

# Afghan Institute for Strategic Studies

## Afghanistan Central Asia Dialogue-I (ACAD-I)

### Conference Report



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## **Afghan Institute for Strategic Studies (AISS)**

The Afghan Institute for Strategic Studies (AISS) was established in October 2012. It aims to create an Intellectual space for addressing strategic issues pertaining to Afghanistan in the wider regional and International context. Promoting dialogue between and among different stakeholders will be an end as well an integral means of attaining AISS objectives.

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## A Very short introduction to the Afghanistan Central Dialogue Dialogue-I Series

Afghanistan and five Central Asian Republics of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kirgizstan, and Kazakhstan share common security, economic and cultural space, and system. Since 2001, there has been noticeable improvement and an increase in interaction, exchange, connectivity, and cooperation between Afghanistan and its northern neighbors. The Dialogue covered “Afghanistan’s Transition and Transformation Decade”, “Common Challenge of Terrorism,” “Counter-Narcotics Cooperation”, “Economic & Regional Cooperation & Connectivity”, “Norouz: Shared Cultural Heritage” and “The Role of International Community.”



# Summary of Afghanistan Central Asia Dialogue-I

## An important concerted step toward regional integration and stability

### Preamble

Having a shared destiny creates the necessity to decide jointly on the issues which are the most essentials. The future of any country in our region is roughly intertwined with the future of the region itself. A security and a stable region can guarantee sustainable development and prosperity of every single country.

By having this perspective, the Afghan institute for strategic studies from the outset of its activity has tried a lot, by holding regional and international conferences overcome and find the solutions for the problems which exist in the region and in Afghanistan.

After Herat Security Conference which was very warmly welcomed by the Afghans and the international community friends, the Afghan Institute for Strategic Studies recognized the necessity for holding another international conference under the name of Afghanistan-Central Asia Dialogue in order to seek regional integration, common fields for solving shared problems, overcome our entrenched differences, look for the potentials which helps us prosper our region in a better way, and to commence talks and discourses which haven't existed in the past.

It is a fact that Afghanistan and central Asian countries have a lot of economic, political, social, and cultural common interests that these factors are very crucial for operating regional discourses and searching the ways of solving the problems.

Afghanistan-Central Asia Dialogue as the first international conference focusing on Afghanistan and central Asia, as a very important initiative, brought together governmental officials, state academics, experts, representative of the non-state sectors and civil societies activists from 40 countries of the region and outside the region and has been strongly appreciated and welcomed by all the participants of the conference and suggested to continue in the future as well.

These two days conference which was held in Kabul-Afghanistan, on December 19 and 20 of 2013, has discussed issues such as Central Asian Representatives' Perspective, Afghanistan's Transition and Transformation Decade, Threat of Terrorism and Prospect of Enhanced Cooperation, Economic Cooperation and Regional Connectivity, Counter-Narcotics Cooperation, Nowruz: Shared Cultural Heritage and Greater Cooperation, International Perspectives and The Way Forward, that the Afghan institute for strategic studies is going to share the outcomes with you as follow.

**Opening Session:**

*Recitation of the Holy Quran, National Anthem of Afghanistan, Hymn of Khawja Abdullah Ansari*

*Welcoming Remarks by AISS Director-General – Dr. Davood Moradian*

**Keynote Speaker:**

*National Security Advisor to H.E the President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Dr. Rangin Dadfar Spanta*

- 1) From the Afghan Institute of Strategic Studies' perspective, there are three competing visions for Afghanistan.
  - First: Afghanistan is a contested battlefield of competing powers. A kind of proxy battles of regional and international powers.
  - Second: Afghanistan is a black security hole and a source of world problems. From terrorism to illicit drugs to recently the prospect of NATO and US military presence in Afghanistan. This vision is held mainly by the outsiders
  - Third: Afghanistan is a connector, an integrator and a catalyst for connectivity and cooperation in the region and behind the region and also a land of opportunity, connectivity and cooperation in the fields of economy, energy, politics and security which the institute reached to promote that.

