

## **TOKYO CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISTAN**

**08 JULY 2012**

### **STATEMENT BY UNDP HEAD OF DELEGATION**



1. ON BEHALF OF UNDP, I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN FOR HOSTING THIS IMPORTANT CONFERENCE AT THIS CRITICAL JUNCTURE OF AFGHANISTAN'S DEVELOPMENT. JAPAN'S DEEP AND CONTINUED COMMITMENT IS TRULY APPRECIATED. WE IN UNDP BELIEVE THAT THE COMMITMENTS MADE TODAY BY THE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS CAN GO A LONG WAY IN PUTTING AFGHANISTAN ON A PATH TO SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT.
2. UNDP HAS BEEN PRESENT IN AFGHANISTAN FOR MANY YEARS AND IS COMMITTED TO AFGHANISTAN'S DEVELOPMENT OVER THE TRANSITION PERIOD, THE TRANSFORMATION DECADE AND BEYOND.
3. UNDP'S PROGRAMME IS HIGHLY ALIGNED WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND OUR ASSISTANCE IS INCREASINGLY ON-BUDGET. THE PROGRAMME FOCUS AREAS – RULE OF LAW, GOVERNANCE, GENDER AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS, SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AND RECONCILIATION ARE ALL HIGHLY RELEVANT TO HELP AFGHANISTAN ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT.
4. UNDP IS STRONGLY COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING NATIONAL SYSTEMS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES. FOR EXAMPLE, THROUGH OUR WORK WITH THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE, WE ARE HELPING TO STRENGTHEN FINANCIAL AND BUDGET CAPACITY AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL AS WELL AS SUPPORTING DECENTRALISATION TO THE SUBNATIONAL LEVEL OF BUDGETING AND PLANNING FUNCTIONS. WE BELIEVE THE BUILDING OF CAPACITIES AT THE NATIONAL AND SUB NATIONAL LEVELS IS CRITICAL TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF AFGHANISTAN.
5. AT THE SAME TIME AS WE ALIGN AROUND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND DEVELOPMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES, WE ARE COMMITTED TO STRENGTHENING MECHANISMS FOR ENHANCED MONITORING, OVERSIGHT AND COMPLIANCE WHICH WILL BE FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY DISCUSSED IN THIS TOKYO CONFERENCE.

6. UNDP RECOGNISES THE IMPORTANCE OF ADDRESSING ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING SUPPORT IN THE FUTURE.
7. AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL, UNDP IS READY TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO ASSIST AFGHANISTAN BUILD ITS CAPACITY TO ENGAGE EVEN MORE ACTIVELY IN THE REGION ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.
8. UNDP IS COMMITTED TO WORKING WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN, THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN HELPING AFGHANISTAN MEET ITS DEVELOPMENT ASPIRATIONS.