afghanistan.

Principles of Effective Partnership

7. To achieve success in Afghanistan, the partnership between the Afghan Government and the international community should be based on the leadership and ownership of the Afghan Government, underpinned by its unique and irreplaceable knowledge of its own culture and people. This partnership should include coherent support by the international community, lending its resources and technical knowledge to the implementation of Afghan-defined programmes. Participants acknowledged that aid delivered through the budget is among the most effective means of reducing dependence, delivering the shared governance, development and security outcomes that Afghans desire, and increasing the coherence of aid and Afghan Government capacity. As donor funds are increasingly transferred to the Afghan Government in line with increased confidence in Afghan public financial management, off-budget development assistance should also increasingly align with the prioritized Afghan National Development Strategy. The Government of Afghanistan recognizes the importance of established and successful bilateral development programmes and projects, which are in line with the Afghan development priorities and that fulfill the criteria for effective off-budget development finance and form crucial elements to meet Afghanistan's reconstruction and development needs.
8. To implement these principles of effective partnership, international Participants:
 - In line with the London Conference Communiqué, restated their strong support for channeling at least 50% of development aid through the Afghan Government's core budget within two years while, as committed at the London Conference, the Afghan Government achieves the necessary reforms to strengthen its public financial management systems, reduce corruption, improve budget execution, and increase revenue collection to finance key National Priority Programmes;

- Expressed their readiness to align progressively their development assistance behind the National Priority Programmes with the goal of achieving 80% of alignment within the next two years. Implementation and costing plans for these programmes are to be brought forward by the Afghan Government by October 2010. Participants committed to work with the Afghan Government to take the concrete steps necessary to address the current limited capacity for the transparent absorption of funds;
- Intend to begin work with the Afghan Government to practically implement the principles outlined in the 2010 “Operational Guide: Criteria for Effective Off-Budget Development Finance”;
- Intend to work with the Afghan Government to improve procurement procedures and due diligence in international contracting procedures within a year, and, unless a clear case for added value is made, endeavor to reduce sub-contracting and to take responsibility for the visibility and transparency of all necessary sub-contracting networks.

Governance, Rule of Law, and Human Rights

9. Good governance, the rule of law, and human rights form the foundation of the strategy to achieve a stable and prosperous Afghanistan. Improvements in these areas should not only increase the confidence of the Afghan people in their own future, but also underpin security improvements and economic and social development. It is also crucial that the Government, in pursuing its reforms, continue to consult with the people through their representative bodies, civil society, and other mechanisms. Building on the London Conference commitments, the Government of Afghanistan, with the support of its international partners, pledged to:
 - Initiate within six months a strategy for long term electoral reform that addresses in particular the sustainability of the electoral process;
 - Improve access to the delivery of justice throughout Afghanistan by:
 - advancing a legislative reform agenda that includes enacting the draft Criminal Procedure Code in the next six months, preparing commentaries on the Civil and Penal Codes, and strengthening state policies and judicial capabilities to facilitate the return of illegally seized lands;
 - improving provision of legal aid services within the next 12 months;
 - aligning the national priority Law and Justice for All Programme with the National Justice Programme and the National Justice Sector Policy in the next twelve months, and committing to sequenced implementation of the reforms they require;
 - completing the informal justice strategy in alignment with the National Justice Sector Strategy to link it with the formal justice sector, and beginning implementation in the next twelve months.
 - Undertake all necessary measures to increase transparency and accountability and tackle corruption. The Afghan Government pledged to:
 - finalise by October 2010 the Framework of the Afghan Government's National Priority Programmes, including guidelines for clear goals, benchmarks and timelines;
 - establish, within twelve months, the statutory basis for the Major Crimes Task Force (MCTF) and the Anti-Corruption Tribunal (Special Courts);
 - submit an Audit Law within six months, meeting international standards, for external audits to ensure the strengthening and the independence of the Control and Audit

