



WWW.PILDAT.ORG

PAKISTAN-AFGHANISTAN

Parliamentarians' Dialogue

Report

Pace & Progress of Pakistan-Afghanistan Official Dialogue

December 2013 - December 2014



WWW.PILDAT.ORG

PAKISTAN-AFGHANISTAN

Parliamentarians' Dialogue

Report

Pace & Progress of Pakistan-Afghanistan Official Dialogue

December 2013 - December 2014

PILDAT is an independent, non-partisan and not-for-profit indigenous research and training institution with the mission to strengthen democracy and democratic institutions in Pakistan.

PILDAT is a registered non-profit entity under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860, Pakistan.

Copyright © Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development And Transparency PILDAT

All Rights Reserved

Printed in Pakistan

Published: December 2014

ISBN: 978-969-558-458-3

Any part of this publication can be used or cited with a clear reference to PILDAT



Islamabad Office: P. O. Box 278, F-8, Postal Code: 44220, Islamabad, Pakistan
Lahore Office: P. O. Box 11098, L.C.C.H.S, Postal Code: 54792, Lahore, Pakistan
E-mail: info@youthparliament.pk | Website: www.youthparliament.pk

CONTENTS

Abbreviations and Acronyms
Foreword

Introduction

Bilateral Interactions: December 2013-December 2014	11
I. President of Pakistan Mamnoon Husaain visited Kabul: March 27, 2014, Kabul	11
II. Ambassador of Afghanistan called on Mr. Sartaj Aziz: April 01, 2014, Islamabad	12
III. Dr. Rangin Dadfar, Former National Security Advisor visited Pakistan: June 26, 2014, Islamabad	12
IV. Afghan Ambassador called on Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Adviser to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs: August 21, 2014, Islamabad	12
V. Mr. Sartaj Aziz visits Kabul as Prime Minister's special envoy: October 19, 2014, Kabul	13
VI. Chief of Army Staff, General Raheel Sharif meets President Ashraf Ghani: November 06, 2014	13
VII. COAS meets Acting Afghan Defence Minister, Mr. Bismillah Mohammadi in Kabul November 06, 2014	13
VIII. COAS meets Mr. Hanif Atmar, National Security Advisor, Kabul Afghanistan: November 06, 2014	14
IX. Finance Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar met with Afghan counterpart Dr. Omar Zakhilwal: November 13, 2014, Islamabad	14
X. Afghan President Ashraf Ghani meets President Mamnoon Hussain: November 14, 2014, Islamabad	14
XI. Afghan President Ashraf Ghani visited General Head Quarters (GHQ), Rawalpindi: November 14, 2014	14
XII. Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif meets President Mr. Ashraf Ghani: November 15, 2014, Islamabad	15
XIII. Pakistan-Afghanistan Parliamentary Friendship Group in the National Assembly of Pakistan meets Afghan President Mr. Ashraf Ghani: November 15, 2014, Islamabad	15
XIV. The Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security & Foreign Affairs called the Afghan National Security Adviser Mr. Hanif Atmar: November 20, 2014	16
XV. COAS, General Raheel Sharif visited Kabul: December 17, 2014	16
Multilateral Interactions: December 2013-December 2014	17
I. Mr. James F. Dobbins, U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan (SRAP) called on the Adviser to Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs: December 03, 2014, Islamabad	17
II. Mr. Jan Kubis, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General (SRSG) for Afghanistan called on Mr. Sartaj Aziz: February 24, 2014, Islamabad	18
III. US Principal Deputy Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan called on Syed Tariq Fatemi: February 26, 2014, Islamabad	18
IV. Mr. James F. Dobbins, US Special Representative for Afghanistan, called on Mr. Sartaj Aziz: April 24, 2014, Islamabad	19
V. Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Afghanistan called on Syed Tariq Fatemi: May 07, 2014, Islamabad	19
VI. Syed Tariq Fatemi held a luncheon meeting with Senior Advisor to the US Special Representative on Afghanistan & Pakistan: May 23, 2014, Islamabad	19
VII. Mr. James Dobbins paid his farewell call on Mr. Sartaj Aziz: July 21, 2014, Islamabad	19
VIII. China's Special Envoy on Afghan Affairs called on the Foreign Secretary: July 26, 2014, Islamabad.	20

December 2013 - December 2014

IX.	The UN SRSG for Afghanistan Mr. Jan Kubis called on Mr. Sartaj Aziz: August 27, 2014, Islamabad.	20
X.	SRSG Mr. Jan Kubis called on the Foreign Secretary Mr. Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry: September 29, 2014, Islamabad	21
XI.	The US Special Representative on Afghanistan & Pakistan Mr. Dan Feldman called on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz: October 28, 2014, Islamabad	21
Trilateral Summits: December 2013- December 2014		
I.	Trilateral Summits of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Turkey: December 2013-December 2014	22
-	8 th Trilateral Summit of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Turkey: February 12-13, 2014; Ankara, Turkey	22
Quadrilateral Summits: December 2013- December 2014		
I.	Quadrilateral Summit of the Presidents of Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan & Tajikistan: December 2013-December 2014	22
-	Quadrilateral Summit of the Presidents of Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan & Tajikistan: March 27, 2014, Kabul, Afghanistan	22
Trilateral Dialogues: December 2013- December 2014		
I.	Trilateral Dialogues: Pakistan, China & Afghanistan: December 2013- December 2014	22
-	2 nd Trilateral Dialogue: Pakistan, China & Afghanistan: October 19, 2014, Islamabad	
London Conference on Afghanistan: December 04-05, 2014, London, United Kingdom		
Other Pakistan-Afghanistan Interactions: December 2013- December 2014		
I.	Senator Afrasiab Khattak met Mr. Ashraf Ghani, President of Afghanistan: November 15, 2014	24
II.	PPPP Delegation calls on Afghan President: November 15, 2014	24
List of Tables		
	Table 1: List of Bilateral Interactions: December 2013- December 2014	11
	Table 2: List of Multilateral Interactions: December 2013- December 2014	17

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ANP	Awami National Party
APTTA	Afghanistan-Pakistan Transit Trade Agreement
APTCCA	Afghanistan Pakistan Transit Trade Coordination Authority
CASA-1000	Central Asia, South Asia Electricity Transmission and Trade Project
COAS	Chief of Army Staff
EU	European Union
FO	Foreign Office
GHQ	General Headquarters
ISAF	International Security Assistance Force
JUI-F	Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam Fazal –Ur-Rehman
KP	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
LCA	London Conference on Afghanistan
MoRR	Minister of Refugees and Repatriation
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NSA	National Security Advisor
PAJCCI	Pakistan-Afghanistan Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industries
PCI	Pakistan-China Institute
PPPP	Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarian
QWP	Quami Watan Party
SAFRON	Ministry of States and Frontier Regions
SAPM	Special Assistant to the Prime Minister
SPA	Strategic Partnership Agreement
SRAP	Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan
SRSR	Special Representative of the UN Secretary General
SSAR	Solutions Strategy for Afghan Returnees
TAPI	Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India Gas Pipeline
TASA	Technical Advisory Service Agreement
UNHCR	United National High Commissioner for Refugees

FOREWORD

Report on **Pace & Progress of Pakistan-Afghanistan Official Dialogue** covers important milestones and developments in the official Pakistan-Afghanistan relations from December 2013 to December 2014.

