United Nations Security Council Press Statement on Afghanistan

The following Security Council press statement was issued today by Council President Gérard Araud (France):

New York, 17 August 2012: The members of the Security Council condemned in the strongest terms the coordinated terrorist attacks on 14 and 15 August 2012 in various parts of Afghanistan, causing numerous deaths and injuries of mostly civilians.

The members of the Security Council expressed their deep sympathy and condolences to the families of the victims and to the people and Government of Afghanistan. They wished the injured a speedy recovery.

The members of the Security Council commended the Afghan National Security Forces for their effective action.

The members of the Security Council underlined the need to bring perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of these reprehensible acts of terrorism to justice, and urged all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, to cooperate actively with the Afghan authorities in this regard.

The members of the Security Council reiterated their serious concern at the threats posed by the Taliban, al-Qaida and illegal armed groups to the local population, national security forces, international military and international assistance efforts in Afghanistan.

The members of the Security Council reaffirmed that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations is criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of its motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed, and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group.

The members of the Security Council reaffirmed the need and reiterated their determination to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and all obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts.

The members of the Security Council reiterated that no terrorist act can reverse the path towards Afghan-led peace, democracy and stability in Afghanistan, which is supported by the people and the Government of Afghanistan and the international community.

http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=42704&Cr=afghan&Cr1=terror