- office, and to authorise the Ministry of Finance to carry out internal audits across government;
 - establish a legal review committee within six months to review Afghan laws for compliance with the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) which the Government of Afghanistan has already signed into law and ratified. Laws found to be inconsistent are to be prioritized for revision;
 - adopt policies governing bulk cash transfer, including regulations or laws that are needed, and begin their implementation over the next twelve months;
 - establish the Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Committee with a permanent secretariat, to be fully operational in three months.
- Verify and publish the asset declarations of all senior officials required by the law, and update and publish these declarations on an annual basis, starting in 2010;
 - Increase its efficiency and effectiveness by continuing to implement broad-based policy, legal, and structural reform in public administration. Over the next six months, the appointment procedures for senior civil servants are to be simplified and made transparent, merit-based procedures are to be introduced and salary reform accelerated;
 - Strengthen civil service reform by enhancing complementarity between the Afghan Civilian Technical Assistance Programme (CTAP) and the Management Capacity Programme (MCP) in twelve months;
 - Seek an understanding with donors, over the next six months, on a harmonized salary scale for donor-funded salaries of persons working within the Afghan Government;
 - Introduce and implement a standardized methodology to assess public financial management of line ministries, and, within six months, design with donor support, capacity development programmes to fulfill assessment recommendations;
 - Implement over the next twelve months, in a phased and fiscally sustainable manner, the Sub-National Governance Policy, and strengthen local institutional capacity, including training of civil servants and development of training curricula, and develop sub-national regulatory, financing, and budgetary frameworks;
 - Improve capacity in the judicial system through the design and implementation of a comprehensive human resources strategy that strengthens accountability mechanisms and provides adequate benefits for judicial employees within 12 months;
 - In cooperation with civil society and the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC), finalize and begin the implementation of the National Priority Programme for Human Rights and Civic Responsibilities, and undertake human rights, legal awareness and civic education programmes targeting communities across Afghanistan to foster a more informed public and civil society, and to increase Government accountability;
 - Strive to ensure the necessary political and financial support for the AIHRC while guaranteeing its constitutional status, and initiate discussions with the AIHRC within six months to explore its budgetary status.

Gender and Children's Rights

10. Participants reiterated the centrality of women's rights, including political, economic and social equality, to the future of Afghanistan, as enshrined in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. Participants commended the mainstreaming of gender into all priority programmes and reiterated their commitment to assist all national ministries and sub-national government bodies in implementing their respective responsibilities under the National Action Plan for the Women of Afghanistan (NAPWA), and to ensure that all training and civic education programmes contribute to concrete advancements in its implementation. In addition, the Government of Afghanistan, over the next six months, is to identify and prioritize NAPWA benchmarks for implementation within each cluster; and develop a strategy to implement the Elimination of Violence Against Women Law (EVAW), including services for victims. Participants committed to respect and prioritise the fulfilment of the rights of Afghan children, and to invest in girls' and boys' education, protection and healthcare.

Economic and Social Development

11. Participants welcomed the Government of Afghanistan's development agenda, which is focused on job creation and broad-based economic growth driven by National Priority Programmes on agriculture and rural development, human resources development, and economic and infrastructure development, as agreed at the London Conference. The international community supported the Afghan Government's strategy that seeks to achieve fiscal independence by unlocking Afghanistan's potential prosperity through an effective mix of investment in critical infrastructure and the development of a skilled labour force and of a strong, value-adding agricultural sector. The international community and the Afghan Government understood that the success of this strategy depends on the creation of a strong enabling environment for private sector investment, including public-private partnerships in social and economic development, through adequate regulatory and institutional reform.
12. Consistent with the realignment of donor funds behind these programmes, the Government of Afghanistan is committed to:
 - Further the design, costing and sequencing of the national priority programmes by October 2010, and undertaking their implementation to achieve planned outcomes;
 - Implementing the Public Financial Management Roadmap within the established timeframes to further strengthen the transparency and accountability of Afghan Government systems and to increase budget execution;
 - Setting out detailed plans to rehabilitate and expand regional transport and energy networks to realise the benefits of, amongst other things, its growing extractive industries sectors. This should be supported by relevant policy, fiscal and institutional reforms across these sectors, including implementation of mining regulations and establishing the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative Secretariat;
 - Establishing a special Infrastructure Trust Fund within six months, leveraging the support and the capabilities of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank (WB);
 - Maintain economic stability, improve the effectiveness of public spending, and increase domestic revenues in a sustainable manner by about 0.7 percent of GDP by March 2011, with a view to attaining fiscal sustainability over time. The underlying policies and reforms to support these objectives are set out in the understandings reached last week between the Government and the staff of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on a new three-year economic program to be supported by the IMF's Extended Credit Facility.

