



**EU-AFGHANISTAN
CONFERENCE**

Berlin, 10 June 2011

DECL 2011

**EUROPEAN UNION-AFGHANISTAN
JOINT DECLARATION 2011**

Committing to a New Partnership

The European Union and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan decide to adopt the following Joint Declaration:

Security

The European Union and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan are bearing in mind the outcomes of the EU-Afghanistan Joint Declaration – Committing to a new EU-Afghan Partnership on 16 November 2005 as well as the Afghanistan Compact and welcoming all existing efforts by EU Member States already taking place in Afghanistan. We believe that in the long run only a sufficiently stable state of Afghanistan can ensure that no new threats for peace and security can arise within the country. Furthermore, we are acknowledging that improving the security situation all over the country in a comprehensive approach is a challenging project that needs the Member States' full commitment.

The European Union and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan are also concerned by the fact that social, political and economic factors such as corruption and poverty enable the penetration of governmental institutions, which makes the insurgent and terrorist activities more effective and likely to affect the lives of vulnerable people. Another great obstacle is the extreme vulnerability of societal weaker groups, such as women and children that were the victims of the Taliban regime. The increasing number of terrorists' attacks and suicidal attacks are alarming and we are aware of the need for a continuous co-operation with the Afghan government.

We affirm that the transition of security responsibilities to the Afghan government will be the main goal in the next few years and are aware of the urgent need to ensure a smooth and gradual transition.

In order to improve the security situation in Afghanistan, there should be a focus laid on strengthening the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) to achieve the goal of sovereign Afghan command by 2014 by the following means:

1. The development of a joint strategy to accelerate and co-ordinate a gradual transition of responsibility from international forces to the ANSF at both national and local level.
2. Provision of appropriate training and capacity to Afghan forces and providing them with modern required equipments by the end of 2014 to ensure that they are capable to secure the country.
3. Put a focus on the training of the ANSF trainers.
4. Continuation of the EUPOL mission given the unique operating conditions the border police forces face, especially concerning drug trafficking.
5. For the purpose of an increased exchange of collaboration and co-ordination between different levels of police forces and army between Afghanistan and its international community and the creation of a database to store information for that purpose.