- 2) Addressing the ancient festival of Yalda a common cultural heritage and its resemblance of celebration in Afghanistan, Iran and central Asia, and the simultaneity of this festival to the 25<sup>th</sup> December, the Christian world Christmas day which can be an example of connectivity that the world shares.
- 3) Acknowledging that for insurance of long-term stability in Afghanistan, coordinated international efforts are necessary and there should be especial attention to the three main sectors, transportation network, industrial facility, and agriculture.
- 4) Suggesting that in order to facilitate Afghan-Central Asia economic relations these points should be considered.
  - A part of International program of aid to Afghanistan should be shifted on transportation project within Afghanistan and on enhancing economic cooperation between Afghanistan and all its central Asian neighbors.
  - Especial attention should be paid to solve the traders' problems such as visa's problem.
  - Motor road, bridges, railroads, rail bridges should be restored and built
  - Using the opportunities to maximize the Afghan side trade to create a trade balance.
  - There should be a strong political willingness to prioritize the Afghan and central Asian relationship in terms of the economic exchanges.
- 5) Putting more emphasize on bilateral relations and bilateral cooperation between Afghanistan and the central Asian countries to develop the economic opportunities, strengthen the regional interaction, regional cooperation and to guarantee more regional integration and political stability.

## **Session I: Central Asian Representatives' Perspective**

### **Chair:**

*Ms. Roya Rahmani, Director General, Department of Regional Cooperation, Afghan Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

### **Speakers:**

- 1. H.E. Mr. Omirtay Bitimov, Kazakh Ambassador to Afghanistan*
- 2. H.E. Mr. Avazbek Abdurazakov, Kyrgyz Ambassador to Afghanistan*
- 3. Tajikistan*
- 4. Mr. Bakhtiyor Kholikov, Chief Specialist of Foreign Affairs Department, Centre of Strategic Research under the President of the Republic of T ajikistan*

No doubt that there is a great deal of opportunity for development in various field between Afghanistan and central Asia and It is clear for many experts and politicians that international collaboration play an important role in the region , but to ensure a long-term stability in Afghanistan, coordinated international efforts are necessary and of course the basis is economics and three main sectors should to have special attention, first transportation network, second industrial facility, and third agriculture.

Afghanistan as a part of central Asia. The focus of efforts in research for mechanism to rebuild the country and special attention to economic mechanism. At the same time it is understood with the current level of economic relation, Afghanistan is extremely low.

Realizing that during the period of 1998 to 2001 when the Taliban controlled almost the entire territory of Afghanistan, Afghanistan and Central Asia economic relation ties were practically non-existent. After overthrowing of the Taliban regime, economic relations between Afghanistan and Central Asia were gradually restored.

The current international kind of program of aid to Afghanistan with special attention on transportation project within Afghanistan and on enhancing economic collaboration between



Afghanistan and fifth of all neighboring countries may offer the necessary impels to set passion the country's reconstruction.

## **Session II: Afghanistan's Transition and Transformation Decade**

### ***Chair:***

*Dr. Sima Samar, Chairperson of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC)*

### ***Speakers:***

- 1. Mr. Abdul Rahman Hotaki, Deputy Head of the Afghanistan Independent Election Commission (IEC)*
- 2. Mr. Sham Lal Bathija, Senior Advisor for Economic Affairs to H.E the President of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan*
- 3. General Sher Mohammad Karimi, Chief of Army Staff, Afghan National Army*

Recognizing Afghanistan as the centerboard of the region for all the geographical reasons throughout the history and in the future. Because it is connected to central Asia, south Asia, west Asia as well as further to china and the entire continent. Because of this reason, Afghanistan could be a springboard for trade, development, and investment facilitation. In this case, there should be provided fantastic transit facilities to not south, west everywhere, through all the corridors not necessarily in the trading, in the goods and transport services, but in the energy, in the tourism, in the many other areas that Afghanistan has in its natural resources.

Realizing that Afghanistan is a landlocked country and a mountainous country, so the railroads play a very crucial role in it. Afghanistan never had it, but now hopefully it is going to have and by having railroads in Afghanistan, it will function as an important corridor between south and north and all the regional transportation will be facilitated.

Emphasizing and stressing from the Afghan government side to do the best of its efforts to promote investment. Investment activities and try to pave the ground for the internal and foreign investor and facilitate their activities.

Expressing that Afghanistan is trying to create regional public private partnerships. Because such partnerships can contribute to the peace, stability and security of not only Afghanistan, which are by the very crucial for the whole region but for the others too. Any such partnership at the regional level, regional participation will certainly force that particular entity, institutions, and the countries to be supportive of the peace process In order to protect investments.