Peace, Reconciliation and Reintegration

13. Participants welcomed the outcomes of the Consultative Peace Jirga, held from 2-4 June 2010. The Consultative Peace Jirga demonstrated the strong will within Afghan society to reconcile their differences politically in order to end the conflict. The Government of Afghanistan noted the demand of the Consultative Peace Jirga that all parties engaged in the conflict respect the need to bring lasting peace through mutual understanding and negotiations, in full respect of the values and rights, including those of Afghanistan's women, enshrined in Afghanistan's Constitution, and through inclusive elections. Participants welcomed the establishment of an inclusive High Peace Council composed of women and men to set policy, strengthen political confidence and build consensus.
14. Accordingly, Participants welcomed and endorsed in principle the Afghan Government's Peace and Reintegration Programme, which is open to all Afghan members of the armed opposition and their communities who renounce violence, have no links to international terrorist organizations, respect the Constitution and are willing to join in building a peaceful Afghanistan. The international community reiterated its commitment to continue to support this endeavor through the Peace and Reintegration Trust Fund, and looks forward to local Peace Jirga meetings that include men and women at district and provincial levels to discuss elements of an enduring peace.
15. The Government of Afghanistan is to engage with the United Nations Security Council and the international community in an evidence-based and transparent process of delisting from the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1267 Sanctions list, in accordance with agreed procedures and common Afghan and international responsibilities.
16. As requested by the people of Afghanistan at the Consultative Peace Jirga, the Government of Afghanistan committed to reduce the number of people arbitrarily detained or imprisoned. In parallel, the Government of Afghanistan has committed to improve the capacity of the justice institutions in order to ensure due process in making these decisions and to address the most serious crimes. To facilitate this process, a Special Detainee Release Committee has been formed and systems and procedures are to be developed with the aim of releasing detainees whose detention is based on inaccurate information or unsubstantiated allegations.

Security

17. Participants recognized that civilian casualties and protection of civilians are of great concern and noted that most civilian casualties are caused by insurgent attacks. Participants regretted the death of every Afghan and international civilian, and Afghan and international military forces remain committed to the objective of a steady reduction in the rate of civilian casualties.
18. Participants welcomed the Government of Afghanistan's commitment to a phased exercise of full authority over its own security. The international community expressed its support for the President of Afghanistan's objective that the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) should lead and conduct military operations in all provinces by the end of 2014. The international community committed to provide the support necessary to increase security, and to the continued support in training, equipping and providing financing to the ANSF to take on the task of securing their country. Participants agreed to continue efforts to ensure stable areas benefit from development.

19. Within the framework of Afghan sovereignty participants endorsed the Afghan Government's plan, developed in coordination with the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), based on mutually-agreed criteria and phased transition to full Afghan responsibility for security, as set out in the technical Inteqal (transition) paper, and endorsed a decision-making process of the Government of Afghanistan and the North Atlantic Council (NAC). The international community committed to support the Government of Afghanistan in creating the conditions necessary to allow for transition and to continue to support the transition process to advance to the point where the Afghan National Army (ANA) and the Afghan National Police (ANP) are fully capable of maintaining internal and external security, public order, law enforcement, the security of Afghanistan's borders and the preservation of the constitutional rights of Afghan citizens. The Government of Afghanistan and NATO/ISAF are to assess jointly the provinces with the aim of announcing by the end of 2010 that the process of transition is underway.
20. In order to ensure stability and provide conditions for the effective rule of law, the Afghan Government pledged to:
- Continue the implementation of the Afghan National Police Strategy and its underpinning Police Plan to build a strong, professional police force, with a focus on institutional and administrative reforms of the Ministry of Interior including the implementation of the Ministry's Anti-Corruption Action Plan, and leadership development;
 - Progressively enhance the quality and quantity of the ANSF such that the ANA reaches a strength of 171,600 personnel and the ANP of 134,000 by October 2011, with the necessary financial and technical support by the international community;
 - Support the ANSF, in line with the Government's financial means, with continued and sustained financial and technical support from the international community.

