

**In The Name of God the Almighty**

**Statement By**

**H.E. Dr Ali Akbar Salehi**

**Minister of Foreign Affairs of Islamic Republic of Iran**

**Before The Second International Conference On Afghanistan**

**Bonn , Germany, 5 December 2011**

**Mr, President  
Distinguished delegates  
Ladies and Gentlemen**

I would like to begin by expressing my appreciation to the organizers of this conference, particularly the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany as the host country and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan as the president of the Conference

**Mr. President**

The neighboring Afghanistan is a brotherly and friendly country whose stability and security is of critical importance for the Islamic republic of Iran. Hence, Iran has always supported initiatives to hold international conferences aimed at advancing the cause of stability and development in Afghanistan.

The first Bonn Conference held in 2001 was a fruitful initiative as a result of which a legitimate and legally sound Government and a national popular Parliament were formed. We played an important part in these processes and will spare no effort in contributing to the development and stability of Afghanistan.

The reconstruction of Afghanistan's infrastructures and its overall development would underpin security throughout the country and , therefore, must be the center of attention the international community. The Islamic Republic of Iran continues to actively contribute to the reconstruction of Afghanistan and extends its hand for cooperation to all friendly countries to that effect.

**Mr. President,**

Unfortunately, during the past 10 years peace and security have not been restored in Afghanistan: the development of foreign forces in this country has not only failed to uproot terrorism but has rather caused this scourge to take hold even deeper.

That said, Iran strongly supports handing the security affairs over to the Afghanistan national military/police and departure of the foreign military forces. We believe that Afghanistan's security challenges could not be resolved by military means, and that inter-Afghans dialogue could be strengthened with the assistance and cooperation of Afghanistan's neighboring countries. We would like to stress, that the supreme council of peace of Afghanistan, should be highly appreciated

and supported as an appropriate way for peace dialogues among Afghans.

**Mr. President**

It must be noted that certain western countries seek to extend their military presence in Afghanistan beyond 2014 by maintaining their military bases there. We deem such approach as to be contradicting the efforts to sustain stability and security in Afghanistan. We believe that any international and/or regional initiative to restore peace and security in Afghanistan could only be successful if they discard the presence of foreign military forces and especially disallow the founding of foreign military bases in Afghanistan

**Mr. President,**

The Islamic Republic of Iran condemns violation of human rights by foreign military forces, including frequent attacks and residential areas, and urges the international community, particularly the Bonn conference, to be responsive toward such violations and take the necessary measures to halt the continuous violations of human rights by foreign militaries in Afghanistan.

In conclusion, I would like to highlight the Islamic Republic of Iran stand ready to actively participate in Afghanistan's reconstruction programs and pray the Almighty to bless this brotherly and friendly country with stability, security and peace.