



16 February 2024

His Excellency António Guterres
Secretary General of the United Nations
New York, USA

Your Excellency,

We, a coalition of political and civil society actors from Afghanistan, extend our sincere appreciation for the tireless efforts of the United Nations and your personal attention to the plight of the Afghan people, particularly the tragic situation faced by Afghan women and girls.

Our coalition comprises former government officials, diplomats, academics, scholars, specialists from various fields, human rights and women's rights activists, as well as youth representatives, both within and outside Afghanistan. We warmly welcome the upcoming meeting of the group of Special Envoys and Special Representatives on Afghanistan in Doha under your chairmanship. This meeting presents a significant opportunity to discuss the implementation of UNSC Resolution 2721 (2023) and the recommendations of the independent assessment, led by Ambassador Feridun Sinirlioğlu.

We believe this meeting is vital for promoting and maintaining regional and international consensus for peace, security, human rights, and legitimate governance in Afghanistan. These aspects are crucial to the common interests of both Afghanistan and the international community, particularly concerning counter-terrorism, counter-narcotics, and preventing humanitarian crises and population displacement and outmigration.

The progress on this vital agenda hinges critically on the unified stance of the international community regarding the legitimacy and recognition of

Afghanistan's government and its reintegration into the global community. The legitimacy of the government must derive from the free will and votes of the people of Afghanistan, men and women alike, and its complete adherence to Afghanistan's international obligations.

We advocate for a unified approach by the international community in engaging with the Taliban, emphasizing Afghanistan's international obligations and the principles outlined in UNSC Resolution 2721 (2023). Any deviation from this approach, especially unilateral action on recognition without upholding fundamental rights and freedoms, ensuring government legitimacy, and addressing terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, poses a significant threat to peace and stability beyond Afghanistan.

In this regard, we will welcome the appointment of the UNSG's Special Envoy for Afghanistan to foster regional and international consensus and support the implementation of the independent assessment's recommendations, particularly regarding intra-Afghan negotiations. These negotiations, as mandated in the Doha peace agreement, are pivotal for achieving a political settlement that upholds human rights and ensures government legitimacy.

We urge all meeting participants to collectively demand that the Taliban honor their commitments to intra-Afghan negotiations, as they are both a political and religious obligation for them by virtue of signing the peace agreement.

While the political process progresses, safeguarding the human rights of all Afghan people, especially women and girls, is paramount. Adequate financing for humanitarian assistance is essential to alleviate the suffering of millions, including women and children, in Afghanistan.

We call on the meeting participants to exert their influence to reverse the Taliban's oppressive policies, improve human rights conditions, especially for women, and continue providing generous assistance to address the looming humanitarian crisis. We are profoundly grateful for the generous support already

provided by donor nations, and for the tireless and commendable work of humanitarian organizations.

Excellency,

We acknowledge and embrace our responsibility as political and civil society actors to promote national unity in support of the agenda outlined above, the UNSC Resolution 2721 (2023) and the independent assessment's recommendations. We are committed to actively participating in the political process and the intra-Afghan negotiations.

We urge the meeting participants to consider the Afghan people's demands as reflected in this letter and provide support and space for Afghan political and civil society stakeholders to engage actively.

We eagerly await your response, Excellency, or that of your representatives. Please accept, Excellency, the assurance of our highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Afghan National Peace
Activists Party

Dr Murtaza Kaiwan

Dr Khudaidad
Basharmal



Afghanistan Concord
Process

Mia Gul Waseeq



Afghanistan National
Discourse Movement

Enayatullah Nabel
Barakzai



Afghanistan National
Movement for Peace and
Justice

Dr. Mohammad Jalil
Shams



Afghanistan People's
Cohesion Council

Dr Rashid Mahmood



National Centre Party

Khushaal Rohi



National Solidarity
Movement of Afghanistan

Shir Afzal Akhgar



National United Party of
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