Regional Cooperation

21. Participants noted the importance of regional cooperation to prosperity, peace and stability, and applauded the recent joint efforts of Afghanistan and its regional partners to combat terrorism by ending support, sustenance and sanctuaries for terrorists from wherever they are, and the drugs trade, increase stability, enhance regional economic cooperation and employment opportunities, and address Afghan refugee issues. Participants re-affirmed their support for the objectives and principles laid out in the Kabul Declaration of 2002 on Good Neighborly Relations, in particular the shared determination to defeat terrorism, extremism and drugs trafficking, on the basis of mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty. Participants further recognized the need for greater regional coordination and extended their support to the inclusive vision set out in the Istanbul Statement on Friendship and Cooperation in the "Heart of Asia" of January 2010, which offers regionally-owned measures for enhanced regional cooperation.
22. Participants welcomed the meeting of regional organisations, notably the Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO), South-Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC), Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) /ADB, UN Economic and Social Commission Asia Pacific (UNESCAP), and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) on 19 July 2010, hosted by the Government of Afghanistan, and commended the agreement by these organisations for a plan for enhanced coordination of Afghanistan's regional engagement.
23. Participants welcomed the conclusion of the Afghanistan-Pakistan Trade and Transit Agreement (APTTA), and look forward to its successful implementation.

24. Participants underlined the importance of:

- The voluntary, safe, and gradual return of Afghan refugees in dignity, and the support of the international community to this process;
- The economic potential of Afghanistan's natural resources for the stability of the state and the region, and the prosperity of its peoples;
- Integrated regional infrastructure projects, including transport; and encouraged both multilateral organisations and bilateral partners to promote such projects, including those presented in the Regional Cooperation Concept Paper submitted to the Kabul Conference;
- Investment in and expansion of railway and road linkages from Afghanistan's neighbours, such as Abadan and Chahar Bahar to Herat, Zaranj to Delaram, Gwadar-to-Kandahar, and Hairatan to Mazar-i-Sharif, and Torkham to Jalalabad, which are welcome and highly appreciated. Afghanistan invites the international community to support for its integrated railway corridor across the country;
- The centrality of Afghanistan in the production, transmission and distribution of energy resources.

25. Participants look forward to the next Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan (RECCA) and the concurrent business-to-business meeting, and which is to focus on regional economic connectivity and enhanced cooperation. Participants recalled the existence of various processes aimed at contributing to enhanced cooperative ties among regional countries, including, among others, trilateral summit processes among neighbours and regional partners. The Afghan Government and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) welcomed the forthcoming high level meetings of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Turkey, including the "Istanbul Forum" meeting in Kabul. They also welcomed the trilateral meetings of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan and supported this trilateral initiative to include neighbouring countries of Afghanistan.

Counter-narcotics

26. Participants welcomed the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan to update and improve the National Drug Control Strategy in 2010, with a particular emphasis on a partnership approach to ensure joint, effective implementation and coordination; capacity-building of law enforcement bodies across the government; and support the Government of Afghanistan's plan to establish a functioning system to monitor measurable, time-bound targets. In addition, Participants

- Stated their intention to strengthen international and regional cooperation to counter illegal production, trafficking and consumption of drugs from Afghanistan. They resolved to fight the illicit drugs trade by supporting the Afghan Government's initiatives and policies and to increase, with the cooperation of regional and other international partner countries, the number of poppy-free provinces;
- Welcomed the intent to strengthen the cooperation with relevant UN agencies, NATO, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO), and the SCO in the field of border control;
- Acknowledged that narcotics are a global challenge and combating them requires international will and cooperation; and therefore stressed the need for Afghan Government-led counternarcotics efforts, including agriculture development, interdiction, demand reduction and eradication, as well as corresponding public information.

- Called for the effective implementation of UNSCR 1817(2008) on combating deliveries of precursors for drug production in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and a decrease in the export of the pre-cursor chemicals to Afghanistan within twelve months;
- Welcomed the cooperation of the Government of Afghanistan with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to UNSCR 1267(1999) in the sphere of implementation of UNSCR 1822 (2008), including the identification of individuals and entities involved in financing or supporting activities of Al Qaeda and the Taliban, relating to the use of the proceeds of illicit cultivation production and trafficking of narcotics and their precursors, and recommended to continue such coordination.

