



جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان

وزارت مالیه

د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوریت
د مالیې وزارت
د عامه اړیکو ریاست

د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوریت

د مالیې وزارت

Opening Remarks

H.E. EklilHakimi

Minister of Finance

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

at the

Special Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board (JCMB)

4 September 2016

Your Excellency President Ghani, Your Excellency Chief Executive Abdullah, Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Esteemed Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am delighted to welcome you today to this special session of the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board (JCMB) on the upcoming Brussels Conference on Afghanistan.

We are honored to have HE Mr. Stefano Manservisi, the European Commission's Director-General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO), HE Mr. Rory Stewart, Britain's Minister of State for International Development, and HE Mr. James Hall Assistant Secretary for Pakistan, Afghanistan and Central Asia at Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) who have come all the way to Kabul to join us today.

Our gathering here today serves to remind us all of our mutual commitment to see a peaceful and prosperous Afghanistan.

As was the case at the SOM in September 2015 and the London Conference before that in 2014, our theme today – is *self-reliance*.

We went to London in 2014, after the first ever peaceful democratic transfer of power in Afghanistan's history. The newly formed National Unity Government presented its vision for our country's future. to our partners in the international community.

This vision saw an Afghanistan with strengthened democratic institutions that fight

عامه اړیکو ریاست:

اجمل حمید عبدالرحیمزی د مالیې وزارت ویاند او د عامه اړیکو رئیس

د اړیکو شمیرې: 0729994111 0202103620

برېښنالیک: mediaoffice.mof@gmail.com ویب پاڼه: www.mof.gov.af فیسبوک: وزارت مالیه/ www.facebook.com/



جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان

وزارت مالیه

د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوریت

د مالیې وزارت

د عامه اړیکو ریاست

د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوریت

د مالیې وزارت

corruption, respect human rights and the rule of law. An Afghanistan with strong economic institutions, staffed by dedicated competent Afghans committed to serving our country and managing our resources to benefit all our citizens. An Afghanistan with a strong private sector that can help us grow the economy, create jobs and create a strong domestic foundation for future development. An Afghanistan that works effectively with her neighbors to further mutual interests and is the catalyst for economic cooperation and trade in the region. All this so that, over time, Afghanistan could stop looking to our international partners for support and become truly *self-reliant*.

The SOM in 2015 saw us strengthen our resolve through a set of mutual commitments to help us continue on the road to *self-reliance*.

There we promised to produce a credible budget and increase our domestic revenue significantly in advance of the Brussels conference.

We have delivered on this promise. In fact, our domestic revenues were up by 22 percent last year. The Ministry of Finance collected USD 1.2 billion in revenues in the first quarter of the current fiscal year.

We promised to bring a positive story about the advancement of women rights to Brussels.

We have done this and more -- there are more women in senior government positions than at any other time in Afghanistan's history -- three female ministers, nine female deputy ministers, one female governor, a female deputy attorney general, the first female deputy head of the High Peace Council, two female peace council members and four female ambassadors have been appointed to Indonesia, Norway, Switzerland and Canada. An Elimination of Violence Against Women unit has been established in the Attorney General's Office headed by a female prosecutor.

عامه اړیکو ریاست:

اجمل حمید عبدالرحیمزی د مالیې وزارت ویاند او د عامه اړیکو رئیس

د اړیکو شمیرې: 0729994111 0202103620

برېښنالیک: mediaoffice.mof@gmail.com ویب پاڼه: www.mof.gov.af فیسبوک: www.facebook.com/وزارت_مالیه/



جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان

وزارت مالیه

د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوریت

د مالیې وزارت

د عامه اړیکو ریاست

د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوریت

د مالیې وزارت

We promised to reform our justice sector.

The Anti-Corruption Justice Center opened in June 2016 and is reviewing more than 20 cases including some involving high officials. More than 600 judges have been replaced. 20 percent of prosecutors have been released from their posts. 25 percent of customs officials have been fired. Over 100 Kabul city officials have had their passports seized on charges of corruption.

We promised to support our private sector.

Afghan businessmen and women have made new connections to markets generating over \$79.5 million in exports of fruit, nuts, and cashmere. The Public-Private Partnership law has been approved by the Cabinet. Since 2014, AISA has issued 532 licenses to private businesses – from agricultural to construction and services – with a total initial capital valued at USD 700 million creating 4650 jobs for Afghan men and women. A USD 350 million investment will see the Alokozay Holdings build six factories that will employ an estimated 1,700 people and create thousands of indirect jobs. The Jabal Saraj Cement Plant, rehabilitated in 2014, produces 100 tons of cement every day, provides 120 people with jobs, and another 5,000 people with job opportunities indirectly. Kajaki turbine 2 has been installed and the Tarakhil power plant has been transitioned to a private sector operator.

We promised to make regional cooperation a centerpiece of our economic policy.

TAPI was launched in December last year and CASA 1000 in May 2016. Also in May, Afghanistan, India and Iran signed the Chabahar Port agreement. On September 7th, the Khaf-Herat railway, which will provide Afghanistan with a rail corridor to Iran, will arrive at our border with Iran. In late October, President Ghani and his Turkmen counterpart will inaugurate the railway reaching our border with

عامه اړیکو ریاست:

اجمل حمید عبدالرحیمزی د مالیې وزارت ویاند او د عامه اړیکو رئیس

د اړیکو شمیرې: 0729994111 0202103620

برېښنالیک: mediaoffice.mof@gmail.com ویب پاڼه: www.mof.gov.af فیسبوک: www.facebook.com/وزارت_مالیه/



جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان

وزارت مالیه

د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوریت
د مالیه وزارت
د عامه اړیکو ریاست

د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوریت

د مالیه وزارت

Turkmenistan. For the first time in the history of Sino-Afghan relations a special railway will transport goods between the two countries. The first train left China on 25 August for its 15-day journey, carrying 84 containers. These are historic steps in building trust and promoting peace and trade in our region.

As we look forward to the Brussels Conference, our task here today is to show you what we intend to do to keep Afghanistan steady on the road to self-reliance. The Afghanistan Peace and Development Framework will set the stage for the next steps in our journey towards *self-reliance*. It's a goal I know we all share. Today, my colleagues will present to you the details of our plan.

I hope that the deliberations today will challenge, excite and inspire you to share in our vision of a stable Afghanistan; where all Afghan men and women can enjoy the benefits of peace, security, and economic prosperity.

I want to say once more on behalf of my colleagues and the people of Afghanistan, welcome. It's a pleasure to see so many of you her

عامه اړیکو ریاست:

اجمل حمید عبدالرحیمزی د مالیه وزارت ویاند او د عامه اړیکو رئیس

د اړیکو شمیرې: 0729994111 0202103620

برېښنالیک: mediaoffice.mof@gmail.com ویب پاڼه: www.mof.gov.af فیسبوک: www.facebook.com/ وزارت مالیه