

UNAMA**United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan**

Strategic Communication and Spokespersons Unit, Kabul, Afghanistan

Press Statement<http://unama.unmissions.org>**UNAMA concerned at recent events that could undermine independence of electoral and judicial institutions**

Kabul, 15 February 2011: UNAMA and the international community reconfirm their commitment to work with the Afghan Government and the Afghan people to promote principles of a democratic state including rule of law, good governance, political, civil and human rights in Afghanistan.

UNAMA and the international community express their concern at recent events that could undermine the independence of electoral and judicial institutions in Afghanistan.

UNAMA and concerned members of the international community do not support any action that could compromise the integrity of the electoral process that led to 26 January 2011 inauguration of Parliament.

UNAMA and concerned members of the international community further recall the position of members of the United Nations Security Council at the meeting of 22 December 2010, including that all Afghan institutions continue to act within their clearly defined areas of competence, in accordance with the relevant laws and the Afghan Constitution.

UNAMA and the international community take note of the Independent Election Commission position that it is ready to cooperate with the Supreme Court in addressing specific criminal cases which may relate to the 2010 parliamentary elections.

Afghanistan's peaceful future lies in the building up of robust democratic institutions based on the rule of law and the clear respect for the separation of powers.

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