***Next Steps: Supporting Afghan Ownership and Leadership,
Strengthening International Partnership***

27. Participants appreciated and benefited from the Government's strengthened inter-ministerial coordination mechanism under the cluster approach to prioritise and implement the Afghan Government's development strategy. Participants looked forward to continued inter-ministerial coordination and cooperation to achieve the National Priority Programmes presented at the Kabul Conference. They also affirmed that a review of progress is imperative to the continued delivery of action items from the conference.
28. The Afghan Government is to focus on reform of service delivery institutions, policy decisions and the implementation of the National Priority Programmes, within the framework of a prioritised Afghanistan National Development Strategy, in its rolling 100-days action plans.
29. Participants further welcomed steps to strengthen the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board (JCMB) in its support role for the Kabul Process. Participants agreed that the JCMB would meet every four months (supported by Standing Committees and their sub-committees) to monitor and assess progress of the Government and the international community in achieving the commitments stated above, and at the January 2010 London Conference. The Kabul Process is to include annual meetings between the Afghan Government, the international community, and civil society, including those providing services, to promote norms and standards for mutual accountability. Using existing resources, the government and the international community agreed to focus their expenditures on well-designed projects and programs. The Government of Afghanistan and the international community stated their intent to meet at Ministerial level, on an annual basis, to review mutual progress on commitments and to consider new Afghan priorities as part of the Kabul Process.
30. The Afghan Government committed to further prioritize and strengthen the National Priority Programs, including their implementation matrices for intended results and budgets. These plans will articulate 6 and 12 month, as well as 3 and 5 year targets, to ensure effective management and accountability, and the Afghan Government will refine them with the international community, including through the JCMB process, with the aim of building support for implementation. Key time-bound commitments are presented in this Communiqué. Participants supported implementing the Afghan Government's Public Financial Management Roadmap.
31. The participants recognized the paramount importance of holding transparent, inclusive and credible elections in the fall, encouraging the full participation of female as well as male candidates and voters, and the Afghan Government in particular is fully committed to ensuring this objective and welcomes the international community's support.
32. The broad and high level participation of governments and international organizations in Kabul is a sign of confidence in the future of Afghanistan and a message of hope and commitment to the people of the country. Appreciating this concrete manifestation of ongoing support, the Afghan Government vows to fulfil its commitments.

Bonn Conference Communiqué

The Second International Bonn Conference on Afghanistan

Bonn, December 2011

The International Afghanistan Conference in Bonn 5 December 2011

Afghanistan and the International Community: From Transition to the Transformation Decade

CONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS

1. We, the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the International Community, met today in Bonn to mark the 10th anniversary of the 2001 Bonn Conference, which laid the foundation of the ongoing partnership between Afghanistan and the International Community, and to renew our mutual commitment to a stable, democratic and prosperous future for the Afghan people. We honour all those, from Afghanistan and abroad, who have lost their lives for this noble cause. Afghanistan expressed its sincere gratitude for the steadfast commitment, solidarity and the immense sacrifices of its international partners.
2. Afghanistan and the International Community expressed deep appreciation to the Federal Republic of Germany for hosting this Conference. Germany is a longstanding friend of Afghanistan and, in particular over the past ten years, alongside other members of the International Community, has been a steadfast partner in Afghanistan's stabilization and development.
3. Ten years ago today at the Petersberg, Afghanistan charted a new path towards a sovereign, peaceful, prosperous and democratic future, and the International Community accepted the responsibility to help Afghanistan along that path. Together we have achieved substantial progress over these ten years, more than in any other period in Afghanistan's history. Never before have the Afghan people, and especially Afghan women, enjoyed comparable access to services, including education and health, or seen greater development of infrastructure across the country. Al Qaida has been disrupted, and Afghanistan's national security institutions are increasingly able to assume responsibility for a secure and independent Afghanistan.
4. However, our work is not yet done. Shortcomings must be addressed, achievements must be upheld. Our shared goal remains an Afghanistan that is a peaceful and promising home for all Afghans, at the centre of a secure and thriving region; an Afghanistan in which international terrorism does not again find sanctuary and that can assume its rightful place among sovereign nations.
5. In today's conference, chaired by Afghanistan, hosted by Germany and attended by 85 countries and 15 International Organisations, the International Community and Afghanistan solemnly dedicated themselves to deepening and broadening their historic partnership from Transition to the Transformation Decade of 2015-2024. Reaffirming our commitments as set out in the 2010 London Communiqué and the Kabul Process, this renewed partnership between Afghanistan and the International Community entails firm mutual commitments in the areas of governance, security, the peace process, economic and social development, and regional cooperation.

