

(1) Role of Youth in...

to peace is full of obstacles, and the country needs to be ready to employ all available tools to achieve a positive outcome, the statement added. According to the statement Ghani reiterated that any peace agreement must be ratified nationally before taking effect.

During the meeting civil society representatives shared their suggestions for peace negotiations, and welcomed Ghani's move to engage the youth in a major policy-making process.

The meetings to discuss the advisory board for the peace process and formation of a negotiating team with Taliban started last week, and will continue for several days to come.

This move comes on the back of the US Special Representative For Afghanistan Reconciliation, Zalmay Khalilzad's recent call to both the Afghan government and Taliban to establish an advisory team to work on peace talks.

He made it clear to government that this board should be fully inclusive and represent all people of Afghanistan. (Tolo news)

(2) Khalilzad Again...

Some other sources had said that most focus of the Taliban and US discussions in Qatar was about the release of Taliban prisoners and withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan.

However, Taliban and the US did not comment about their second meeting so far.

But both sides confirmed their meetings and discussions last month through statements to the media.

The US special representative for reconciliation in Afghanistan during his second trip to Afghanistan last week met with government leaders and prominent political figures.

Khalilzad has reportedly shared his views on establishing an interim government to facilitate the peace talks with President Ashraf Ghani. He also attended a quadrilateral meeting of Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, UAE and the US in Dubai and discussed about the Afghan peace process.

Khalilzad returned from his trip to Kabul today and would share his meetings' reports with President Ashraf Ghani. (Pajhwok)

(3) Karzai Sees...

for Afghanistan Reconciliation Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad has started his second round of talks over the Afghan peace process.

It is expected that Khalilzad will return to Kabul on Saturday after finishing his second round of meeting with Afghan officials, United Arab Emirates and Saudi officials in Abu Dhabi, and a two-day talks with Taliban representatives in Doha.

The US envoy met Taliban representatives this week in Doha where they discussed ending the Afghan war.

"We had a detailed discussion with Khalilzad on many issues, especially peace, and we shared our opinion with him and heard his views as well and we decided to work together," said Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, leader of Hizb-e-Islami.

"After his achievements in the first visit, Khalilzad has started his second visit to Afghanistan and the region. You know that Afghanistan crisis is very deep and you should not expect this crisis get resolved in one or two meetings," said Hassan Haqqyar, a former Taliban official.

In his first visit to the region, Khalilzad asked the Afghan government and the Taliban to form their negotiation teams to discuss peace. Meanwhile, according to Presidential Palace, the Afghan president's efforts are underway for formation of an advisory board for peace negotiations.

The Presidential Palace said on Friday that Ghani met with a number of political figures and former jihadi leaders including Abdul Rab Rasul Sayyaf as well as members of Jamiyat-e-Islami's leadership Salahuddin

Rabbani and Atta Mohammad Noor to discuss formation of the board.

"Government somehow is trying to keep political parties' role in the peace process in a way that it wants and we are not satisfied with that," said Bashir Ahmad Tahyanj, spokesman for the National Islamic Movement of Afghanistan.

Earlier this week, the High Peace Council delegation who had attended Moscow meeting, said that Washington has given Khalilzad six months to broker the Afghan peace process.

The HPC official said peace efforts by the US envoy are bringing hope for a results-oriented process.

"He has been given six months to show results to his administration and based on that we are hungry for peace and support any effort to achieve peace," said Azizullah Din Mohammad, who headed the HPC delegation at the Moscow meeting.

"The issues which Taliban shared for starting talks did not include big issues as in the past. The issue was that we should agree to the withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan," said Attaullah Salim, deputy head of HPC.

Moscow summit on Afghanistan's peace was held on November 9, where representatives of the Taliban and envoys from 11 countries including the United States had participated.

A delegation from Afghanistan's High Peace Council (HPC) also attended the meeting.

Taliban representatives who attended the meeting said the withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan is the only way for maintaining security. (Tolo news)

(4) CAREC Countries...

operational plan. The strategy will improve long-term trade and commerce in Central Asia and beyond. The participants also discussed the export diversification in the CAREC countries and shared their views on regional cooperation and strengthening export.

On the sidelines of the conference the Uzbekistan Minister for External Trade Jamshid Khodjaev shared his views on cooperation in the area of transit trade, implementation of bilateral agreement and preparation for second round of dialogue between Afghanistan and Uzbekistan. At the end of the conference a joint statement which reflected the shared views of the member states regarding ongoing situation was issued. (Pajhwok)

(5) Afghanistan...

nations and two countries with ODI status.

I have already been associated with ACC for a number of years and I hope my experience will help me in taking the ACC to greater heights in unison with all member countries." Hasan concluded.

This was the first AGM hosted by Pakistan in more than a decade. The members were briefed about the ACC Development plans, events and the programs implemented in 2017.

