President Ashraf Ghani
No Compromise on Peace Negotiations Achievements

KABUL - Turning down concerns about his policy on peace negotiations and peace with the Taliban, President Ashraf Ghani has said that his policy on peace with the Taliban this year would not be compromised or negotiated. In his speech at the inauguration of the fifth and last year of parliamentary session, Ghani emphasized on the importance of peace at all levels with the Taliban, something he felt was needed for Afghanistan’s peace stability.

"We will defend our peace achievements, that were achieved under the leadership of Haji Allauddin, Ghani said in his speech."

At the current stage, it is important to strengthen these relations, at the "kabul 4+1" approach.

Abducted Passengers Possibly In Zabul Mountains: MPs

KABUL - A number of MPs from southern Zabul said that the 30 Hazara passengers who were abducted and moved to unknown locations in the Kakar-Kandahar highway by armed members of the Taliban in the last days have been transported to the mountainous areas of the Kandahar area of the province.

The military command that was established to extricate the hostages has led to the arrest of a female foreign insurgent leader who was being used in negotiations with the insurgent group.

"There is no communication of seizing in Khas-Kandahar, but we can say that the armed men took hostages in the nearby area," Zabul MP Hafizullah Torkhi said.

KABUL - While discussing the government's policy for an Electoral Reform Commission (ERC), the deputy head of the Afghan Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), Ahmad Massoud, on Friday rejected claims that the commission has not been able to hold the upcoming election in accordance with the law.

Mr. Massoud assured the people that the IEC will hold the election as planned. He stated that the IEC is committed to holding a free and fair election in accordance with the law.

The IEC has been tasked with overseeing the process of the election, and the government has stated that it will hold the election as planned.

Airport among 26 Important Projects

ZABUL - Up to 26 important projects, including the provincial airport and road network, could not be completed due to budgetary issues in southern and southwestern provinces, an official said on Saturday.

Namoz Banking Development Corporation (NBDC) told Pajhwok Afghan News that 26 significant projects worth $32 million in Zabul province have been incomplete.

The incomplete projects, World Bank-funded projects including 11 roads connecting the province with the national capital, hospitals, buildings for health clinics, government offices, and airports.

He also said that the construction work on the airport had been completed, but the government had not completed due to a budgetary shortfall.

The airport was being built in accordance with the standards of the Austrian and the provincial capital, and would be completed by the end of the 5th parliament district at Kabul.

More Rebels Join Peace Process

AFGHANISTAN - At least 15 insurgents have denounced violence and joined the government-initiated peace process in northern and eastern Afghanistan, an official said on Saturday.

Speaking at a gathering, Governor Muhamad Asif Ahmad, said the group was earlier involved in the war and had been killed in combat. They were released as part of the Takhlik locality in Herat province.

The governor said that he would take necessary steps for the rehabilitation of those who returned to normal life seeking safety from violence. The government informed the rebels about the peace process.

The governor also praised the role of the security forces for their efforts to join the national peace process.

The government’s commission for refugees and internally displaced persons has been working to ensure a safe and secure return for those who want to leave.

He also said it was not immediately clear why the attackers were involved in the assault that left five people dead and six others wounded.

The gunmen sprayed bullets, the villagers of the second tradition who were working in their village were also shot.

The government said security forces had launched an operation in the area and were working to identify peace process in the national situation.

For the attacks, there was no immediate call for the attack. (Pajhwok)
Police Seize 3,200 Tons of Explosives

Arms (Mar. 22-30, 2002)

An urgent issue continues to overshadow the debate in Parliament over arms-related issues: How can we prevent the ills of the past from not being repeated in the future? The last thing we want is to not address the issue, but we have to understand why the arms sales have not been prevented in the past.

Taurus (Apr. 23-May 20, 2002)

It seems as if the hands of fate is in control of our lives. When things seem to be going well, something odd is happening. Right now, it’s difficult to put your fingers on all the details that constitute the situation. It seems as if destiny has been knocking at your door.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20, 2002)

A lighthouses could be turned off, concealing the light behind them, so you need to pay attention to your surroundings. As for your perspective, try to remain calm and open to new opportunities.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21, 2002)

You can be very concrete today, surrounded by your own thoughts, but you also need to consider the possibilities of the unknown. You might need to put your energies into different projects.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 22, 2002)

You might be enjoying yourself, but you also need to consider the possibility of encountering unexpected obstacles. You may need to take a break from your routine.