GOVERNANCE

6. Afghanistan reaffirms that the future of its political system will continue to reflect its pluralistic society and remain firmly founded on the Afghan Constitution. The Afghan people will continue to build a stable, democratic society, based on the rule of law, where the human rights and fundamental freedoms of its citizens, including the equality of men and women, are guaranteed under the Constitution. Afghanistan recommits to upholding all of its international human rights obligations. Acknowledging that on this path Afghanistan will have its own lessons to learn, the International Community fully endorses this vision and commits to supporting Afghanistan's progress in that direction.
7. We have taken note of statements by Afghan civil society organisations, including today's statements by two of their delegates at this meeting. We all reaffirm that the human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Afghan Constitution, including the rights of women and children, as well as a thriving and free civil society are key for Afghanistan's future. Therefore, we underscore the further promotion of civil society participation, including both traditional civil society structures and modern manifestations of civic action, including the role of youth, in the country's democratic processes.
8. We recognise that building a democratic society above all entails enabling legitimate and effective civilian authority embodied in a democratically elected government and served by transparent and strong, functioning institutions. Despite significant achievements, Afghanistan needs to continue its work to strengthen state institutions and improve governance throughout the country, including through reforming the civil service and strengthening the linkage between justice reform and development of its security institutions, including an effective civilian police force. Strengthening and improving Afghanistan's electoral process will be a key step forward in the country's democratization. Afghan government institutions at all levels should increase their responsiveness to the civil and economic needs of the Afghan people and deliver key services to them. In this context, the protection of civilians, strengthening the rule of law and the fight against corruption in all its forms remain key priorities. We will move this agenda forward, in accordance with our commitments under the Kabul Process in line with the principle of mutual accountability.
9. Consistent with Transition, we reaffirm that the role of international actors will evolve further from direct service delivery to support and capacity-building for Afghan institutions, enabling the Government of Afghanistan to exercise its sovereign authority in all its functions. This process includes the phasing out of all Provincial Reconstruction Teams, as well as the dissolution of any structures duplicating the functions and authority of the Government of Afghanistan at the national and sub-national levels.
10. We support the crucial role of the United Nations in Afghanistan. We express our gratitude to the UN Secretary General's Special Representative Staffan de Mistura for his dedicated service, and welcome the Secretary General's decision to appoint Jan Kubis as his new Special Representative for Afghanistan. We note that the UNAMA mandate is currently under review in line with the increased capacity and ownership exercised by the Government of Afghanistan and consistent with the process of Transition that entails the assumption of leadership responsibility by the Afghan Government. We also take note with appreciation of the close collaboration of the International Contact Group with the Afghan Government and their work, and encourage them to continue their joint efforts.

SECURITY

11. We welcome the determination of the Afghan people to combat terrorism and extremism and take responsibility for their own security and for protecting their homeland. We share Afghanistan's vision for its national security forces to be built to modern standards and adequate capacity, so that they can effectively and independently defend Afghanistan.
12. We welcome the successful start of the Transition process. Afghan authorities are assuming full security responsibility for their country and will complete this process by the end of 2014. Correspondingly, the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), authorized by the UN Security Council, has begun a gradual, responsible draw-down to be completed by that time. With the conclusion of the Transition process, our common responsibility for Afghanistan's future does not come to a close. The International Community, therefore, commits to remain strongly engaged in support of Afghanistan beyond 2014.
13. We underscore that the international support for sustainable Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) needs to continue after 2014. In assistance to the ANSF, the International Community strongly commits to support their training and equipping, financing and development of capabilities beyond the end of the Transition period. It declares its intent to continue to assist in their financing, with the understanding that over the coming years this share will gradually be reduced, in a manner commensurate with Afghanistan's needs and its increasing domestic revenue generation capacity. In this context, we look forward to define a clear vision and appropriately funded plan for the ANSF, which should be developed before the forthcoming NATO summit in Chicago in May 2012.
14. We recognise that the main threat to Afghanistan's security and stability is terrorism, and that this threat also endangers regional and global peace and security. In this regard, we recognise the regional dimensions of terrorism and extremism, including terrorist safe havens, and emphasise the need for sincere and result-oriented regional cooperation towards a region free from terrorism in order to secure Afghanistan and safeguard our common security against the terrorist threat. We reiterate our common determination to never allow Afghanistan to once again become a haven for international terrorism.
15. The production, trafficking and consumption of narcotics equally pose a grave threat to Afghanistan's security and the growth of a legitimate economy as well as to international peace and stability. Recognizing their shared responsibility, Afghanistan and the International Community reiterate their determination to counter, in a comprehensive manner, including by crop eradication, interdiction and promoting alternative agriculture, the menace of illicit drugs, including drug precursors, which causes widespread harm and suffering. We recognise that the narcotics problem is a global challenge which also requires tackling the demand side.

