



Special Representative Ján Kubiš reiterates commitment to Afghanistan on United Nations Day

24 October 2012 – On the occasion of United Nations Day and on behalf of the UN in Afghanistan, I would like to reiterate the commitment of the UN family to working together with the Afghan people to achieve the ultimate objectives of peace, stability and increased prosperity.

The challenges that we face together are many. However the recent series of successful high-level meetings on Afghanistan have redefined and reinvigorated long-term partnership between Afghanistan and the international community, both during the transition of Afghanistan to full sovereignty and for the post-2014 period.

Security transition in the country is important but the ultimate key to a future stable Afghanistan is a successful Afghan-led and Afghan-owned political transition, coupled with steady economic growth that will bring increased job opportunities and social security.

The UN family is here to support the people of Afghanistan in this crucial historical period of transition to new horizons of national sovereignty and prosperity. We continuously encourage fully inclusive, transparent and robust public debate over the future election process in order to ensure transparency, integrity and acceptability of the election process and the results. The UN is ready to support the electoral authorities, institutions and the people of Afghanistan as mandated by the Security Council to deliver credible elections.

In other areas, especially the process of peace and reconciliation, and national understanding and accord, we also remain committed to supporting an inclusive inter-Afghan dialogue and will increase our activities towards these objectives.

This year's UN Day is made all the more important in Afghanistan because it falls just before the start of the festival of Eid-ul-Adha on 27 October, a time which gives us the opportunity to reflect on the universal values of peace, harmony and cooperation that are at the heart of the Muslim faith.

UN Day marks the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter. With the ratification of this founding document by the majority of its signatories, including the five permanent members of the Security Council, the UN officially came into being. 24 October has been celebrated as UN Day since 1948.

United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), Kabul, Afghanistan

All media contact details are online at: <http://unama.unmissions.org>