You believe that a straightforward approach will help you achieve your goals. However, you need to be aware of the dangers lurking around you.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22, 2002)

You might want to keep things simple and straightforward today, but you also need to consider the possibility of unexpected obstacles. You may need to take a break from your routine.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21, 2002)

You might be feeling self-doubt today, but you also need to consider the possibility of unexpected opportunities. You may need to take a break from your routine.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21, 2002)

You may be feeling uncertain about your future, but you also need to consider the possibility of unexpected opportunities. You may need to take a break from your routine.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19, 2003)

You’re still feeling uncertain about your future, but you also need to consider the possibility of unexpected opportunities. You may need to take a break from your routine.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18, 2003)

You might be feeling uncertain about your future, but you also need to consider the possibility of unexpected opportunities. You may need to take a break from your routine.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20, 2003)

Relationship dynamics continue to shift, making it impossible to rely on what you will find. On the one hand, your dynamics are more colorful and vibrant, while on the other hand, you benefit from the stability and security that change can bring.
"Empowering Women means Empowering World"

By Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka

March 08, 2015

It is one of the most uncertain facts that the discrimination behaviors against women has always been and is still always with us. Women's exclusion of utmost importance and role is really vital, their absence is not just an issue of demography, or an issue of their position, it is something which is not just the issue of their rights, but the issue of their identity. Since the very beginning of the history of women's civilization, during the age of slavery, human suffered violence and dominance by the opposites. They were discriminated both by the reproductive ethics and religious practice. As the civilization evolved and human beings entered the age of agriculture, the circumstances did not change much for women. They were then considered as the personal property of the landlords (Many countries where there is agricultural system, still women are treated in similar fashion). With the beginning of modern era - the rise of capitalism and democracy through these has been important changes; there are still many issues concerning the position of women in the society. And, the world cannot claim to be democratic or civilised in the true sense unless the rights of women are properly guaranteed and they are given the position they really deserve. And this is not the responsibility of the women alone, nor of certain feminist or women rights organization but of all the human beings.

Today is 8th March, it is celebrating "International Woman's Day" and it is the perfect time to revise our commitments and to ensure that we will be able to make some practical efforts to move towards a world with more gender justice and equal rights for women. The Theme for this year's Woman's Day is "Empowering Women - Achieving Rural Vitality. Picture this! It is really important to realize that empowering women does not only mean that women are empowered but it supports in empowering the world as a whole. As it forms half of the population of the world, they have the capacity to perform miracles for the world as a whole and support it towards better development. United Nation Secretary General HJ K. Moon has said, "To truly transformative, the post-2015 development agenda must prioritize gender equality and women's empowerment. The world will realize 30 per cent of its goals by 2030 only if these goals cannot reach their full potential." Afghanistan is also one of the countries that have to make that commitment as women in this country have not been empowed as much as should be. Women in Afghanistan have been undergoing elimination and violence for decades now. The religious extremism and tribal hostile trends have been vehemently expressing towards society and women in Afghanistan. This has been continuously being expressed each and every possible way. One of the ways to rise up and in the council and the cultural and political life, it is active participation in the social and political processes and institutions. And, this is not the responsibility of a particular faction, but it is a responsibility of all the men and women in the society. However, women have been fighting against their interests, they don't go to an equal opportunity to participate in the processes and institutions, but also are deprived of their basic rights.

Particularly, men can play an imperative role. They have to think that the children's future and the future of their beloved and their community. They have to change their attitude and commit themselves to make the difference. Fighting the discrimination and violence is a task to all of us. And, in order to change the behavior and to change the attitude and to change their perspective is something which is not on the table. Let us think that the men have to take part in all activities and the social community and political organizations and should have the same voice which men have. Men could not only be the solution to violence and problems, they also have to be the solution to create a better and higher future. And, 8th of March is the best day for all those institutions. Let's make sure that not only the Women's Day needs to reflect in the policies and in the resolutions by certain organizations and individuals but in minority commitments that there will be practical efforts for the rights and position of women.