PEACE PROCESS

16. We stress the need for a political solution in order to achieve peace and security in Afghanistan. To ensure enduring stability, in addition to building up Afghanistan's capacity to defend itself, a political process is necessary, of which negotiation and reconciliation are essential elements. In addition, the process of reintegration will pave the way for post-conflict rehabilitation of Afghan society through improvement of security, community development and local governance.

17. We condemn in the strongest terms the assassination of Professor Burhanuddin Rabbani, former President of Afghanistan and Chairman of the High Peace Council. The International Community welcomes and supports the undeterred peace efforts of the Afghan Government, particularly through the High Peace Council and the Afghanistan Peace and Reintegration Programme. We also take note of the recommendations of the consultative Traditional Loya Jirga of 16-19 November 2011, which provided a new impetus to the peace process.
18. Mindful of the relevant UN resolutions, the International Community concurs with Afghanistan that the peace and reconciliation process and its outcome must be based on the following principles:
- (a) The process leading to reconciliation must be
 - truly Afghan-led and Afghan-owned; as well as
 - inclusive, representing the legitimate interests of all the people of Afghanistan, regardless of gender or social status.
 - (b) Reconciliation must contain
 - the reaffirmation of a sovereign, stable and united Afghanistan;
 - the renunciation of violence;
 - the breaking of ties to international terrorism;
 - respect for the Afghan Constitution, including its human rights provisions, notably the rights of women.
 - (c) The region must respect and support the peace process and its outcome.

An outcome of the peace process respecting the above principles will receive the full support of the International Community.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

19. The International Community shares Afghanistan's aim of achieving self-reliance and prosperity through developing its human and resource potential on its path towards sustainable and equitable growth and improved standards of living, and welcomes the Afghan Government's economic Transition strategy as elaborated in the document *Towards a Self-Sustaining Afghanistan*. Shifting the strategy from stabilisation to long-term development cooperation, the International Community will continue to support Afghanistan, including in the areas of rule of law, public administration, education, health, agriculture, energy, infrastructure development and job creation, in line with the Afghan Government's priorities as specified in the National Priority Programmes framework under the Kabul Process.
20. As the Afghan government sets priorities, embraces reform and meets its Kabul commitments, including strengthening transparent and accountable public financial management systems and improving budget execution capacity, its partners recommit to meeting the minimum targets set in London and Kabul for aligning international assistance with Afghanistan's priorities and channeling a growing share of development aid through the government budget. We welcome the Government of Japan's intention to host a ministerial conference in July 2012 in Tokyo, which will address, in addition to the coordination of international economic assistance through the Transition period, Afghanistan's strategy for sustainable development, including aid effectiveness and regional economic cooperation.
21. As Transition gathers momentum, we recognise the economic risks identified by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, including the economic impact tied to the reduction of the international military presence. We intend to mitigate this effect, including by increasing aid effectiveness, consistent with the Kabul Process. The International

Community shares Afghanistan's concern that a strategy to address the near-term effects of Transition must also facilitate the goal of attaining a sustainable market economy in line with the social needs of the population.

22. The intensive international effort in Afghanistan over the last decade represents a unique engagement. The International Community's commitment, both to Afghanistan and to its role in international security, lasts beyond Transition. Transition will reduce the international presence and the financial requirements associated with it. We recognize that the Government of Afghanistan will have special, significant and continuing fiscal requirements that cannot be met by domestic revenues in the years following Transition. Therefore, during the Transformation Decade, the International Community commits to directing financial support, consistent with the Kabul Process, towards Afghanistan's economic development and security-related costs, helping Afghanistan address its continuing budget shortfall to secure the gains of the last decade, make Transition irreversible, and become self-sustaining.
23. Afghanistan's long-term economic growth will, above all, depend on the development of its productive sectors, notably agriculture and mining. The International Community commits to supporting the development of an export-oriented agriculture-based economy, which is crucial for Afghanistan to achieve food security, poverty reduction, widespread farm-based job creation, and expanding the Government's revenue generation capacity. Concerning mining, we welcome the growing interest of international investors in Afghanistan's mineral wealth but emphasise the need for a regulatory framework to guarantee that this mineral wealth directly benefits the Afghan people. The International Community supports Afghanistan's efforts to develop a transparent and accountable regulatory regime, consistent with international best practices, for collecting and managing public resources and preserving the environment.
24. We recognise that a vibrant, private sector-led economy in Afghanistan will require the development of a competitive service industry and a stable financial system, and achieving regional integration through expanding Afghanistan's trade and transit networks, as well as its regional connectivity. The International Community commits to support Afghanistan's efforts to put in place and enhance the infrastructure and the relevant regulatory frameworks for the development of trade and transit.
25. We emphasize that attracting private investment, including from international sources, are key priorities for activating Afghanistan's economic potential. The Afghan Government commits to improving conditions conducive to international investments, inter alia, by implementing the recommendations of the EUROMINES International Investors Forum in Brussels on 26 October 2011.

