

Press Release

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UN POLITICAL CHIEF VISITS AFGHANISTAN

15 February 2014 - The United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Jeffrey Feltman, concluded his two-day visit to Afghanistan today.

This was Mr. Feltman's first visit to Afghanistan since assuming the UN's top political position on 2 July 2012. He largely focused on familiarising himself with the work of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and different aspects of United Nations support for the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and its people.

In addition, Mr. Feltman held meetings with officials of the Independent Election Commission (IEC), Independent Electoral Complaints Commission (IECC), the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission and the diplomatic corps present in Kabul.

In his meetings, Mr. Feltman discussed different aspects of the UN support to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and its people at the time of the elections as the country is going through political and security transitions. He stressed that the UN will continue to be a close, reliable and sincere partner of the country.

He also paid a brief visit to the northern Afghan City of Mazar-e-Sharif, where he met with UN staff and the Provincial Governor, Atta Mohammad Noor.

As Under-Secretary-General and head of the UN Department of Political Affairs, Mr. Feltman advises the Secretary-General on peace and security issues globally, while overseeing good offices initiatives and field-based political missions carrying out peacemaking, preventive diplomacy and peacebuilding activities worldwide, including the work of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan.

He also oversees the UN electoral assistance provided to dozens of its Member States each year.