The report has been prepared for consideration of the participants of the **Pakistan-Afghanistan Parliamentarians' Dialogue-XII**, scheduled to be facilitated by PILDAT on **December 30-31, 2014** in Islamabad, Pakistan.

This report illustrates salient highlights of the pace and progress of the official dialogues from December 2013 to December 2014. PILDAT periodically prepares this report for the background of Parliamentarians of the two sides who meet after regular intervals in order to strengthen bilateral relations through the use of Parliamentary diplomacy.

Acknowledgements

The data used to update this report has been obtained from the official websites of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Pakistan and the Afghanistan Government.

PILDAT would like to acknowledge the financial support provided by the British High Commission, Islamabad for publishing this report.

Disclaimer

PILDAT team has made every effort to ensure accuracy of the contents of this report. Any error or omission, therefore, is not deliberate.

Islamabad
December 2014

INTRODUCTION

Since December 2013, Pakistan and Afghanistan have held several official meetings including three meetings between Prime Minister of Pakistan Muhammad Nawaz Sharif and Former President Hamid Karzai in Islamabad, London and Kabul, respectively. Many important developments have taken place after the election of the new President of Afghanistan Honourable Mr. Ashraf Ghani on September 29, 2014.

On a number of occasions, reiterating their commitment to dialogue process for bringing peace, stability and prosperity in Afghanistan, both countries have voiced their full support for regional peace. In his first official visit to Pakistan on November 15, 2014, President Ashraf Ghani, lauded Pakistan's efforts to fight terrorism and hailed sacrifices rendered by the nation. He said,

"Afghanistan wants to bolster security and defence ties with Pakistan including cooperation in training and border management."

Pakistan's Foreign Office, in its weekly briefings, has continued to reiterate the Government's support and cooperation to transparent reconciliation process for ensuring peace and security in Afghanistan.

Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz while highlighting the improving Pakistan-Afghanistan relations in 2014 said:

"Pakistan wants good political economic and security relations with Afghanistan. The recent visit of Afghan President Mr. Ashraf Ghani was very successful and useful beyond expectations. Both the countries have agreed of a mechanism to address issue of security on the border. A new phase of relation between Pakistan and Afghanistan has started."

During the visit of Afghan President to Pakistan on November 15, 2014, Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, emphasised that a stable and peaceful Afghanistan was in the interest of Pakistan and the region. Mr. Muhammad Nawaz Sharif while talking to a joint press conference with President Ashraf Ghani said that:

"The bonds between Pakistan and Afghanistan are special. Our fraternal ties are fortified by common faith, kinship and shared history. We have common woes and common joys. We grieve together and rejoice together. Our security and future prosperity remain interlinked. I have consistently emphasized Pakistan's foremost priority of building a "peaceful neighbourhood". As its fundamental element, I have vision of a strong, comprehensive and enduring partnership between Pakistan and Afghanistan – contributing to the security and prosperity of our two nations, and reinforcing efforts for peace and development in the region."

During the year, the two sides also continued blaming and leveling allegations against each other on issues such as rocket and artillery attacks across the border by security forces of each other, allegations that Pakistan "controls" the Taliban and has "unleashed" them on Afghanistan, Afghan officials relating to alleged "power-sharing formula" with the Taliban or attempting to "bring fiefdoms to Afghanistan." However, after President Ashraf Ghani's assuming office in September, 2014 many important developments have been witnessed by the two countries in terms of border management, bilateral security and trade and economic cooperation.

The first section of this report presents pace and progress in the Bilateral Relations between December 2013 and December 2014.

The second section presents important official meetings held on Pakistan-Afghanistan during the period.

The third section highlights the significant interactions that have taken place between the officials of the two countries.

The fourth section notes the Trilateral Summit, Quadilateral Summits and the recent London Conference held between Pakistan-Afghanistan during this period.

The fifth section highlights the non-official interactions between the two countries.

December 2013 - December 2014

Bilateral Interactions: December 2013-December 2014**President Mamnoon Hussain visited Kabul, Afghanistan to participate in the Nowroz Festival: March 27, 2014**

At the invitation of Afghanistan's former President Mr. Hamid Karzai, President Mamnoon Hussain visited Kabul on March 27, 2014 to participate in the Nawroz Festival. The President was accompanied by the Minister for Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage and senior officials. On arrival, the President was accorded a warm welcome and was received by Mr. Younus Qanooni, the First Vice President of Afghanistan, the Foreign Minister, and other high-

ranking Afghan officials. Later, the President had a bilateral meeting with the then President of Afghanistan, Mr. Hamid Karzai, during which the two leaders exchanged views on matters of common interest including bilateral relations, regional issues, and enhanced cooperation among Islamic countries. The President extended best wishes for successful Afghan elections and reaffirmed Pakistan's support for the Afghan peace process. The two Presidents agreed that terrorism and extremism posed a common threat and it was important to work together to effectively combat this menace. They further emphasized that the two countries must continue to strengthen mutual cooperation so that their vast potential for progress and prosperity could be optimally realized. On the sidelines of the Nawroz Festival, the Quadilateral Summit of the Presidents of Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and Tajikistan was held.¹

Table 1: List of Bilateral Interactions: December 2013-December 2014

No.	Meeting	Date	City, Country
I.	President Mamnoon Hussain visited Kabul, Afghanistan to participate in the Nowroz Festival	March 27, 2014	Kabul, Afghanistan
II.	The new Ambassador of Afghanistan to Pakistan, Mr. Janan Mosazai, called on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs	April 01, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
III.	Dr. Rangin Dadfar Spanta, Former National Security Adviser of Afghanistan, visited Pakistan and met with Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs.	June 26, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
IV.	Afghan Ambassador Mr. Janan Mosazai called on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs.	August 21, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
V.	On the official invitation from Afghanistan, President Mamnoon Hussain visited Kabul to attend the swearing-in ceremony for the new President of Afghanistan.	September 29, 2014	Kabul, Afghanistan
VI.	The Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz as the Special Envoy of the Prime Minister visited Kabul.	October 19, 2014	Kabul, Afghanistan
VII.	Chief of Army Staff, General Raheel Sharif meets President Ashraf Ghani: November 06, 2014.	November 06, 2014	Kabul, Afghanistan
VIII.	COAS meets Acting Afghan Defence Minister, Mr. Bismillah Mohammadi in Kabul November 06, 2014.	November 06, 2014	Kabul, Afghanistan
IX.	COAS meets Mr. Hanif Atmar, National Security Advisor, Kabul Afghanistan: November 06, 2014.	November 06, 2014	Kabul, Afghanistan

1. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, March 27, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=1857>

December 2013 - December 2014

X.	Finance Minister Ishaq Dar met his Afghan counterpart Dr. Omar Zakhilwal.	November 13, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
XI.	President Ashraf Ghani met President Mamnoon Hussain.	November 14, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
XII.	Afghan President Ashraf Ghani visited General Head Quarters (GHQ), Rawalpindi: November 14, 2014	November 14, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
XIII.	President Ashraf Ghani met with Prime Minister Mr. Muhammad Nawaz Sharif	November 15, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
XIV.	Afghanistan Parliamentary Friendship Group in National Assembly of Pakistan met with Afghan President Mr. Ashraf Ghani	November 15, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
XV.	The Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz telephoned the National Security Adviser of Afghanistan, Mr. Hanif Atmar.	November 20, 2014	Islamabad/Kabul
XVI.	COAS General Raheel Sharif visited Kabul, Afghanistan	December 17, 2014	Kabul, Afghanistan

Call on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs by the Ambassador of Afghanistan: April 01, 2014

The new Ambassador of Afghanistan to Pakistan, Mr. Janan Mosazai, called on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs Mr. Sartaj Aziz at the Foreign Office on April 01, 2014. Welcoming the Ambassador, the Adviser assured him of the Ministry's full cooperation in the discharge of his Mission in Pakistan. The Ambassador expressed gratitude for the warm welcome he had received in Pakistan. The current state of relations between the two countries was discussed along with ways to further improve and strengthen bilateral cooperation in all areas of common interest. In order to further strengthen mutual trust and confidence, the need for enhanced people-to-people contacts and regular interaction at the official level was emphasized. The Adviser reaffirmed Pakistan's continuing support and facilitation of efforts for peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan. He also wished Afghanistan success with their forthcoming elections and democratic transition.²

Dr. Rangin Dadfar Spanta, Former National Security Adviser of Afghanistan, visited Pakistan and met with Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs: June 26, 2014

Dr. Rangin Dadfar Spanta, National Security Adviser

of Afghanistan, visited Islamabad on June 26, 2014. He was accompanied by senior officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence, National Directorate of Security (NDS), and Afghan National Security Council. Dr. Spanta called on the Prime Minister and delivered President Karzai's letter. The Prime Minister welcomed President Karzai's letter and Dr. Spanta's visit to Pakistan. Both sides reiterated their common resolve to further enhance the bilateral relationship in all dimensions in a meaningful and result-oriented manner. Dr. Spanta participated in delegation-level talks with the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs Mr. Sartaj Aziz. He also had a meeting with the Chief of the Army Staff. During the talks, the main focus was on strengthening bilateral security cooperation. Both sides agreed on the need to take action against all terrorists without making any distinction among them and their hideouts on their respective sides.³

Afghan Ambassador Mr. Janan Mosazai called on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs: August 21, 2014

In a meeting with Afghan Ambassador Mr. Janan Mosazai on August 21, 2014, Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs Mr. Sartaj Aziz emphasized that Pakistan sincerely believes that a peaceful, stable and united Afghanistan is in Pakistan's vital interest. Referring to allegations emanating from Afghan institutions and senior officials, implicating Pakistan in insurgent attacks, acts

2. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, April 01, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=1864>

3. Please see, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, June 26, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=2064>

December 2013 - December 2014

of terrorism, and cross-border shelling, the Adviser stressed that if the Afghan side has any evidence to substantiate these allegations, it should be shared with Pakistan. The Adviser further underscored that Pakistan remains committed to building a friendly and good-neighbourly relationship with Afghanistan, on the basis of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity. In this regard, we will continue our efforts to meaningfully address mutual concerns and strengthen trust and understanding. For this purpose, both sides must utilize the bilateral mechanisms to reinforce Pakistan-Afghanistan security cooperation and improve border controls and management.⁴

President Mamnoon Hussain visited Kabul to attend the swearing-in ceremony for the new President of Afghanistan: September 29, 2014

President Mamnoon Hussain paid a one-day visit to Kabul on September 29, 2014 to attend the swearing-in ceremony of Afghanistan's new President Mr. Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai. The ceremony was attended by leaders, ministers and special envoys from a large number of countries in the region and beyond. □ During his stay in Kabul, the President had a bilateral meeting with President Ashraf Ghani. Separately, the newly-appointed Chief Executive Officer Dr. Abdullah Abdullah called on the President. During these meetings, matters relating to the political transition in Afghanistan, Pakistan-Afghanistan relations, and regional cooperation were discussed. □ □ President Mamnoon Hussain conveyed the warmest felicitations of the government and people of Pakistan to the brotherly Afghan people and leadership on the historic peaceful transfer of power from one elected President to another elected President. The President extended best wishes to the national unity government in the accomplishment of its wide-ranging agenda and conveyed Pakistan's commitment to work closely with the new government for the promotion of common goals.⁵

The Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz as the Special Envoy of the Prime Minister visited Kabul: October 19, 2014

The Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security

and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz, paid a one-day visit to Kabul as the Prime Minister's Special Envoy on October 19, 2014. He delivered the Prime Minister's formal invitation to President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai to visit Pakistan. President Ashraf Ghani appreciated the invitation and conveyed that he would visit Pakistan in the very near future.

President Ashraf Ghani underlined that there was a historic opportunity to transform Pakistan-Afghanistan relations into a warm and mutually beneficial partnership. He said he would like to share with Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif his vision of the bilateral relationship over a 5-year perspective. The President identified the preparatory work that needed to be undertaken by both sides on different dimensions of the relationship -- including political, security and defence cooperation, economic and trade relations, business-to-business contacts, and cultural and people-to-people exchanges.⁶

Chief of Army Staff, General Raheel Sharif meets President Ashraf Ghani: November 06, 2014

Chief of Army Staff, General Raheel Sharif met with President of Afghanistan Mr. Ashraf Ghani on November 06, 2014. General Raheel Sharif congratulated the newly elected Afghan President and expressed the hope that election of new government in Afghanistan will prove to be a historic opportunity to transform Pak-Afghan relations into a 'warm and mutually beneficial' relationship. He reiterated that peaceful and stable Afghanistan was in Pakistan's best interest and the only way to ensure regional security was to treat terrorism as our common enemy.⁷

COAS meets Acting Afghan Defence Minister, Mr. Bismillah Mohammadi in Kabul November 06, 2014

Chief of Army Staff, General Raheel Sharif met with the acting Afghan Defence Minister Bismillah Mohammadi during his visit to Kabul. The Ministry of Defense (MoD) said the Pakistani Army chief proposed training for the young Afghan army officers in Pakistan. A statement released by the Ministry of Defense (MoD), Afghanistan said Gen. Sharif reaffirmed that Pakistan is prepared to assist

4. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, August 21, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=2176>

5. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, September 29, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=2270>

6. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, October 19, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=2313>

7. http://www.pakembassykabul.com/news_events.php

December 2013 - December 2014

Afghanistan in military, economic and political affairs.