REGIONAL COOPERATION

26. We believe that a stable and prosperous Afghanistan can only be envisioned in a stable and prosperous region. For the entire region, the rewards of peace and cooperation outweigh those of rivalry and isolation by far. We endorse Afghanistan's vision for building strong, sustainable bilateral and multilateral relationships with its near and extended neighbours. Such relationships should end external interference, reinforce the principles of good-neighbourly relations, non-interference and sovereignty, and further Afghanistan's economic integration into the region.
27. We welcome the outcome of the "Istanbul Conference for Afghanistan: Security and Cooperation in the Heart of Asia" of 2 November 2011. In particular, we take note of the

principles concerning territorial integrity, sovereignty, non-intervention and the peaceful settlement of disputes contained in the Istanbul Process, which we support as a valuable step towards building greater confidence and cooperation in the 'Heart of Asia' region. We call for strict adherence by Afghanistan and its regional partners to these principles, and look forward to the follow-up Ministerial Conference in June 2012 in Kabul.

28. With a view to the long-term prospects for Afghanistan's development, we share Afghanistan's vision of a well-connected, economically integrated region, where Afghanistan can serve as a land-bridge connecting South Asia, Central Asia, Eurasia and the Middle East. We support enhanced trade connectivity along historical trade routes to utilize Afghanistan's economic potential at the regional level. In this context, we recognize the importance of early implementation of sustainable projects to promote regional connectivity, such as the TAPI gas pipeline, CASA-1000, railways and other projects. In this context, we look forward to the 5th RECCA conference to be hosted by the Republic of Tajikistan in Dushanbe in March 2012.
29. We acknowledge the burden of Afghanistan's neighbours, in particular Pakistan and Iran, in providing temporary refuge to millions of Afghans in difficult times and are committed to further work towards their voluntary, safe and orderly return.

THE WAY FORWARD

30. With a view to the future, we underscore that the process of Transition, which is currently underway and is to be completed by the end of 2014, should be followed by a decade of Transformation, in which Afghanistan consolidates its sovereignty through strengthening a fully functioning, sustainable state in the service of its people. This Transformation Decade will see the emergence of a new paradigm of partnership between Afghanistan and the International Community, whereby a sovereign Afghanistan engages with the International Community to secure its own future and continues to be a positive factor for peace and stability in the region.
31. At today's meeting, Afghanistan laid out its vision of the future: a country that is a stable and functioning democracy, a strong and sustainable state in the service of its people, and a prospering economy. Embedded in a region that is conducive to prosperity and peace, and enjoying friendly relations with all of its near and extended neighbours, Afghanistan aspires to becoming a contributor to international peace and security.
32. With a view to realizing the above vision, the International Community and Afghanistan make firm mutual commitments to continue to working together in a spirit of partnership. Afghanistan reiterates its commitment to continue to improve governance, while the International Community commits to an enduring engagement with Afghanistan through and beyond 2014.
33. Today in Bonn, we solemnly declare a strategic consensus on deepening and broadening the partnership between Afghanistan and the International Community founded at the Petersberg ten years ago. Building on the shared achievements of the past ten years, and recognising that the security and well-being of Afghanistan continue to affect the security of the entire region and beyond, Afghanistan and the International Community strongly commit to this renewed partnership for the Transformation Decade.

CIVIL-MILITARY FUSION CENTRE: OUR MISSION

*To facilitate the sharing of open-source
information between civilian and military
actors working on complex crises in order to
enhance their sense of shared awareness*