

In the name of God

Afghanistan civil society organizations emphasizing on the necessity of peace in our society offers its gratitude once again to those who strive honestly and devotionally in this path.

We believe that for the establishment and thoroughness of peace in Afghanistan, the causes and calamity of war must be analyzed and people must be informed about and get into the picture. We believe that the Afghan Nation is the true addressee of peace and therefore should have access to information pertaining peace debates, national interest, justice and women's rights and should be practically involved in decision makings. Still there is time to learn from our 8 years mistake and make most efficient use of the final opportunity that we have.

Apart from the serious concern of civil society organization pertaining to the proposed government strategy for peace and reintegration it has immense concern regarding the announced list of the council member as following:

1. Experience shows that grand commissions cannot reach an understanding quickly.
2. Majority of the proposed council members are already part of other governmental commissions, such a composition will not only slow down the progress of the peace process but will ultimately result to its failure.
3. A number of this council member has better experience in war rather than peace which will adversely affect the trust of Afghans and international community in this process.

Therefore, considering the above points, the civil society organizations and human rights activists proposes the following points for the reform and increasing the effectiveness of the peace process:

1. We emphasis that justice and transitional justice should be the top most priority of the government.
2. The government is bound to find out the causes of war and share it with people; only this can be the beginning of people's participation in peace and strengthening of peace process.
3. A better definition should be provided for phenomena such as war, peace and armed opponents so that the people of Afghanistan could have a better understanding of whom they are with or against. It is the right of the people to know about the nature of the government and international community's scheme and to know whether it is a unilateral scheme or otherwise.
4. Experiences show that peace schemes have mostly resulted to misuse of opportunity and were mostly a scheme for purchasing time and collusion. We should not become the victims of such a scheme again.
5. Afghanistan civil society emphasis on the review of Peace High Council's members and proposes that current Peace High Council members who are accused of human rights violation and the suspects of war crimes should be altered with experts and those with greater experience in conflict resolution, mediation and reconciliation.

6. Civil Society organizations including socio-cultural organizations, NGOs, Human Rights Organizations and Women Rights Organizations supporting the just peace process demand that they should be considered as the true agent for the establishment of peace and stability being involved in all decision makings, and not mere victims of circumstances.

Afghanistan civil society strives to open analytical debate on the government schemes by following the circumstances exquisitely and present pragmatic approaches for increasing the efficiency of and speeding up the process of peace. Afghanistan civil society considers itself responsible to support transparent and honest efforts resulting in the establishment of prosperity, peace and justice.