Calling on the regional countries to seek solutions for their tensions because always tension between the region, for example India and Pakistan is a big obstacle for cooperation and others and the same existing between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan and the problem you know that the region has there, is an obstacle for cooperation in this area

Recognizing the need for ever cooperation on the security side between Afghanistan and Pakistan to, coordinate, cooperate and intelligence sharing and joint work against terrorists in the area.

Addressing that on the election's security the ministry of interior and the ministry of defense is jointly working with the NDS as well and the independent commission of election and the plans are prepared. The plans have gone all the regions. Now regionally the cores the police headquarters, the police dignitaries' responsibilities they are all working together

Realizing that defeating terrorism is not the job of one single country in the region, but all the countries of the region should work jointly to eliminate international terrorism, on the other side the central Asian countries are landlocked countries but of course, they have youth humanitarian resources and also have profuse natural resources.

Acknowledging that if Afghanistan is forgotten after 2014 will have these consequences. A: the danger of deteriorating the situation. B) Intensifying the civil war. C) Increasing the flows of migrates. D) Increasing the tension in the region.

Emphasizing from all the central Asian country sides to cooperate and coordinate with Afghanistan in fighting against terrorism, insurgency, establishing peace, and insurance of security of the region.

Stressing from the Afghan government side to hold presidential election on May 5 2014 and emphasized that the legitimacy of the next government will be insured through the next election.

Addressing the problems that we have in this region, first the countries in the region are all developing countries. Second: their productions, their capacity, and their produce are more or less very similar to each other. Third: many of these countries in our part of the region are landlocked countries. They have the same problems as we do. So that brings more a little difficulty in negotiations, in agreeing and so on because here comes not only the national political and security interests involved, but it also other private sector interests get involved here as well. Therefore, that is another area.

Appreciating the role of Institutions like the Afghan Institute for strategic studies in providing people to people contact and bringing the people together, institutions together, scholars together, exchanges together so that get into the whole integrity of the cooperation part. Stressing that there should be a starting point and we should start collaborating in a joint venture. So too, there are some important element for example, exchanges would be the first, investment would be the second, trade as an engine of growth would be the other, not this trade but trade which is manufactured or has a manufacture here or in central Asia.

### **Session III: Threat of Terrorism & Prospect of Enhanced Cooperation**

#### ***Chair:***

*Mr. Amrullah Saleh, Former Head of the Afghan National Directorate of Security, and Head of Green Trend Movement of Afghanistan*

#### ***Speakers:***

1. *Mr. David Samuel Sedney, Former US Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asia)*
2. *Dr. (Gen) Kozy-Korpesh Karbuzov, President, Center for Military Strategic Research(CMSR), Kazakhstan*
3. *Ustad Mohiddin Kabari, Leader of the Islamic Movement of Tajikistan*

Expressing the need for cultural ties, intelligence exchanges, security cooperation, expansion of economic ties and further economic integration to outbalance and crush the small terrorist groups who are insecure the situation and stability.

Calling on the central Asian countries and encouraging them to change their view about Afghanistan not to see Afghanistan as a source of instability, terrorism, smuggling, and extremism but to see Afghanistan a bridge between South Asia and central Asia a bridge and a transport route that convey energy from central Asia to South Asia.

***Mr. David Samuel Sedney: the insularity of hand trying to handle problems on a nation-state basis without sufficient cooperation is in many ways in my mind one of the reasons why the problems persist! Why they are not handled? The more individual nation-state tries to handle a transnational problem by itself, the less likely it is to succeed.***

Suggesting that there should be a program of at least yearly reciprocal visits between high levels among ministers of defense, chiefs of staff of the armed forces, ministers of interiors, heads of intelligent service sand that without effective cooperation in the security arena both bilaterally and multilaterally in the countries of central Asia. There will be a continuation of the present failure. Acknowledging that larger organizations such as the United Nations, NATO, and the ISAF can play important roles, but they cannot substitute for effective coordination among the countries of the region.

## **Session IV: Economic Cooperation & Regional Connectivity**

### **Chair:**

*Dr. Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai*

### **Speakers:**

- 1. H.E. Mr. Martin Jäger, German Ambassador to Afghanistan*
- 2. Prof. Gulshan Sachdeva, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India*
- 3. Prof. Haji Mohammad Umarov, Tajik Academy of Sciences*
- 4. Mr. Nazir Kabiri, Advisor to the Minister of Finance of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan*

Underscoring that Germany is a partner of Afghanistan that wishes to continue this partnership, that will do everything it can to support not only the economic success of Afghanistan and of this region, but that will also remain to be a committed partner of Afghanistan in all issues related to peace and stability.

