



سفارت و نمایندگی
جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان
ژنیو - سویس

EMBASSY & MISSION of
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC of AFGHANISTAN
Geneva - Switzerland

د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوریت
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Afghanistan's Statement under agenda Item 4 a, International Protection

ExCom 2023

Thank you madam chair,

Afghanistan continues to be devastated by conflicts, political instability and natural disasters leading to a significant increase in the number of Afghan refugees and asylum seekers. Many of these individuals are fleeing from the atrocities committed by the Taliban, seeking safety and protection in neighboring countries and beyond. However, the international community should not turn a blind eye to their plight, as the recent waves of mass deportations, punishments, and beatings suffered by Afghanistan refugees in Pakistan, Iran, and Turkish border are deeply concerning. While we appreciate Iran and Pakistan's decades long generous hospitality, particularly even after recent mass arrival in Iran, we draw attention to these disturbing incidents.

The Refugee Convention of 1951 outlines the rights and protections that should be afforded to refugees. It is essential that these principles are upheld, particularly in light of the current circumstances in Afghanistan. The international community in particular, bear a responsibility to assist those trapped in transit countries or those already inside their borders. These individuals often face life-threatening situations and should not be subjected to further harm or returned to a place where they will face persecution and violence at the hands of the Taliban.

Madam Chair,

One group particularly at risk is the girl activists and protesters who have been trapped in Pakistan for over a year. These courageous individuals have stood up against injustice and fought for their rights, but find themselves in limbo, unable to return to Afghanistan and facing uncertainty about their future. It is imperative that they are not forced back into the hands of the Taliban, where their safety and well-being would be in grave danger.

Developed nations could step forward to alleviate the plight of Afghan refugees and asylum seekers providing safety and expedite the processing of asylum claims, ensuring that individuals are granted refuge based on genuine need. Additionally, financial and logistical support should



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be extended to countries hosting large numbers of Afghan refugees, to adequately care for and protect these vulnerable individuals.

the escalating crisis in Afghanistan necessitates international protection for refugees and asylum seekers fleeing the Taliban's atrocities. The recent incidents of mass deportations, punishments, and beatings in neighboring countries highlight the urgent need for adherence to the Refugee Convention of 1951.

I thank you