

# IMPACT OF IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES ON CIVILIANS IN AFGHANISTAN

UNAMA HUMAN RIGHTS

15 August 2021 – 30 May 2023

## ANNEX

### Response from the *De Facto* Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan

**Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan**

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

**Directorate General of Human Rights and Women's International Affairs**

#### **Response to Draft Report of UNAMA Human Rights Services in Kabul on Civilian Casualties Caused by Improvised Explosive Devices**

##### **Introduction:**

Afghanistan was in crisis and insecure for several decades. A country that experienced multiple crises, will face and go through problems until establishment of security. After victory of and take over by the Islamic Emirate in Afghanistan, security has been ensured and the life and material security of people of Afghanistan has been maintained. It is worth mentioning that even in powerful countries who always raise the voice for human rights and claim to have full security, there is not one hundred percent security. We remember attacks and killings by cold weapons of tens of people and even students in schools and recreational parks in the west. However, if we compare today's Afghanistan with Afghanistan two years ago, today our nation lives in absolute prosperity. Security forces of the Islamic Emirate oblige themselves to ensure security of the citizens and take timely action on uprooting the safe havens of the terrorists.

##### **1. Casualties Caused by Suicide Attacks:**

In the draft report, suicide attacks by insurgents particularly so-called ISIL-KP in Afghanistan reflect high numbers and the figures have been attributed to the Islamic Emirate. However, the level of civilian casualties has dropped and is dismounting and with the passage of time, we will witness absolute decrease in insecurity. The Islamic Emirate is committed to ensuring the security of all citizens of the country, and with adopting concrete security measures aimed at preventing attacks by enemies of the people of Afghanistan, it stands firm and brings the

perpetrators to justice and block their destructing activities. The Islamic Emirate has ample of such achievements and mentions one as an example.

- Special forces of GDI was able to arrest and prosecute Ainuddin Mohammadi s/o Abdul Wakeel who has been involved in several suicide and explosive attacks including attack against Mohammad Dawoud Muzammil, the governor of Balk, attack on Tebyan cultural center in Mazar-e-Sharif, attack on Seh Dookan mosque of the Shiite, attack on a Flying Coach van carrying civilians and attack on a religious *Madrassa* in Aybak city. This indicates that security forces of the Islamic Emirate are firm and determined in ensuring security of the citizens.

## **2. Casualties Caused by Attacks of Improvised Mines on Places of Worship:**

Considering the promise the Islamic Emirate has made to the nation, it commits itself to ensuring the security of places of worship, holy shrines, *Madrassas*, Shiite places of worship and learning centers, and considers it a priority for the security forces; it brings all vulnerable spots under security and intelligence surveillance as a result of which, attacks by the enemy significantly drop day by day.

## **3. Casualties Caused by Attacks on Hazara Community:**

The people of Afghanistan, no matter to what tribe and ethnicity they belong, are the original citizens of this territory and ensuring the security of each and every one of them is the duty of security forces of the Islamic Emirate. In respect with the Shiite, it is so obvious to all that security forces of the Islamic Emirate are determined to ensure security of this large cluster of the society because of which, on some occasions, even the *Mujahedin* of the Islamic Emirate martyred defending the Shiite. For instance, on August 5, 2022, as a result of a huge explosion during *Ashura* ceremony in Sar-e-Kariz area, near Imam Baqir Mosque, several *Mujahedin* of the Islamic Emirate lost their lives.

## **4. Casualties Caused by Attacks on *De facto* Authorities:**

Ensuring security of government's high-ranking officials including ministers, provincial governors, provincial and district chiefs of police is of the high priorities and several security guards are assigned to each official.

## **5. Freedom of Press and Protection of Journalists:**

In regards with protection of journalists while covering news reports, it is worth noting that during the rule of the Islamic Emirate, either in the past or currently, there is no proof of killing of journalists by the Islamic Emirate. Security forces of the Islamic Emirate count protection of journalists as one of their main duties. If there were some instances of violence against journalists on the fields, the reason has been to prevent journalist casualties in case of a potential follow up explosion because the enemy always tries to add to the number of casualties by carrying out explosions among journalists and first responders and such prevention might have led to some grievances.

The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, pursuant to the policy of the government and principles of journalism and media in the country, allows the journalists to prepare news reports in

accordance with the enforced rules and regulations. The journalists face no problem. If they violate the principles of journalism, relevant authorities will prosecute those violating the rules. No security forces may beat or threaten [journalists] and if such acts are seen, the perpetrators will be prosecuted.

**Conclusion:**

The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan took the power while the country and government were at the verge of collapse and the country was facing numerous threats. The Islamic Emirate, in such juncture of time, managed to rescue the country and government from crisis by making sound decisions and proper management. Since the rule of the Islamic Emirate in the country, things have improved over time, security has been ensured across the country, reconstruction has started, construction and pavement of roads have begun. People can carry out their undertakings and face no restrictions.

International journalists and reporters need to understand that they have crucial responsibility towards nations and countries and should act and prepare reports based on objective facts of Afghanistan, and Islamic principles and culture in the country. They should share with the world the positive aspects of measures taken by the Islamic Emirate during the past two years.

**End**