Believing that Afghanistan has to concentrate on two things. One is of course it has to attract investments in areas particularly in mining, hydrocarbon, infrastructure, telecommunication, agriculture, education, health, etc. secondly for long term sustainability Afghanistan also has to start walking as a link between central Asia and south Asia, which it has to use traditionally it was doing. In addition, the regional countries obviously can play a very important role in this.

Recognizing Chabahar, as an important economic dynamic which help Afghanistan have better access to the market in terms of transportation, so the more the provinces around Afghanistan integrate with the gulf in Iran, the better the prospect is.

Regarding that Afghans are Diaspora people, which over six million people on it are in the neighboring countries and each one of them is a potential entrepreneurial linkage. They are actually in enormous positive energy the way formal economy has been demonstrated to be a reservoir.

Welcoming the role of private sector and private investments in economic development of the region with more coordination. Pointing out the importance of transit in the region where we

are roughly interconnected and without cooperation no real economic achievement is possible to reach. Therefore, the political obstacles, which are blocking our vision of the potentials, should be eliminated.

Recognizing south Asia and central Asia as the least economically integrated but still fast growing regions. Simultaneously south Asia is the source of the greatest demand for energy and central Asia is a big supplier of energy. Therefore, if we bring the supply and demand together, it will produce new imperatives where stakeholders people in particular will be able to appreciate regional cooperation. In this case, Afghanistan can play the role of international north-south corridor to convey the necessity of south to north and vice versa.

Pledging Germany to give on an annual basis 430 million € a year, which they will continue to invest in Afghanistan, to spend in Afghanistan and promote the economic development of this country.

Acknowledging that if there is a political will and financial instruments to prosper the regional market In terms of export, import, and transit the economic situation of the entire region will change, for example, Uzbekistan produces approximately 800000 tons of cotton. It goes through RECCA. Pakistan needs 2.2 million tons cotton a year. If Afghanistan able to shift this, Afghanistan will make 400 million dollars a year from this transit trade.

## **Session V: Counter-Narcotics Cooperation**

### ***Chair:***

*Ms. Ashita Mittal, UNODC Deputy Country Representative for Afghanistan*

### ***Speakers:***

- 1. Mr. Haroon Rashid Shirzad, Deputy Minister of Counter-Narcotics of The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan*
- 2. Mr. Frank Caestino, Supervisory Investigative Analyst, SIGAR, USA Embassy*
- 3. Dr. Reza Jalali, Tehran University*
- 4. Dr. Emilbek Dzhuraev, American University of Central Asia, Kyrgyzstan*
- 5. Mr. Ruslan Batmoldanov, Expert, Center for Military Strategic Research (CMSR), Kazakhstan*

The panelists expressed that the Taliban today control vast farmland in Helmand, Kandahar and along the Pakistani border. By preventing national authorities and international agencies from working, insurgents have allowed greed and corruption to turn orchards, wheat and vegetable fields into poppy fields.

The Taliban are again using opium to suit their interests. Between 1996 and 2000, in Taliban controlled areas 15,000 tons of opium were produced and exported – the regime's sole source of foreign exchange at that time. In July 2000, the Taliban argued that opium was against Islam and banned its cultivation (but not its export). In recent months, the Taliban have reversed their position once again and started to extract from the drug economy resources for arms, logistics, and militia pay.

The transition process and serious challenges related to drugs and organized crimes, effective responses are required by the country with support from the international community.

Besides that, the most of the world's opium today comes from Afghanistan (74%), only a small proportions seized either in country or by regional partners. Afghanistan worked in partnership with the five Central Asian countries in order to help them combat the threat of trafficking in opiates within and through their territories.

Cooperation between Afghanistan and five Central Asian Republics of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kirgizstan, and Kazakhstan and supports creating a better common response to countering the destabilizing impact of illicit drugs and crime. We should build-up new approaches; strengthen the existing good practices and increases capacity in the region to enable greater counter-narcotics achievements both regionally and globally. Political and practical regional cooperation and finding common solutions is a key in solving the challenges.