During the meeting, the transfer of security responsibility to Afghan National Security Forces in the wake of US, ISAF drawdown and enhanced bilateralism between Pakistan - Afghanistan with particular emphasis on Pak-Afghan border coordination mechanism, intelligence sharing and transparency were deliberated upon. Matters to enhance bilateral military to military relations were discussed during the meeting.

General Raheel Sharif also vowed to assist Afghanistan in maintaining security along the Durand Line and insisted that maintaining better security across the Durand Line was in the interest of Pakistan, Afghanistan and the region. Acting Defence Minister Bismillah Mohammadi said the Afghan Government is hopeful that the procedure to jointly fight terrorism will be finalised by Kabul and Islamabad that will help the Afghan and Pakistani forces to jointly fight the terrorism.⁸

COAS meets Mr. Hanif Atmar, National Security Advisor, Kabul Afghanistan: November 06, 2014

Presidential Advisor on National Security, Afghanistan Mr. Mohammad Hanif Atmar met the Pakistan Chief of Army Staff General Raheel Sharif on November 06, 2014 in Kabul. In the meeting, General Raheel Sharif described formation of the National Unity Government as a positive step towards prosperity in Afghanistan. Matters pertaining to mutual interests including improving relations between the two neighboring states, improving security in the region and fighting terrorism came under discussion. Mr. Hanif Atmar said that the National Unity Government believes in continuation of talks between Kabul and Islamabad. General Sharif stressed for close cooperation between the two countries in fighting terrorism and boosting peace in the region.⁹

Finance Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar met his Afghan counterpart Dr. Omar Zakhilwal: November 13, 2014

Finance Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar met

his Afghan counterpart Dr. Omar Zakhilwal on November 13, 2014 in Islamabad, Pakistan. Both of them agreed on concerted efforts for enhancing bilateral trade from the existing \$ 2.5 billion to \$5 billion in the next two to three years as envisaged by the leadership of the two brotherly Islamic countries. Mr. Dar received Dr. Omar Zakhilwal at the Finance Ministry and had a detailed exchange of views on Pak-Afghan relations with his Afghan counterpart, especially focusing on ways and means to enhance economic cooperation. The minister welcomed Dr. Zakhilwal and congratulated him on the peaceful transfer of power in Afghanistan.¹⁰

President Ashraf Ghani meets President Mamnoon Hussain: November 14, 2014

President of Afghanistan, Mr. Ashraf Ghani met with President Mamnoon Hussain on November 14, 2014 in Islamabad. During the meeting, the exchange of views centered on Pakistan-Afghanistan relations and regional cooperation. President Mamnoon Hussain extended a warm welcome to President Ashraf Ghani and his entourage on behalf of the Government and people of Pakistan.

The President added that the people of Pakistan were happy to see the peaceful democratic transition in Afghanistan and wished the Afghan people all success in their endeavours to achieve peace and progress. □ □ President Mamnoon Hussain reaffirmed Pakistan's desire to build a broad-based and forward-looking relationship with Afghanistan. The President emphasized that along with security cooperation, mutual collaboration in the economic arena must also grow significantly. The President reaffirmed Pakistan's support for an inclusive Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace and reconciliation process.¹¹

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani visited General Head Quarters (GHQ), Rawalpindi: November 14, 2014

Afghan President Mr. Ashraf Ghani visited the General Headquarters (GHQ) on November 14, 2014. Besides other senior ministers, Afghan President was accompanied by Defence Minister General Bismillah Muhammadi, Afghan Chief of General Staff, General

8. For details, please see Pakistani army chief proposes training for Afghan army officers, Khamaa Press, November 06, 2014: <http://www.khaama.com/pakistani-army-chief-proposes-training-for-afghan-army-officers-8725>

9. For details, please see Hanif Atmar Meets Raheel Sharif, Bakhtar News, November 06, 2014: <http://www.bakhtarnews.com.af/eng/security/item/14852-hanif-atmar-meets-raheel-sharif.html>

10. For details, please see Dar says economy on track; meets his Afghan counterpart, Daily Times, November 14, 2014: <http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/business/14-Nov-2014/dar-says-economy-on-track-meets-his-afghan-counterpart>

11. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, November 14, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=2363>

December 2013 - December 2014

Sher Muhammad Karimi and senior Afghan security officials.

On arrival at the GHQ, General Raheel Sharif received the Afghan President. A smartly turned out contingent of Pakistan Army presented him guard of honour. Afghan President Ashraf Ghani laid floral wreath at the Shuhada Monument and offered Fateha. Later, Afghan delegation was given detailed briefing on security situation on the Pak-Afghan border. National Security Advisor Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Foreign Secretary Mr. Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Defence Secretary Lieutenant General (Retired) Alam Khattak and DG ISI Lieutenant General Rizwan Akhtar were also present.

Afghan President, Ashraf Ghani appreciated Pakistan's efforts to fight terrorism and sacrifices rendered by the nation. He said that Afghanistan wants to bolster security and defence ties with Pakistan including cooperation in training and border management. He also assured of Afghan cooperation to jointly curb the menace of terrorism.¹²

President Ashraf Ghani met with Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif: November 15, 2014

Pakistan and Afghanistan reaffirmed their resolve at the highest level to transform bilateral ties and build a relationship marked by close cooperation on the political and security planes and a strong economic foundation. The commitment was made during the meeting between Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif and President Mr. Ashraf Ghani on November 15, 2014 in Islamabad.