It's Time to Step It Up for Gender Equality

By Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka

We look at the headlines or the latest horrifying YouTube video today - International Women's Day is celebrated to define and champion for equal opportunities for women. But alongside the stories of extraordinary women and everyday heroes - women whose struggle is to get into school and work are continuing to be marginalized and silenced. The gender-based violence is on the rise in many parts of the world - where and when women are increasingly standing up, speaking out and fighting for their rights.

Twenty years ago this September, thousands of delegates left the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women two steps short of a high. The overwhelming feeling was that women had won a huge victory. We had indeed - 1995 women in Beijing had articulated our countries to an extraordinary Platform for Action, with ambitious and bold timelines in key areas, and with measurable goals for getting there.

If countries had kept to all those promises, we would be seeing a lot more progress in equality today than the modest gains we are seeing in some areas of the world. So why do we still not have equal access to education for both sexes? And we still have to talk about a gender, even more profoundly, continuously and insistently.

Looking at today's slow and patchy progress towards equal rights for women, it seems that we were really ambitious to expect to witness in 20 years a regime of gender inequality and outright oppression that had lasted in many cases for thousands of years. Then again - was it really as much to ask? What sort of world is it that needs to generate such an envisioned world where women are second-class citizens and outright slavery at worse? How much would it really cost to unlock the potential of the world's women? And how much could have been gained if world leaders really see the Beijing Platform for Action for Women in Development? What progress does it mean that we are not even talking about these issues?

In 2015, we still have 10 years to deliver on the commitments made in Beijing. We are halfway into the 2015-2025 period. There are 12 female Heads of State or Government in 1990, and 2015. But we also have countries with no female leaders at all, and others where women are not even on the table. There are 12 female Heads of State or Government in 1990, and 2015. But we also have countries with no female leaders at all, and others where women are not even on the table. There are 12 female Heads of State or Government in 1990, and 2015. But we also have countries with no female leaders at all, and others where women are not even on the table.

In 2015, it is time for every country to review what progress it has made in 20 years, and what it still needs to achieve. Let's celebrate that women's rights are human rights, and let's hold governments to account for what they say they will do and what they can do to make a difference with voice, action, and leadership. And let's demand progress, not just promises. Let's make sure that women's rights and equality are not just empty words but are a reality for all girls and women.

Women will get to equality in the end. The only question is, why do we want this: for women and girls, for the future of our countries, for the future of our world, for the future of our children, for the future of our planet.

In this era of International Women's Day, UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka takes a look at the road ahead since the Beijing Conference and asks for bold steps to accelerate change in the form of women's and girls' rights. She underlines the pressing need to transform the promise made in 1995 in bold words, and on its 20th year, is achieving gender equality. Calling for adatosional momentum, she advises the need to lead a final push for actions for the next 5 years to achieve full equality before 2020.

Violence Begets Violence (By Amatun)

The familiar (mis)perception "violence begets violence" does not always differentiate between a crime committed with such sadistic sanction and an excusable, even excused reaction. Violence begets violence in a world where states are often more preoccupied with the interests of their elites and other political actors. Violence is inflicted on individuals as a part of wars that are fought for the purpose of making women and men aware of their status in society. As men of the people and it is their duty to fight for the sake of the social and political processes and institutions. This is not something that can allow to think that women are completely protected within the system and are not reflected on the basis of personal belief. In the case of the people and the women in the society, the religious and tribal institutions can also play tremendous role in fulfilling the position of women and the state that they deserve. As men of the people and tribal institutions, they can and should be motivated for a better and higher purpose. And, 8th of March is the best day for all those institutions. Let's make sure that not only the Women's Day needs to reflect in the policies and in the resolutions by certain organizations and individuals but in minority commitments that there will be practical efforts for the rights and position of women.

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In the Name of God, the Most Merciful, the Most Kind

What do we say about violence and crime? Our society teaches its children that violence is a means to an end and that our highest form of punishment is no different than the crime it causes to occur. In Afghanistan, violence is the common denominator for the violence and gender-related violence that men can and must be part of addressing.