Drug control is not a one-dimensional stand-alone issue, but it is an integral part of a wider process that delivers development, security, and governance. It is important to mainstream counter-narcotics throughout wider efforts in bringing stability and economic growth to Afghanistan and the wider region.

## **Session VI: Norouz: Shared Cultural Heritage & Greater Cooperation**

### **Chair:**

*Ms. Rangina Kargar, Member of the Afghan Parliament*

### **Speakers:**

1. *Mr. Parto Naderi, Writer & Poet, Afghanistan*
2. *Ms. Sara Noshadi, Culture Specialist, UNESCO Kabul*
3. *Prof. Abdunabi Sattorov, Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan*
4. *Mr. Marlen Sugralinov, Institute of Oriental Studies, Kazakhstan*

Expressing that Nowroz is not only such a common or an ancient celebration among the regional countries, but also according extensive of relations and the extent of convergence makes it important and has a special place for the region. A joint effort to recognize this important historical day is a massive evolution and a turning point in relations between the countries white commonalities language and culture to the region. This joint effort will be a suitable platform for strengthening regional cooperation in varicose fields of economic, culture and diplomatic considered.

It can be a stage for foreign regional collaboration and integration. It is expected from the regional countries which celebrating Nowroz to expend the ancient culture of Nowroz year to year.

There is no country can claim to be the only creator of every culture and civilization is widespread. All common areas are more cultural and civilizational understanding and regional integration in this area creates. Nowroz festival is one of the common celebrations among the regional countries, when civilization belongs to a large area; we can say that this celebration belongs to all regional countries which celebrating Nowrzo.

Suggestion A: in First step, the countries which celebrating Nawroz will establish a foundation under the name of "Nowroz Regional Foundation." The organization's leadership must be taken by participating countries turn by turn. B) Regional Nowroz Foundation Member States can establish a network of collaborations and links to their joint work. C: The Nowroz regional



foundation could awards and honors are awarded to writers and cultural activists. D: We can have a magazine called “Nawroz” Magazine as one month, two months, or three months to be published.

## **Session VII: International Perspectives**

### **Chair:**

*Mr. Sham Lal Bathija, Senior Advisor for Economic Affairs to H.E the President of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan*

### **Speakers:**

*1.H.E. Ambassador Franz-Michael Mellbin, EU Special Representative for Afghanistan*

*2. H.E. Sir Richard Stagg, British Ambassador to Afghanistan*

*3. H.E. Mr. Amar Sinha, Indian Ambassador to Afghanistan*

*4. Mr. Nicholas Haysom, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (Political) to UNAMA*

***In the international perspectives panel, which was the most important and diplomatic panel of this conference, all the panelists tried to share their insights and the position of the institutions or governments which they are representing.***

### ***The British ambassador’s insights,***

Addressing that high level of cooperation between Afghanistan and its neighbors, is essential in terms these countries’ future and that the UK very supportive of efforts to try to shape a structured system to underpin this collaboration.

Expressing that regional economic integration and trade linkage are very important for Afghanistan and the central Asia countries because they provide them with a critical trade route to both Russia and to Europe and to key countries in the Middle East as well the south. Also, they are important in terms of supply and demand of energy, the key neighbors in the north are energy rich, for example Turkmenistan has the fourth largest gas reservoir in the world, they have surplus power and Afghanistan has a very big need to increase power supply

to its people and so the UK is supportive of attempts to link up the access energy supplies in central Asia and the demand both in Afghanistan but also the neighbors in Pakistan and India.

The United Kingdom is willing to provide additional financial support to casa1000, in order for transmission line to be built and the UK does see this as a project, which would have real and relatively rapid impact.

Supporting the Istanbul process and the attempt to link Afghanistan to its neighbors, both the central Asian neighbors and those of the south and the west.

Supporting the process of integrating Afghanistan more with the economies and politics of central Asia and provide the opportunity for Afghanistan to link up to other markets as to benefit from the energy supplies which are so abundant in central Asia.

Acknowledging that transitions will remove the dependency culture that the international community has developed over the years and allow Afghan people and institutions to make their own choices and lead their own programs.

