



**Statement of H.E. Dr. Ahmad Mohamed Ali,
President, Islamic Development Bank Group (IDBG)
International Conference on Afghanistan
Bonn, 5December 2011**

**Honorable Chairman,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Allow me at the beginning of this short statement, to express my true thanks and gratitude on behalf of IDB Delegation to the people and Government of Germany for hosting this Conference. My sincere thanks and appreciation are also due to the Leadership of Government of Afghanistan for their countless efforts in bringing the International Community, to share their future development agenda, and get the our feedback for the better future of the people of Afghanistan. I am also thankful to all Development Partners for their commitment to the people of Afghanistan.

IDB, as a firm participant in various regional and international forums on the development and reconstruction of Afghanistan, believes this Conference will be an important milestone through concerted efforts of the international community since the first Bonn Conference.

The IDB, being a multi-lateral development Bank with 56 member countries, is committed to fostering economic development and social progress in its member countries with more emphasis on the least developed members, among which Afghanistan. The IDB is proud of its partnership with Afghanistan as a founding member. Since inception, the IDB has been supporting Afghanistan throughout the difficult times of conflict and transition in various areas i.e. from fast humanitarian assistance to internally displaced Afghan population and Afghan refugees, to regionally oriented infrastructure projects in transport, power, water and irrigation, to supporting



human development through education and health sector projects.

**Honorable Chairman,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I am pleased to point out that ‘regional cooperation and economic integration’ is in the heart of IDB’s strategic agenda to support Afghanistan. In order to enhance our already very strong partnership with the Government of Afghanistan, I have visited Kabul in October 2011 and signed an MoU with the Government. The IDB reiterated in this MoU to focus its intervention on developing north-south linkages in the transport, water, and energy sectors by leveraging the strategic location of Afghanistan as a ‘land bridge’ and ‘Asian Roundabout’. The IDB will continue its supports in capacity building of Afghani institutions, Islamic Banking and Finance. IDB will also cooperate with the Government of Afghanistan for mobilizing funds from its Member Countries and

development partners through the activation of the Trust Fund established by OIC Foreign Ministers in 2002 in Doha.

**Honorable Chairman,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Before closing, I would like to take this opportunity to assure the international community at this Conference that IDB is fully prepared to play its due role as the international community is preparing to assist Afghanistan with a long-term political, security, and economic vision with the theme of ‘from transition to transformation’ through 2014.

I also would like to express IDB’s readiness to cooperate with all MDBs, Bilateral institutions, donor agencies, and international organizations in their noble effort to support the people of Afghanistan.

Thank you.