Following the official welcoming ceremony at the Prime Minister's House, the two leaders first had a one-on-one meeting and later led their respective sides at the delegation-level talks. The wide-ranging consultations between the two leaders covered all aspects of Pakistan-Afghanistan relations, situation in the region, and regional economic cooperation.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif reaffirmed that a peaceful, stable, united and prosperous Afghanistan is in Pakistan's vital interest. He outlined his vision of a strong, comprehensive and enduring partnership between Pakistan and Afghanistan. To this end, the Prime Minister underscored the importance of multi-tiered bilateral engagement, including at the political,

security, economic, leadership, and people-to-people levels. Reaffirming Pakistan's resolve to fight terrorism and extremism, the Prime Minister highlighted the positive results of Operation *Zarb-e-Azb*. He underscored the importance of both sides working together to address common security challenges through common endeavours. The Prime Minister also reaffirmed Pakistan's support for Afghan efforts for peace and reconciliation.¹³

Pakistan-Afghanistan Parliamentary Friendship Group in National Assembly of Pakistan met with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani: November 15, 2014

President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan His Excellency Dr. Ashraf Ghani held an interactive session with the members of the Pakistan-Afghanistan Parliamentary Friendship Group of the 14th National Assembly of Pakistan. The session was jointly chaired by acting Speaker National Assembly, Mr. Muratza Javed Abbasi, MNA (NA-18, Abbottabad-II, KP) and Mr. Aftab Ahmed Khan Sherpao, MNA (NA-8 Charsadda-II, KP, QWP), Convener of the Pakistan-Afghanistan Parliamentary Friendship Group. Delegates accompanying the Afghan President also took part in the discussion.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Aftab Ahmed Khan Sherpao, MNA (NA-8 Charsadda-II, KP, QWP) highlighted the progress made by the two Parliamentary Friendship Groups. The eleven rounds of discussions in the recent past have proved very useful; and have resulted in a joint resolution, which has been presented to the Pakistani Government.

President Ashraf Ghani expressed his gratitude, on behalf of the Afghan people, to the Parliamentary Friendship Group for their efforts. He looked forward to receiving the Group Members in Kabul. He stated that such interactions are crucial in ushering in an era of transformation for the betterment of the region. The onus is on the elected representatives from both sides of the border to build trust on the institutional as well as people to people level. He further said that peace and stability in Afghanistan is in the best interest of Pakistan. The meeting was jointly organized by the Pakistan Afghanistan Parliamentary Friendship Group and Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency (www.pildat.org).¹⁴

12. <https://www.pakistanarmy.gov.pk/awpreview/pDetails.aspx?pType=PressRelease&pID=324>

13. For details, please see Prime Minister's Office, Press Release, November 15, 2014: http://pmo.gov.pk/press_release_details.php?pr_id=682

14. For details, please see Pakistan Afghanistan Friendship Group in National Assembly, November 15, 2014: <http://www.pak-afghanpfg.pk/15112014.asp>

December 2013 - December 2014

The Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz telephoned the National Security Adviser of Afghanistan, Mr. Hanif Atmar: November 20, 2014

The Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz, telephoned the National Security Adviser of Afghanistan, Mr. Hanif Atmar, on November 20, 2014. The Adviser conveyed that his remarks to the BBC Urdu on November 17, 2014 were misquoted, as he was talking in a historical context. The Adviser reiterated that Pakistan's commitment to fight terrorism is clear and unambiguous and that Operation *Zarb-e-Azb*, as he stated in the BBC interview also, is targeting all terrorists, without any distinction or discrimination. He also recalled the understanding reached between President Ashraf Ghani and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif last week that neither side would allow its territory to be used against the other. The Adviser reaffirmed Pakistan's resolve to work closely with Afghanistan to address the common challenges and continue to make progress towards a comprehensive and enduring partnership, as envisioned by the leaders of the two countries.¹⁵

COAS Visited Kabul, Afghanistan: December 17, 2014

General Raheel Sharif, Chief of Army staff, visited Afghanistan on December 17, 2014 and held separate meetings with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani and General John F. Campbell, ISAF commander. Matters related to security situation along Pak-Afghan border region came under discussion. Vital elements of intelligence were shared with concerned authorities, with regard to the heinous Peshawar incident of December 16, 2014. Afghan President assured General Raheel Sharif that Afghan soil will not be allowed for terrorists' activities against Pakistan and any signature found in this regard will be immediately eliminated.

COAS also assured Afghan President full support to the Unity government in all spheres including joint efforts against terrorists. ISAF commander also assured of its complete support in eliminating terrorist in his area of responsibility.¹⁶

15. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, November 20, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=2370>

16. https://www.ispr.gov.pk/front/main.asp?o=t-press_release&date=2014/12/17

December 2013 - December 2014

Multilateral Interactions: December 2013-December 2014**Mr. James F. Dobbins called on the Adviser to Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz: December 03, 2013, Islamabad**

Ambassador James F. Dobbins, U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan (SRAP), called on Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs on December 03, 2013. During the meeting, the two sides discussed Pakistan-U.S. bilateral relations and regional issues of common interest. Foreign Secretary Mr. Jalil Abbas Jilani was also present. Mr. Dobbins was accompanied by the U.S. Ambassador Mr. Richard Olson.

In the context of Afghanistan, developments relating to the Afghan peace and reconciliation process and matters pertaining to 2014 and beyond were discussed. The importance of accelerated progress in the Afghan reconciliation process was emphasized. The Adviser also raised with Ambassador Dobbins the issue of drone attacks underscoring their counter-productive effect and reiterated the call to the U.S. to review its policy which has a negative impact on the Government's efforts to bring peace and stability in Pakistan and the region. As regards Pakistan-U.S. relations, the Adviser underlined the need for early convening of U.S.-Pakistan Working Groups on Law Enforcement and Counter Terrorism and Economy and Finance before the next round of Ministerial-level Strategic Dialogue expected in March 2014.¹⁷

No.	Meeting	Date	City, Country
I.	Mr. James F. Dobbins called on the Adviser to Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs	December 03, 2013	Islamabad, Pakistan
II.	Mr. Jan Kubis, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General (SRSG) for Afghanistan called on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security & Foreign Affairs	February 24, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
III.	US Principal Deputy Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, Ambassador Beth Jones called on the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, Syed Tariq Fatemi.	February 26, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
IV.	Mr. James F. Dobbins, US Special Representative for Afghanistan called on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs Mr. Sartaj Aziz.	April 24, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
V.	Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Afghanistan, Mr. Nicholas Haysom, called on the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister for Foreign Affairs (SAPM), Syed Tariq Fatemi.	May 07, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
VI.	The Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs Syed Tariq Fatemi held a luncheon meeting with Ambassador Robin Raphel, Senior Adviser to the US Special Representative on Afghanistan and Pakistan.	May 23, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
VII.	Mr. James Dobbins, U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, paid his farewell call on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs.	July 21, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
VIII.	China's Special Envoy on Afghan Affairs, Ambassador Sun Yuxi, called on Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry.	July 26, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan

17. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, December 03, 2013: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=1581>

December 2013 - December 2014

IX.	The UN Secretary General's Special Representative (SRSG) for Afghanistan, Mr. Jan Kubis, called on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs.	August 27, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
X.	Special Representative of the Secretary General on Afghanistan, Mr. Jan Kubis called on Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry.	September 24, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan
XI.	The US Special Representative on Afghanistan and Pakistan, Mr. Dan Feldman, called on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs.	October 28, 2014	Islamabad, Pakistan

Mr. Jan Kubis, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General (SRSG) for Afghanistan called on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security & Foreign Affairs: February 24, 2014

Mr. Jan Kubis, Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) for Afghanistan, called on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz, on February 24, 2014 in Islamabad. The discussions focused on matters related to Afghanistan and Pakistan-Afghanistan relations. The Adviser underscored the importance Pakistan attached to a stable, peaceful and united Afghanistan and wished the Afghan people well during the security, political and economic transitions in 2014 and beyond.