### **The EU's Special Representative's insights.**

*Believing that Afghanistan has faced tremendous challenges and is a fragile country today and they will remain after 2014, and, it simply needs a lot of support from the international community in order to continue a progressive positive development. For this reason, the EU very much sees itself through a lens of being able to be a staying partner of the Afghan people.*

*Expressing that the EU can ensure its continued support for Afghanistan through the transformation decade and that the Afghan people deserve our continued support,*

*Pledging that the EU is long time term committed partner of Afghanistan*

*Expressing that the EU is planning its seven next year support in Afghanistan and there is political commitment to ensure that their next planning will involve, support at least at the same level of their previous seven years which is a very strong signal from the EU for Afghanistan.*

*Committing that the EU is active in the spheres politics, economy and the security side, building capacity and supporting Afghan structures are the other issues that we are committed to work on them.*

*Stating that the EU supports Istanbul process.*

*Emphasizing that a credible and transparent election will be a significant platform for Afghanistan to take its other steps forward. There should be special efforts to try to get as many people to vote as possible.*

### **The Indian ambassador's insights.**

*Considering Afghanistan as part of South Asia, part of the SAARC region*

*Expressing that they are also working with alternate routes to Iran. There are two major projects. One is called the north, south corridor that connects from Bandar Abbas north to Azerbaijan and the other which is the development of Chabahar port and an alternate connectivity to Afghanistan and beyond Afghanistan to central Asia.*

*Reaffirming that there is a need for change the outlook that many central Asian countries see Afghanistan as a source of worry and concern, or drugs and trafficking or extremism. They have to look at Afghanistan as an opportunity, an opportunity not only as a conveyer belt for energy, goods, or TAPI pipeline coming from central Asia. However, more as a manufacturing hub where Afghanistan can utilize its abundant natural resources.*

#### **Mr. Amar Sinha:**

The war against terror is not only Afghanistan's problem. It is a problem of the region. They are fighting a battle. They are the front line for all of us. If terrorism or extremism, government comes here or Emirate of Islam established here, believe me they are not going to rest at Kabul. They have plans to reach out to central Asia. Therefore, it is really that Afghanistan is fighting a battle for all of us.

## Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (Political) to UNAMA insights

*Emphasizing and reaffirming that Afghanistan for reasons of geography is the bridge, the link between the energy rich north and energy hungry south. It deserves to be the center of an economically integrated regional trade.*

*Expressing that the United Nations have really given a full support to the Istanbul process and will support. Because. A). The Istanbul process does not seek to replace any of the existing organizations. B). the second underlying logic which underlines the Istanbul process is its appeal to the region to engage in their own interests, in their own economic interests, in their own political interests not as an active charity. It will help further the political stability and economic prosperity of you and of the region. C). Thirdly the Istanbul process relies on the logic, which says bilateral engagements with Afghanistan are good but a regional approach is more effective. A regional approach promotes accountability of neighbor-to-neighbor.*

*Respecting and reaffirming the sovereignty of Afghanistan as a sovereign country and recognizing the right to it which is entitled to make its own decisions, including in regards to what aid it wants of the international community and whether it will take on its problems itself or use foreigners international community to do to on its behalf.*

*Emphasizing that the aid should be prioritized by the Afghan government and that from the UN perspective that should be possible in any case.*

## **Concluding Session: The Way Forward (Open Discussion)**

### **Chair:**

*Dr. Davood Moradian, Director- General, Afghanistan Institute for Strategic Studies*

### **Speaker:**

*Mr. Bakhtiyor Kholikov, Chief Specialist of Foreign Affairs Department, Centre of Strategic Research under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan*

*2. Mr. Elham Gharji, Director, Gowharshad Institute of Higher Education, Afghanistan*

*3. Prof. Guli Yuldasheva, Central Eurasia Project, Uzbekistan*

*4. Dr. Emilbek Dzhuraev, American University of Central Asia, Kirghizstan*

*5. Mr. Ruslan Batmoldanov, Expert, Center for Military Strategic Research (CMSR) Kazakhstan*

Strongly appreciating Afghanistan-Central Asia Dialogue as the first international conference focusing on Afghanistan and central Asia as a very important initiative to bring together either non-state academics, civil society activists, experts or a mixture of both Ambassadors formal officials and representative of the non-state sectors. Acknowledging that holding such conferences can be the best way to overcome those very entrenched differences and start talking beyond those conflicts that we have been in way victims of.

Suggesting creating some projects on countering, monitoring, and counteracting against very probable and potential illegal flows of drug trafficking, illegal migration and other global challenges which can speed up across of the transport transit route.

END