



## Sussex Afghanistan Forum

13 March 2019 – University of Sussex, Brighton, UK

### Agenda

**Wednesday, March 13th**

#### Opening Session

Moderator	Professor Elizabeth Harrison (Head of School of Global Studies, University of Sussex)	
09:00-10:00		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sufi Praying (recorded clip)</li> <li>2. Welcome Remarks by Professor Adam Tickell (Vice Chancellor and President, University of Sussex)</li> <li>3. Introduction by Professor Magnus Marsden (Director of Sussex Asia Center, University of Sussex)</li> <li>4. Keynote Remarks by Dr Rangin Dadfar Spanta (Former Minister of Foreign Affairs/National Security Advisor of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan)</li> </ol>
<b>Keynote Panel: Afghanistan: State Building and Education</b>		
10:00-11:00	Moderator	Ms Fawzia Koofi (Member of Parliament, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan)
	Speakers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dr Orzala Ashraf Nemat (Director, Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit (AREU))</li> <li>2. Dr Timor Sharan (Deputy Minister, Independent Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG))</li> </ol> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
11:00-11:15	<b>Tea Break</b>	
<b>Panel II: UK-Afghanistan Relations: Perception; Interests; Partnership</b>		
11:30-13:00	Moderator	Ambassador Said Tayeb Jawad (Ambassador of Afghanistan to the United Kingdom)
	Speakers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dr Shah Mahmoud Hanifi (Professor of History, James Madison University)</li> <li>2. Mr Michael Thomas ( Head of the South Asia &amp; Afghanistan Research Group and Senior Principal Research Officer in the Foreign &amp; Commonwealth Office)</li> <li>3. Dr Maximilian Drephal (Lecturer in History, University of Sheffield)</li> </ol> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>Panel III: Beyond the Great Game: Interegional Connectivity – Commercial and Environmental Dynamics</b>		
14:00-15:00	Moderator	Mr Hameed Hakimi (Research Associate, Chatham House)
	Speakers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr Nafay Choudhry (AISS researcher; PhD candidate, King's College, University of London)</li> <li>2. Dr Tahir Sharaan (General Director, Afghanistan Atomic Energy High Commission)</li> <li>3. Mr Kambaiz Rafi (Doctoral Candidate, UCL; Advisor to Minister, Ministry of Economy, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan)</li> </ol> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
15:15-15:30	<b>Tea Break</b>	
<b>Panel IV: Peace and Political Settlement: Desperation; Inclusivity; Sustainability</b>		
15:30-17:00	Moderator	Mr Hamid Arsalan (Director General, Afghan Institute for Strategic Studies)
	Speakers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ms Mariam Safi (Executive Director, Organisation for Policy Research and Development Studies (OPRDS))</li> <li>2. Dr Dawood Azami (Broadcast Journalist, BBC World Service)</li> <li>3. Ms Shaharazad Akbar (Political Analyst; Senior Advisor, UNESCO, Afghanistan)</li> </ol> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
17:30-19:00	<b>Reception</b>	