The Adviser underscored Pakistan's resolve to support the international community's efforts for stability in Afghanistan. He reaffirmed Pakistan's steadfast support for an inclusive Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace and reconciliation process. The Adviser also highlighted the positive developments in Pakistan-Afghanistan relations, marked by frequent high-level exchanges and growing emphasis on bilateral trade and economic agenda as well as regional cooperation. Appreciating UNAMA's efforts, the Adviser underscored the importance of deeper engagement of the United Nations and the international community in the economic development and reconstruction of Afghanistan. The Adviser further emphasized that the international community should help create conducive conditions for the early return of Afghan refugees from Pakistan and their sustainable reintegration in Afghanistan.

Mr. Jan Kubis recognized Pakistan's role in peace and stability in Afghanistan and the efforts underway to build a positive relationship between Pakistan and

Afghanistan. He also highlighted UN's supportive role in diverse sectors in Afghanistan as per UNAMA's mandate. Mr. Jan Kubis later called on Foreign Secretary Mr. Aizaz Ahmed Chaudhry and exchanged views on Afghanistan, growing Pakistan-Afghanistan bilateral cooperation, and regional processes. The Foreign Secretary lauded UN's role and highlighted Pakistan's continuing commitment to support Afghanistan through this crucial juncture and in the years to come.¹⁸

US Principal Deputy Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, Ambassador Beth Jones called on the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, Syed Tariq Fatemi: February 26, 2014

The US Principal Deputy Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, Ambassador Beth Jones called on the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, Syed Tariq Fatemi in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on February 26, 2014. The Ambassador was accompanied by Director, Office of Pakistan Affairs, Jonathan Pratt and US Embassy officials. The Special Assistant highlighted the present Government's commitment to combating terrorism and extremism in all its forms, in a comprehensive and consensus based approach. He further expressed the Government's strong desire to move forward by taking along all concerned stakeholders. Ambassador Jones appreciated Pakistan's role in supporting peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan. Furthermore, she appreciated Pakistan's stabilizing role in the region. The Special Assistant in his remarks reiterated Pakistan's commitment to remain positively engaged in supporting peace and reconciliation efforts in Afghanistan and maintaining cordial relations with all its neighbors. Both sides noted the successful holding of Strategic Dialogue Ministerial Review in

18. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, February 24, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=1745>

December 2013 - December 2014

Washington on January 27-28, 2014 which demonstrated cooperation in a range of bilateral and regional issue.¹⁹

Call on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs Mr. Sartaj Aziz by U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, James F. Dobbins: April 24, 2014

The U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan (SRAP), Ambassador James F. Dobbins, called on Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs on April 24, 2014 in Islamabad. During the meeting, the two sides discussed Pakistan-U.S. bilateral relations and regional issues.

The Adviser emphasized the importance Pakistan attaches to deepening Pakistan-U.S. bilateral cooperation in all fields. The Adviser underscored the pivotal role and scope of strategic dialogue and closer collaboration in areas from counterterrorism to economy to energy and education.

The importance of deeper consultations between Pakistan and the U.S. on regional issues, especially Afghanistan, was stressed during the meeting. The Adviser reiterated Pakistan's continued support for efforts for a free and fair electoral process and peaceful democratic transition in Afghanistan. He further emphasized that smooth security and economic transitions were pivotal for stability in Afghanistan and the region. Views were also exchanged on peace and reconciliation process and post-2014 matters. Foreign Secretary Mr. Aizaz Ahmed Chaudhry was present in the meeting. Mr. Dobbins was accompanied by the U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan Mr. Richard Olson.²⁰

Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Afghanistan, Mr. Nicholas Haysom, called on the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister for Foreign Affairs (SAPM), Syed Tariq Fatemi: May 07, 2014

Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Afghanistan, Mr. Nicholas Haysom, called on the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister for

Foreign Affairs (SAPM), Syed Tariq Fatemi on May 07, 2014. During the meeting the discussion focused on regional issues including Afghanistan and the recently held Presidential elections. The SAPM emphasized the importance Pakistan attaches to building close cooperative relations with Afghanistan in diverse fields. He reiterated Pakistan's support for peaceful political transition in Afghanistan and stressed the importance of the international community's continued engagement on the economic plan for sustainable peace in Afghanistan and the region. The SAPM expressed the hope that the UN would continue to make its contribution to the efforts for peace, stability and development.²¹

Meeting of Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs with Ambassador Robin Raphel – Senior Adviser to the US Special Representative on Afghanistan and Pakistan: May 23, 2014

The Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs Syed Tariq Fatemi held a luncheon meeting with Ambassador Robin Raphel – Senior Adviser to the US Special Representative on Afghanistan and Pakistan, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on May 23, 2014. The discussions focused on Pakistan-US bilateral relations and regional issues including Afghanistan. The Special Assistant noted the positive direction and momentum of bilateral relations since the visit of Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif to Washington in October last year. Ways were discussed to advance bilateral cooperation under the mechanism of Strategic Dialogue between the two countries. With regard to Afghanistan, the importance of deeper consultations between Pakistan and the US was underscored. The post-2014 situation was discussed. The Special Assistant reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to support all efforts for Afghanistan's peace, stability and progress.