A brief presentation was made on the recently held Unimoni Asia Cup in the UAE. The tournament attracted huge crowds at the two venues (Dubai and Abu Dhabi) and top quality cricket was witnessed, the event was a big success for the ACC. Members also spoke about the inclusion of cricket in multi-sports events like the Asian Games, efforts should be made to ensure the same for the 2022 Asian Games scheduled in China.

The members meanwhile also discussed the possibilities of resumption of international cricket in Pakistan through the ACC platform.

The Emerging Teams Asia Cup 2018 is being jointly hosted by PCB and Sri Lanka Cricket, with the Group B matches taking place in Karachi next month (Group A matches are being hosted in Sri Lanka) the members felt it is a step in the right direction for bringing back top quality cricket in the country. The ACC endeavour's to take similar steps in

the future.

David Richardson (CEO ICC) gave a presentation to the ACC member countries on the ICC Global Strategy and how it can help them to grow the game in their respective countries.

Mohammad Aflah, President Cricket Board of Maldives thanked PCB and National Cricket Academy Management (NCA) for organizing a successful tour of Lahore last month.

Ehsan Mani in his address thanked the ACC and ICC officials, "I want to thank the ACC members, David Richardson (ICC, CEO) and other ICC officials for coming over to Lahore for the AGM.

The Asian region is incredibly important for the future of international cricket comprising the biggest fan base for the game.

"I welcome Nazmul Hasan as the new President of the ACC, I am confident that he will work in promoting the game further in the region. I would also like to thank the ACC Board and all member countries for their support during Pakistan's tenure." Chairman PCB Ehsan Mani stated. (Pajhwok)

(6) AGO Labels...

accomplishments are lacking, and he fails to cooperate with the U.S. Embassy on anticorruption matters".

The Attorney General's Office spokesman Jamshid Rasuli said the report has been prepared with no consultations from the AGO and that its findings are just baseless.

"This report is completely baseless and far from reality and no professional ethic has been respected in this report," said Rasuli.

In other part of the report, SIGAR quotes the Department of Justice, saying that AGO resisted to implement the State-Funded Case Management System (CMS) which is an online database for tracking criminal cases in Afghanistan saying that AGO's resist show that it was afraid that corruption at AGO would disclose.

"AGO resistance to implementing the State-funded Case Management System (CMS) is another area of DOJ concern... According to DOJ, the attorney general has criticized CMS as a foreign-owned system when discussing the matter with largely Afghan government audiences," read the report.

Rasuli meanwhile said if the AGO was against the use of the Case Management System, then the institution would not have formed teams for activating the system in all its offices. Rasuli said the AGO uses the system in criminal cases.

"In a letter in 2016 the Attorney General directed all prosecution offices in Kabul and provinces to use the system and on that time no office was formed for implementation of the system," Rasuli said.

SIGAR report also says that Ministry of Interior's inability in brining high government officials to court is a concern for the United States.

Interior Minister Wais Ahmad Barmak said most of SIGAR's reports are controversial.

"SIGAR's reports have always been controversial. Currently, we are engaged in arresting convicted people. We arrest only those who are convicted by the three courts of the country," said Barmak.

SIGAR report criticizes the Anti-Corruption Criminal Justice Center over not prosecuting big corruption cases, but AGO says they are prosecuting dozens of such cases. (Pajhwok)

(7) Ghazni Displaced...

according to Ministry of Interior, the Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mohammad Sharif Yaftali, Senior Security Deputy for Interior Ministry Gen. Akhtar Ibrahim and deputy head of the National Directorate of Security with dozens of security forces have arrived in Jaghori and Malistan to launch a large-scale operations, but new reports indicate that fighting has intensified between security forces and Taliban in the districts.

"This action was taken very late. We criticize the delay. Government should have taken action when the clashes started," Ghazni MP Shah Gul Rezaee said.

Fights in Jaghori and Malistan districts started over a week ago. UN Paints Grim Picture Of Ghazni Situation

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in a report on Wednesday, November 14, said that the situation in Jaghori and Malistan in Ghazni province is "chaotic" and that thousands of families are fleeing the area due to ongoing clashes. In a news brief on the situation in the two provinces, OCHA said that heavy fighting broke out between the Taliban, supported by some local Pashtun communities, against pro-government Hazara militias in Khas Uruzgan district in Uruzgan province in early November.

OCHA said the tension was initially centered on the villages of Hussaini, Karez and Kondala, but that then the fighting spread to the districts of Jaghori and Malistan in neighboring Ghazni province. Clashes have escalated since Saturday, November 10, after reinforcement troops and air support were sent in.

OCHA reports that the affected districts are chaotic and that families have been moving repeatedly in search of safety. The organization reports that displaced people are fleeing to Bamiyan and Maidan Wardak provinces and to Kabul.

