Unofficial Translation

In the Name of Allah, the Most Compassionate and the Most Merciful

Political Agreement

Considering the fact that the continuation of the current political situation does not serve the country or the people of Afghanistan, and, to break the deadlock, an agreement was made with the following points in order to address the expectations of the people of Afghanistan, to support the security and defense forces and the consistent and essential efforts of the national figures and the international community to end the political crisis that emerged after elections in the country, and to find a solution to end the political crisis.

A. The High Council of Government
   - The High Council of Government, consisting of political leaders and national figures, will be established to create political consensus.
   - This council provides consultation to the president on important national issues.
   - Members of the High Council of Government are privileged with special government protocol and necessary security measures will be provided them.

B. The Directorate of High Council of National Reconciliation
   1. Formality and establishment

With the signing of this document:

   - The High Council of National Reconciliation is established based on the political agreement between sides.

   Dr. Abdullah Abdullah as head of the High Council of National Reconciliation leads the peace process.
• The Directorate of the High Council of National Reconciliation has five deputies: the deputies of the Stability and Convergence team are serving as the deputies of the head of the High Council of National Reconciliation. Other deputies of the High Council of National Reconciliation are introduced in consultation with the president.
• The head of the High Council of National Reconciliation forms the council in consultation with the president, sides and political leaders, speakers of the houses of parliament, the civil society and elites of the country.
• The office of the High Council of National Reconciliation is at the Sapidar Palace.

2. Authorities
• The head of the High Council of National Reconciliation has the following authorities:
  • The leadership of the affairs of the national peace process
  • The leadership of meetings of the High Council of National Reconciliation
  • Appointment of officials and executive and administrative employees including officials of the State Ministry for Peace Affairs.

3. The authorities of the High Council of National Reconciliation:
• The High Council of National Reconciliation specifies, approves and leads affairs related to the peace process.
• Decisions and approvals of the High Council of National Reconciliation are made based on a majority of votes and considering the national interests of the country.
• Decisions and approvals of the High Council of National Reconciliation are final and their implementation is necessary in compliance with the country’s Constitution.
• The negotiation team conducts its job with the guidance of the leadership committee of the High Council of National Reconciliation and acts based on its enactments and guidance and reports to the head of the High Council of National Reconciliation.
The president of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan invites consultative meetings of the High Council of National Reconciliation if required.

4. The duties of the High Council of National Reconciliation

In coordination with relevant government institutions:

- Creating national, regional and international consensus on peace affairs
- Attracting international assistance and support for better conducting of peace affairs
- Attracting international assistance for post-peace reconstruction efforts.

5. Protocol:

- In all peace-related events, the head of the High Council of National Reconciliation is provided security measures and formalities of the number two person of the country.
- The introduced deputies and senior adviser of the head of the High Council of National Reconciliation are provided government formalities and security measures.

6. Budget

- The High Council of National Reconciliation (the secretariat) is an independent budgetary unit.
- The budget of the High Council of National Reconciliation is funded by Afghanistan’s government.
- The High Council of National Reconciliation receives budgetary support from international sources for better conducting of peace affairs.
- The implementation and spending of the budget is in full authority of the head of the High Council of National Reconciliation and is not exempted from assessment.

7. Structure of the High Council of National Reconciliation:

- The High Council of National Reconciliation consists of political leaders, national figures, representatives of the houses of the parliament, representatives of different political, community, civil society layers and women and youth.
• The High Council of National Reconciliation has two sections: 1. The general assembly and 2. The leadership committee. The authorities and duties of the two sections are organized based on the principles of the internal duties of the council.
• The leadership committee of the High Council of National Reconciliation consists of political leaders and national figures.
• Besides other members of the leadership committee, an authoritative representative of the president attends leadership meetings as a member.
• The High Council of National Reconciliation has required executive structure. The negotiation team and the State Ministry for Peace Affairs as the secretariat is also included in the structure of the High Council of National Reconciliation.
• If needed, the structure of the High Council of National Reconciliation is increased in consultation with the president.

C. Appreciation from former peace process leaders:

The efforts of the Peace Martyr Ustad Burhanuddin Rabbani, Mr. Salahuddin Rabbani, the deceased Pir Sayed Ahmad Gailani, and especially Mr. Ustad Mohammad Karim Khalili for his tireless and sincere efforts in achieving peace, will be appreciated.

D. Participation in government
• Gen. Abdul Rashid Dostum, the former vice president, will be given the marshal rank in a presidential decree and meanwhile, he will have membership in the High Council of Government and the National Security Council.
• Introduction of 50 percent of the cabinet including key ministries.
• Provincial governors are appointed based on a rule agreed upon by the two sides.
• Appointments and removal of individuals are made based on justifiable reasons.
• In case of removal or change, the new candidate is appointed based on merit and legal conditions in consultation with the resources of introducer.
E. Reforms:

- Facilitating provincial councils and district councils’ elections for the timely completion of the pillars of the Loya Jirga (Grand Assembly):
- Appointing delegation for drafting and amendments of the Constitution for a change in government system after holding of district councils’ elections:
- Electoral reforms including legal, technical and cadre reforms that include standard use of biometric system should start at the earliest time. These reforms are aimed at change in the electoral system while considering discussions on MDR system or other options in agreement with elites and the Constitution.
- Amendment of law on political parties in accordance with electoral reforms;
- New institutions and local government structure are established based on people’s demand aimed at easing administrative affairs.

F. Monitoring and Implementation Mechanism:

- Based on the sides agreement, a monitoring and mediator delegation consisting of five national and political elders will be established.
- Based on this agreement, the intermediator delegation is given the authority to prevent violation of the agreement.
- Representatives of the United Nations can attend the signing ceremony of this agreement as observers.
- A joint technical team with the same number from both sides is established to recognize violations of the agreement.
- In case of a violation of the agreement, the technical team will try to prevent it through understanding. If the efforts of the joint technical team do not succeed, a representative of the side that has been affected by the violation passes on the matter officially to the intermediator team.
- The decision of the monitoring and mediation team on a conflicting matter is reported to the president and the head of the High Council of National Reconciliation.
This political agreement is valid until end of the government.

Dr. Mohammad Ashraf Ghani  
President of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Dr Abdullah Abdullah  
Head of the High Council of National Reconciliation