Call on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs by Ambassador James Dobbins, U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan (SRAP): July 21, 2014

James Dobbins, U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, paid his farewell call on the

19. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, February 26, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=1777>

20. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, April 24, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=1936>

21. Please see, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, May 07, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=1951>

December 2013 - December 2014

Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz, at the Foreign Office on July 21, 2014. The discussions covered Pakistan-U.S. bilateral relations and developments in Afghanistan. The Adviser took the opportunity to laud Ambassador Dobbins' efforts for the promotion of stable, cooperative and durable relations between Pakistan and the U.S. during his term as SRAP. The two sides reiterated their resolve to further deepen the bilateral relationship and strengthen mutual consultations on Afghanistan post-2014 with a view to advancing the shared objectives of peace, stability and economic development in the region and beyond. The Adviser highlighted the instrumental role of Pakistan-U.S. Strategic Dialogue in fostering closer collaboration between the two countries in diverse fields including trade, economy, energy, counter-terrorism, education and science and technology. Reviewing the process since its revitalization last year, the two sides expressed satisfaction over the steady enhancement of mutual understanding and fruitful cooperation. The Adviser also highlighted Pakistan's monumental effort to address the threat of terrorism and underscored that the military operation, Zarb-e-Azb, was addressing this menace without any discrimination or distinction. In the regional context, the Adviser reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to a peaceful, stable and united Afghanistan. He appreciated the efforts of Secretary John Kerry who had contributed to an amicable understanding on election-related issues. The Adviser also underlined Pakistan's support for a peaceful democratic transition, underscoring its vital importance for stability in Afghanistan and the region. The meeting was also attended by U.S. Ambassador Richard Olson and Foreign Secretary Mr. Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry.²²

Chinese Special Envoy on Afghan Affairs Calls on Foreign Secretary: July 26, 2014

China's Special Envoy on Afghan Affairs, Ambassador Sun Yuxi, called on Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry on July 26, 2014. The Foreign Secretary felicitated Ambassador Sun Yuxi on his appointment as Special Envoy and extended best wishes in his mission. During the wide-ranging talks, the Foreign Secretary underscored the convergent interests and shared goals of Pakistan and China vis-à-vis Afghanistan. Both sides reaffirmed their resolve to support all efforts for a peaceful, stable, united and prosperous Afghanistan. They also underlined the importance of international support to Afghanistan during its multiple transitions,

including a peaceful democratic transition.

The Foreign Secretary emphasized that continued support and assistance for reconstruction and economic development would reinforce efforts for peace and stability in Afghanistan. The Foreign Secretary reiterated Pakistan's resolve to counter terrorism and, in this regard, highlighted the thrust of Operation Zarb-e-Azb against all terrorists and their hideouts. The Special Envoy expressed China's solidarity with Pakistan in this endeavour and appreciated Pakistan's contribution to global efforts against terrorism. The Foreign Secretary also highlighted Pakistan's constructive engagement to promote regional cooperation. In this context, the two sides conferred on the Ministerial Meeting of the Heart of Asia/Istanbul Process, to be held in Tianjin, China. Pakistan reaffirmed its commitment to work closely with China for a successful Ministerial Conference.²³

The UN Secretary General's Special Representative (SRSG) for Afghanistan, Mr. Jan Kubis, called on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs: August 27, 2014

The UN Secretary General's Special Representative (SRSG) for Afghanistan, Mr. Jan Kubis, called on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz, at the Foreign Office on August 27, 2014. During the meeting, the SRSG updated the Adviser on the UN's role with regard to the electoral process and political transition. The Adviser reiterated that a peaceful, stable and united Afghanistan was in Pakistan's vital interest. Emphasizing Pakistan's policy of non-interference, he underscored Pakistan's support for a peaceful democratic transition in Afghanistan, including through completion of the remaining steps in the electoral process in a timely manner and fulfillment of the commitments made by the two Presidential candidates. He reiterated the hope that Afghanistan would emerge stronger and more unified at the culmination of this process.

The Adviser also stressed the importance of deeper engagement of the United Nations and the international community in the reconstruction and economic development of Afghanistan. SRSG Jan Kubis also called on Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry and exchanged views on Afghanistan and regional processes. The Foreign Secretary highlighted

22. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, July 21, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=2100>

23. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, July 26, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=2114>

December 2013 - December 2014

Pakistan's continued commitment to support efforts for Afghanistan's stability and the regional endeavours for economic development. He also reiterated the imperative need for the international community to assist in the creation of conducive conditions for the early return of Afghan refugees from Pakistan and their sustainable reintegration in Afghanistan. During the meetings, UNAMA's role in capacity-building and technical assistance in Afghanistan, under the leadership of SRSG Jan Kubis, was appreciated.²⁴

Special Representative of the Secretary General on Afghanistan, Mr. Jan Kubis called on Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry: September 24, 2014

Special Representative of the Secretary General on Afghanistan, Jan Kubis called on Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry September 24, 2014. The Foreign Secretary reaffirmed Pakistan's continued commitment to peace and stability in Afghanistan. He informed SRSG Kubis that Pakistan had welcomed the agreement on formation of the Government of National unity and that Pakistan's leadership had congratulated President- elect Ashraf Ghani. The Foreign Secretary said that Islamabad looked forward to working with the new Afghan Government to further develop trust between the two countries. He also paid tribute to SRSG Kubis for his contributions to Afghanistan's development and progress over the last three years. □SRSG Kubis briefed the Foreign Secretary on the United Nations Assistance Mission to Afghanistan's (UNAMA) contributions to the conclusion of the electoral audit and its facilitation efforts to bridge the gaps between the two Presidential candidates. Formation of the government of national unity would be a major step towards stabilization of Afghanistan, Kubis concluded.²⁵

The US Special Representative on Afghanistan and Pakistan, Mr. Dan Feldman, called on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs: October 28, 2014

The US Special Representative on Afghanistan and Pakistan, Dan Feldman, called on the Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs on October 28, 2014. The discussions focused

on bilateral relations, recent developments in Afghanistan and in Pakistan-Afghanistan relations and relations with India. During the meeting, Pakistan's support for a peaceful, stable, united and prosperous Afghanistan was reaffirmed.

The Adviser stated that Pakistan was determined to open a new chapter in its relations with Afghanistan. Also Pakistan would extend support for an Afghan led reconciliation process. The SRAP was told that Pakistan was engaging with Afghanistan across a broad range of issues – including peace and security, trade and economic ties, reconstruction and rehabilitation, and regional cooperation. Pakistan hoped that the upcoming visit by Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, would move this process forward.

Mr. Dan Feldman acknowledged Pakistan's important contribution towards peace and stability and deeper engagement on issues of trade and economic cooperation with Afghanistan. He said that the United States was willing to extend its full support in this regard. On India, he agreed that there was a need to resume the dialogue process as expeditiously as possible.²⁶

24. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, August 27, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=2182>

25. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, September 24, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=2249>

26. For details, please see Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press Release, October 28, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=2332>

December 2013 - December 2014

Trilateral Summits: December 2013-December 2014

8th Trilateral Summit of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Turkey: February 12-13, 2014; Ankara, Turkey²⁷

President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, President of the Republic of Turkey and Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan held their eighth Trilateral Summit Meeting in Ankara, on February 13, 2014.

On the occasion of the Trilateral Summit, the three Leaders held fruitful and comprehensive talks on regional and international security issues at a time when the Heart of Asia is going through a decisive period for the future and significant developments that may have impact on efforts to promote peace and security in the region are expected to take place.