According to their report, civilian casualty numbers cannot yet be determined accurately but local sources have told them at least 15 civilians were killed in Malistan alone on Sunday, November 11.

OCHA said: "The total number of civilian casualties is likely to be higher."

The organization also said reports have been received of violations of the International Humanitarian Law, with private houses burnt and civilian vehicles stolen or confiscated.

They said roads connecting Jaghori and Malistan to Ghazni city have reportedly been blocked, which is "preventing safe passage for civilians attempting to leave the area, and leaving people in siege-like conditions with no access to health facilities and limited availability to food, fuel, and medicine."

"Families abandoning their homes are exposed to harsh winter conditions and in need of shelter and warmth," they said.

In Ghazni City, Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority and the department of refugees and returnees registered 1,000 internally displaced families on 11 and 12 November.

The IDPs are living in schools, mosques and homes of local families, OCHA reported.

In Bamiyan Center, officials report that 400 displaced families have arrived but that there are reportedly up to 4,000 families headed towards Ghazni City and Kabul.

OCHA states however that no humanitarian response has been carried out in Jaghori and Malistan as partner organizations have not been able to access the affected population due to the fighting.

They also stated that in Ghazni city, provincial disaster management officials met on Monday and together with NGOs are now leading efforts to assess the situation and identify the needs of the displaced people.

In Bamiyan, organizations have already started to provide non-food items, including warm clothing, to displaced families. (Tolo news)

(8) 'Strong Relations...

Foreign Minister of Kyrgyz Republic Ms. Dinar Kamlova.

Participants of the meeting emphasized on further strengthening the economic relations among Central Asian countries and Afghanistan. Uzbekistan expressed its readiness for hosting the next meeting in

Tashkent next year. (Pajhwok)

(9) MoE Plans to...

level positions of Ministry of Education, 20 directorate positions under MoE are allocated to women; of these 11 positions of grade two related to Teacher Training Directorates in the provinces have been announced through an open competition, and the rest will be announced in the near future.

On the other hand, the Ministry of Education has prepared the menstrual hygiene guidelines for girls that will be published in the near future, as well as girls' education policy is drafted and will be finalized soon.

The Ministry of Education has made the increase of women's presence in education field as part of its strategic plan and has always tried to improve women's access to education and women's self-sufficiency. (Pajhwok)

(10) Concerns Raised...

million women and 100,000 children are addicts.

Last year officials stated that three million people in total were addicts, but the new figure of one million female addicts could mean the total number is much higher than initially thought.

Shahpor Yusuf, the head of the anti-drug department at the public health ministry, said in March the number of child addicts was also extremely high - at about 100,000. These children, officials said, were all below the age of 10.

Currently, there are at least 20 drug rehabilitation centers across the country that treat women and children but official said this is not enough to treat the growing problem. (Tolo news)

(11) 15 Taliban Killed...

and Qalbars areas of Taloqan, capital of Takhar.

Brig. Gen. Abdul Baqi Noristani, provincial police chief said two militants were killed and a third injured in a clash between Afghan Local Police and Taliban in Arabshakh area of Imam Sahib district of Kunduz.

The Taliban did not comment so far about the incidents.

But, Zabihullah Mujahid, a Taliban spokesman, tweeted that the Taliban have killed several security forces in the Bora area of Baghlan and Imam Sahib district of Kunduz province. (Pajhwok)

(12) Belgium to Boost...

The United States and NATO initially launched their military operations in Afghanistan in 2001 after the 9/11 terror attacks. While most of the US troops had been withdrawn from the country by the end of 2014, NATO launched a new mission in 2015, called Resolute Support, to provide training and assistance to the Afghan security forces. A total of 16,000 soldiers from 39 NATO countries are currently serving in Afghanistan as part of the mission. (Sputnik)

(13) Gold, Ghee...

cost 7,000 Afghanis and the same quantity of cedar 6,800afis, no changes have recorded in the firewood rates.

The price of Arabian gold declined. Haji Fawad Ahmad Salehzada, a jeweler in Timor Shahi area of Kabul, said the price of one gram Arabian gold decreased from 2,450afis to 2,400afis while the same quantity of Russian variety stood at 1,950afis.

According to Haji Mir Hussain Sadaqat, owner of Sadaqat Money Exchange Services in Kabul, one US dollar accounted for 75.95afis and 1,000 Pakistani rupees 564afis against last week's 75.65afis and 566afis. (Pajhwok)

(14) Local Film...

Balkh province and served as a local actor and producer since two years back.

According to another report, a young man named Adib Sherzad was found dead in mysterious circumstances in Dahdadi district of Balkh on Friday.

Security officials confirmed the incident but gave no further details. (Pajhwok)