



Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the United Nations

STATEMENT

BY

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(Please check against delivery)

Mr. President,

Thank you for convening this meeting to adopt the resolution on the Situation in Afghanistan.

Let me begin by expressing the gratitude and deep appreciation of the people of Afghanistan to the Permanent Mission of Germany as traditional facilitator of this resolution, particularly Ambassador Antje Leendertse, Counsellor Michael Hasenau and his team for their leadership, hard work and able facilitation of this resolution. Germany has been one of the great supporters of the Afghan people and a genuine partner and ally in supporting international efforts for ensuring peace, security and prosperity in Afghanistan.

I also wish to extend my appreciation to all other countries who participated in the discussions, showed flexibility and supported this resolution through contributions and sponsorship.

Mr. President,

Since the last time that this resolution was adopted in December 2019 by the General Assembly, unfortunately, Afghanistan has gone through quite dramatic social, economic and political upheavals. The takeover of Afghanistan by the Taliban on 15 August 2021 has further exacerbated the already deteriorating socio-economic and humanitarian situation in Afghanistan. Since then, we have been witnessing an increasing social, economic and humanitarian crisis, including a total collapse and regression of two decades of hard-won gains. The Taliban's failure to establish a legitimate, accountable and inclusive government and unwillingness to address these crises to put Afghanistan back on the road to recovery has deeply affected the lives of the people of Afghanistan, particularly women and girls. This has isolated Afghanistan from the international community.

All reports warn of growing concerns regarding the precarious situation in Afghanistan with 24.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance; increasing terrorist attacks on civilian targets including particular minority groups such as Shia Hazara, Hindus, Sufis and Sikhs; the systematic erasure of women and girls from all areas of public life; continued violations and abuses of human rights including arbitrary arrest, extra-judicial killings of former security forces, journalists, human rights defenders and protesters as well as collective punishments and forced displacements of particular ethnic groups.

Mr. President,

There are deep concerns about the growing security threats emanating from the presence of terrorist's groups in Afghanistan. The people of Afghanistan, including women, girls and minority communities, are not safe in places of education and worship. Afghan people have

been the recurring victims of terror attacks and we have lost many lives in the fight against terrorism. The threat of terrorism requires collective effort, addressed through genuine cooperation from all actors and conducted through a capable, legitimate and trusted government.

Mr. President,

The draft resolution reflected in a balanced way the overall current social, economic, security and political situation in Afghanistan and its impacts to the countries in the region and beyond including threats, challenges, problems and solutions and has called for immediate action by all stakeholders.

We appreciate that the resolution highlights the most pressing issues, including the humanitarian crisis, by urging the international community to provide humanitarian assistance through supporting 2022 Afghanistan Humanitarian Response Plan.

Mr. President,

In the same token, we also appreciate that the resolution has highlighted the human rights situation and its serious concern for the situation of women, youth, and minorities. The ongoing human rights violations and growing repression of fundamental freedoms of all Afghans including women and girls as well as human rights activists and journalists by the Taliban in Afghanistan is factual, as reflected in the reports of Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and the UN Secretary-General. Deprivation of women and girls from their fundamental human rights and freedoms including the right to work and education has deeply impacted the lives of half of the society and the economy. The women and girls' situation in Afghanistan must not be overlooked and their rights should not be compromised.

Mr. President,

We are grateful to the constructive engagement of all member states despite their differences of views. The most important issue for Afghan people is the implementation of this and other UN resolutions on the situation in Afghanistan. Particularly, the section that emphasizes the establishment of an inclusive and representative government, upholding human rights, including for women, girls, children and minorities by the Taliban.

I would like to reiterate that without an inclusive, representative, participatory and responsive government at the national and subnational level with full, equal and meaningful participation of women, we cannot achieve a sustainable, lasting peace, economic and political stability in Afghanistan. The Taliban should respond to the calls by the Afghan people and international

partners to fulfill their commitment through the establishment of an inclusive and accountable government as well as upholding the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Afghans.

The people of Afghanistan have been suffering from protracted conflict, poverty, starvation, food insecurity, unemployment and migration. They deserve a peaceful, decent and dignified life. The people of Afghanistan badly need the support and solidarity of all international partners, particularly the United Nations in achieving their long-awaited aspirations for enduring peace, stability and prosperity. Adoption of this resolution by consensus must happen at this crucial juncture to protect the needs of the Afghan people and ensure that their struggle is not forgotten.

This resolution is indicative of hope and optimism for the people of Afghanistan who are faced with a dire humanitarian and economic situation. By adoption of this resolution today, the UN General Assembly and the members states will reaffirm their commitments and continued support to the people of Afghanistan.

Mr. President,

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all countries for their sustained support to the people of Afghanistan so far. Your support in this resolution will reflect a strong message that the UN and its member states will continue supporting the people of Afghanistan in their quest to achieve a endured peace, stability and prosperity through their collective efforts.

I thank you.