The leaders reiterated the importance of the ongoing electoral process in Afghanistan in securing a smooth and successful political transition in the country, and underlined in this regard the necessity of a suitable security environment. They underscored that the international community should continue to contribute to the efforts aiming at supporting Afghan-led and Afghan-owned processes, including those concentrating on further enhancing the Afghan National Security Forces. The leaders emphasised the pivotal importance of a political settlement within the framework of the Afghan Constitution, to ensure durable peace in Afghanistan and called upon the Afghan Taliban to join the peace process. They also stressed the importance of enhanced cooperation between Afghanistan and Pakistan as immediate neighbours and the need to taking practical steps in supporting the Peace and Reconciliation Process.

Quadrilateral Summits: December 2013-December 2014

Quadrilateral Summit of the Presidents of Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan & Tajikistan:

March 27, 2014, Kabul, Afghanistan²⁸

The quadrilateral Summit between the presidents of Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and Tajikistan was held on March 27, 2014 in Kabul, Afghanistan. During the Summit, President Mamnoon shared Pakistan's perspective on issues relating to peace and security and underscored the possibilities of regional cooperation in diverse fields including trade, communications, infrastructure and energy.

The President also wished Afghanistan well on its security, political and economic transitions. He reaffirmed Pakistan's support for an inclusive, Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace and reconciliation process, stressing on that "the road to sustainable peace in Afghanistan lies only through peaceful dialogue."

The Quadrilateral Summit adopted a Joint Statement which inter alia emphasizes the importance of regional peace and stability, counter-terrorism cooperation, inclusive and transparent elections in Afghanistan, promotion of Afghan reconciliation process, and constructive regional cooperation as an effective means to peace, stability and social and economic development. The statement also emphasizes the importance of timely and sustainable return of Afghan refugees and the need for continued supportive role of the international community in this regard.

Trilateral Dialogues: December 2013-December 2014

Trilateral Dialogues: Pakistan, China & Afghanistan: December 2013- December 2nd Trilateral Dialogue Pakistan, China & Afghanistan; October 19, 2014²⁹

China, Afghanistan and Pakistan today held trilateral dialogue here and discussed a range of strategic issues including drawing a roadmap for regional cooperation on war-torn Afghanistan and strengthening ties among them for peace and stability in the region.

The two-day track 1.5 dialogue among officials and experts of the three countries was organised by

27. For details, please see Press Releases Archive, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, February 14, 2014: <http://www.mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=1726>

28. For details, please see Joint Statement between Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Republic of Tajikistan, Office of the President Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, March 27, 2014: <http://president.gov.af/en/news/joint-statement-islamic-republic-of-afghanistan-islamic-republic-of-iran-islamic-republic-of-pakistan-and-republic-of-tajikistan>

29. For details, please see China-Afghanistan-Pakistan discuss roadmap for regional stability, The Economic Times, October 19, 2014: http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2014-10-19/news/55197418_1_afghan-national-security-forces-trilateral-dialogue-cooperation

Pakistan-China Institute (PCI) and German agency Konrad Adenauer Stiftung.

London Conference on Afghanistan: December 04-05, 2014, London, United Kingdom

The UK and Afghanistan co-hosted the London Conference on Afghanistan (LCA) on December 04-05, 2014) where 59 countries reaffirmed their commitment to supporting Afghanistan to become a secure and stable nation after drawdown is completed at the end of the year. Speakers included President Ashraf Ghani, who set out his plan to reform Afghanistan, along with the UK Prime Minister David Cameron, Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif and US Secretary of State John Kerry.

In his speech, President Ghani outlined steps he has already taken to deliver on his ambitious agenda to reform Afghanistan and deliver economic security by tackling corruption, maintaining the progress made on national security and placing women's and civil rights at the heart of the country's future prosperity.

Prime Minister Sharif reiterated Pakistan's solidarity with the people of Afghanistan and urged the international community to do more to help the Afghan leadership realise its vision. He said Islamabad and Kabul were committed to advancing their common goal of a peaceful, stable, united and prosperous Afghanistan.³⁰

30. For details, please see Allies promise support for Afghanistan beyond war, Dawn, December 05, 2014: <http://www.dawn.com/news/1148896>

December 2013 - December 2014

Other Pakistan-Afghanistan Interactions: December 2013- December 2014

Senator Afrasiab Khattak met Mr. Ashraf Ghani, President of Afghanistan: November 15, 2014

Senator Afrasiab Khattak (ANP, KP) after meeting President Ghani said he was impressed by clarity of Mr. Ashraf Ghani's vision and his ambitions for making the war-torn Afghanistan a peaceful country. Khattak added the political wisdom of Afghan President Ghani would prove a good omen for the region particularly for the militancy-hit people of Afghanistan and Pakistan. ANP Chief Asfandyar Wali reiterated that Pakistan and Afghanistan needed joint efforts to combat militancy, hoping leaders of both countries could overcome the menace of terrorism.³¹

Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarian Delegation calls on Afghan President: November 15, 2014

A five-member PPPP delegation led by opposition leader in the Senate Senator Aitzaz Ahsan (PPPP, Punjab) called on the visiting Afghan President Ashraf Ghani in Islamabad on November 15, 2014. The other members of delegation included former Federal Minister/Ambassador Ms. Sherry Rehman, provincial party president Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Khanzada Khan, former Deputy Speaker Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi and Senator Farhatullah Babar (PPPP, KP). The PPPP delegation felicitated the Afghan President on his election as President and welcomed him on his visit to Pakistan.

Taking note of the Afghan President's recent remarks to reset ties with Pakistan Senator Aitzaz Ahsan (PPPP, Punjab) expressed hope that the visit will break fresh ground in exploring avenues of cooperation and removing mistrust between the two countries. He also conveyed warm sentiments of Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and former President Asif Ali Zardari towards Afghan President and the people of Afghanistan.

Talking on the occasion the PPPP delegation said that the Party has all along emphasized removing mistrust

and building close cooperative relationship between the two countries through enhanced trade and security cooperation and building of an economic corridor connecting South Asia with Central Asia. The Party will continue to support efforts aimed at bringing peace, stability and prosperity to Afghanistan on which he said also depended peace and security of Pakistan.³²

31. For details, please see Pak politicians impressed by Ghani's vision, Nation, November 16, 2014: <http://nation.com.pk/islamabad/16-Nov-2014/pak-politicians-impressed-by-ghani-s-vision>

32. For details, please see PPPP delegation calls on Afghan President, PPPP Media Cell, November 15, 2014: <http://mediacellppp.wordpress.com/2014/11/15/ppp-delegation-calls-on-afghan-president-pakistan/>



Islamabad Office: P. O. Box 278, F-8, Postal Code: 44220, Islamabad, Pakistan
Lahore Office: P. O. Box 11098, L.C.C.H.S, Postal Code: 54792, Lahore, Pakistan
E-mail: info@youthparliament.pk | Website: www.youthparliament.pk