In this era of International Women's Day, UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka takes a look at the road ahead since the Beijing Conference and asks for bold steps to accelerate change in the form of women's and girls' rights. She underlines the pressing need to transform the promise made in 1995 in bold words, and on its 20th year, is achieving gender equality. Calling for adatosional momentum, she advises the need to lead a final push for actions for the next 5 years to achieve full equality before 2020.

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U.S. France 'On Same Page' Over Iran, Want Stronger Deal: Kerry

U.S. and France have signaled they are on the same page over how to deal with Iran's nuclear program, which the U.S. says is of concern and France has indicated it wants to see a stronger deal.

"We've seen that the U.S. and France share the same concern about Iran's nuclear program," a French diplomat said.

"We are on the same page," the diplomat said. "The U.S. and France have been working closely on this issue."
Future Elections to Come in Trusty Environment

KARUL - Renewing the trust, political commit- ment to establish the special electoral reform commit- tees, President Ashraf Ghani has promised the nation to hold future elections in a reliable environment.

Expressing these state- ments in the opening of the new parliament’s year on Saturday, Ghani assured that the return committee would (Refer to Pm 01)

Concerns Raise over Samangan Coal Smuggling

ABBAK - Local powerful figures from northern Sama- ngan province continue to extract and smuggle coal from Dushanbe-Turkmen to raise by hiring a number of drivers who transfer the smuggled good in their tracks, according to local of- ficials.

According to sources, the method behind smuggling the coal is by transporting it in (Refer to Pm 01)

Increasing Blasts Worry Residents

KHOST CITY - The Capitals of southern Khost prov- ince and its adjacent areas have recently witnessed an increase in magnetic and mine-based bombings, resi- dents said on Saturday.

A resident of Khost City, Qamarullah, told Pajhwok Afghan News police said no live the targets they had been assigned. "One day police were standing on road and a person attached a magnetic bomb to their vehicle, in Kote- nazar," (Refer to Pm 01)

Female ALP Commander Helps ANA in Helmand

LABBAKRAH - The village village in Helmand province has been claimed of militants with the help of a female Afghan Local Police (ALP) commander as part of "Harif" operation which is success- fully underway, officials said.

The Helmand Police Chief Safi Jan Mohammadi had TVWnews that at least 50 insurgents had been killed and wounded in the operation in Sistani village which was launched four days ago after the Taliban in- terrupted police patrols.

After fighting the whole night the with Taliban insurgents, the female ALP commander forces was then helped by the security forces to push back the attackers from the area, Mah- muddi said.

"Taliban attacked the security forces and struck them but we defended there and are fighting with them," Farnai said. She added that her 15 family mem- bers were also serving in ALP and fought back. (Refer to Pm 01)

268 Lives Claimed in Recent Natural Disasters

KABUL - Recent natural disas- ters in 25 provinces through- out Afghanistan has claimed the lives of 268 people and injured more than 100 others, the Na- tional Disaster Management Au- thority (NDMA) stated on Saturday.

According to the NDMA, of the 268 killed 198 died in the Pan- haber earthquakes, while 70 others were killed in sole-falls and floods throughout the country. The provinces of (Refer to Pm 01)

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

ARDS

ARPS on behalf of Afghan Civil Aviation Authority

AACA/1996/1/CB

Ref No.

AACA/1996/1/CB

Bid Security

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of US$ 250,000 or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency in the prescribed form provided in "Section 3 biding Form" of the respective Bid Documents.

Deadline for Bid Submissions

23rd March, 2015 at 2:00PM (Kabul Local Time).

Address for Bid Submission

Afghanistan Reconstruction & Development Services (ARDS)
4th Floor, Ministry of Economy Building
Malik Asgar Square, Kabul - Afghanistan
Telephone: +93 (0) 75055562

Bid Document available at

A complete set of bidding documents in English may be obtained by interested bidders, free of cost, by downloading from the ARDS website www.ardsafr illuminate or may obtain in CD from the ARDS Office (Address given above). In one of any difficulty in downloading from website, interested bidders may contact at e-mail address: ardsautomation@ards.org.af or call +9375055562.