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FROM: KOENIGS, UNAMA, KABUL

DATE: 14 November 2007

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SUBJECT: UNAMA Weekly Summary Report for the period
7 - 13 November 2007

Herewith, please find the above-mentioned UNAMA weekly report

Best regards,

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I. Security

1. All regions reported comparable or lower incident levels than the previous week; however the types of incidents remained consistent, with insurgents continuing to focus on asymmetric style attacks. Military operations remain ongoing in much of the SR, SER, WR, and ER.
2. The week's security reporting was dominated by the BBIED attack on 6 November in Baghlan Province targeting a parliamentary delegation visiting a sugar factory. A man wearing a suicide vest approached the delegation and detonated the device which was filled with ball bearings. Following the explosion, some of the security guards opened fire on the surrounding crowd. Current reporting indicates 63 people were killed and an additional 136 injured, with six MPs, six school children, and four teachers among the dead. No group has yet claimed responsibility for the attack, which is perhaps not surprising given the large number of casualties, especially children. The Taliban have sought to exploit the incident for propaganda purposes. Investigations into the incident continue. Despite credible reports of possible attacks, the funeral and mourning period passed without incident.
3. Insurgent attacks on district administrative centres continued during the week, particularly in Farah Province. These included an attack on Kijran District in Dai Kundi Province and Khaki Safed District of Farah Province during which AGE burned an NGO office in addition to several GoA buildings. There were also numerous reports of night letters and assassinations, primarily in the SR and SER, including three beheadings and the shooting of a Provincial Council member in Helmand Province while he was on his way home from the mosque. These temporary takeovers combined with the ongoing intimidation campaign continue to provide AGE with substantial propaganda victories.
4. The month of October saw a slight decrease in the number of security incidents, 4% lower than the month of September. It should be noted that October 2007 recorded 18% more incidents than October 2006. This slight decrease in the number of security incidents since the peak in July may create the impression of an improving security situation, whereas in fact the situation remains highly volatile.
5. The NR, WR, SR and CR experienced a decrease during the month, with all other regions reporting an increase in security incidents. The types of incidents recorded in October continued to show a shift in insurgent tactics towards asymmetric style attacks, such as IED attacks and stand-off attacks, and away from large scale direct clashes with security forces. While the start of the month was relatively uneventful, following the end of Ramadan there were numerous indications that both sides of the Afghan conflict intended to continue operations into the winter. The last ten days of the month saw significant increases in activity, first as IM and ANSF commenced several operations, and second when insurgent initiated actions drastically increased.
6. The next reporting period will likely see relatively consistent, and perhaps slightly lower, numbers of incidents with a continued use of small scale armed

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clashes, intimidation, assassinations, stand-off attacks, IEDs and suicide attacks by insurgents throughout the country as well as continued criminal and factional activity in the north and west. Abduction for political or criminal motives remains the highest threat to UN staff followed by attacks against UN programmes and facilities for localised factional reasons and thirdly, collateral damage due to IED and suicide attacks.

II. Political Developments

7. In response to 6 November's suicide attack that killed six Wolesi Jirga members, the National Assembly and the Government declared a three-day mourning period, which the Taliban publicly opposed on the grounds that no such ceremony has attended other cases of heavy loss of life. Five of the lawmakers have been buried in Kabul near the site of the future parliament building, where descendants of King Amanullah are also buried. All six wakils were members of the Wolesi Jirga Economic Commission. On 8 November, the SRSG and several other UNAMA staff attended the burial ceremony. This attack brings the total number of members of both Houses killed since the elections to nine. On November 10, Parliament established two Commissions: one to ensure the families of the martyrs are supported and the second to oversee the investigation.
8. The Independent Directorate for Local Governance (IDLG) head, Jelani Popal, recently returned from a visit to Wardak with recommendations for the government and other stakeholders. In particular, he strongly stressed the need to reinforce ANP in Wardak: out of 1,200 police on the payroll, he was able to confirm the presence of only 50-60 on duty. There were also serious issues surrounding police salary payments. He commented that the new Chief of Police needed adequate authority and support for a pro-active stance.
9. The Supreme Court is apparently urging President Karzai to authorize further executions. UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Louise Arbour will visit Afghanistan the week of November 18 to discuss the human rights and transitional justice agenda, with particular attention to protection of civilians, advancement and empowerment of women and land and property issues. She will meet the UNCT, bilateral heads of mission, and travel to two provinces.
10. Vice President Khalili met with the relevant commission this week on both humanitarian coordination and DIAG. With regard to the former, he agreed to reinforce government efforts to prepare for potentially large-scale returns and deportations from Iran. With regard to the latter, he agreed to oversee enactment of the private security company regulation in the coming weeks, to pursue changes to the Ministry of Interior administrative structure (tashkil) required to allow capacity-building for DIAC to take place, and to explore synergies between district-focused initiatives now underway on governance (IDLG), counter-narcotics (GPI), police reform (FDD) and DIAG itself (DDI). The international community expressed strong support for the transparency and relative success with which the government was pursuing DIAG.

Human Rights

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11. Authorities confirmed that an honour killing took place in Nazian district, Nangarhar province, on 27 October. According to authorities, the victim was killed for family revenge after his cousin reportedly raped a girl. The girl is currently at home with her family and UNAMA and the AIHRC will monitor her security. ANP failed to arrest the perpetrator, claiming that the suspect had "escaped." This is the 32nd honour killing reported to UNAMA since January 2007.
12. UNAMA followed up on an alleged kidnapping case, which demonstrates the lack of proper implementation of the rule of law in the Central Highlands. The case concerns a young man who has been accused of kidnapping a girl in Bamyan, even though it would appear that the young woman went willingly in an attempt to avoid a forced marriage. The young man is the son of a former police recruitment officer. The father has been accused of complicity in the alleged kidnapping and was detained. AIHRC and UNAMA intervened with the authorities in an effort to ensure the proper implementation of the rule of law and along with the Provincial Council, are currently working on the safety of the runaway girl once she arrives in Bamyan to give her statement in Court.
13. In connection with the civilian casualties in Batikot district as a result of a night search operation by Afghan Special Forces and international military forces, UNAMA verified that a 70 year old man, 13 year old girl and 3 year old boy were killed and five civilians injured during this operation. The injured included a 3 year old girl and 60 year old woman, each of whom lost one leg as a result of shrapnel/gun fire injuries. UNAMA interviewed witnesses and family members of the deceased, including one of the men detained by CF/ANSF and NDS. The interviewees confirmed previously reported information but also stated that two of the men had been beaten by the ANSF with rifle butts with the acquiescence of the international soldiers present during the operation. It was also reported that one of the victim's corpses was maltreated by an ANSF soldier in potential violation of international humanitarian law, which is of further concern.

RRR

14. On 5 November, UNAMA attended the board meeting of National Human Development Report. During the meeting, participants discussed the launching of the National Human Development Report, which is going to take place on 18 November. The board members requested UNAMA's regional offices support in terms of coordination and participation of relevant government and non-government agencies in the provinces for the awareness programmes.
15. On 7 November, UNAMA attended a donor meeting called by Minister of Economy, Dr. Mohammad Jalil Shams to seek comments and finalize his proposed Terms of Reference for the ICCD (Inter-ministerial Capacity Development Commission), which will be signed by the president as a decree. During the meeting, the purpose, composition, scope of work, management arrangements of ICCD and a Capacity Development Trust Fund (CDTF) similar to ARTF were discussed. It was agreed that IDLG should be also included in the core members of the ICCD because they have responsibilities for certain capacity development projects.

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16. On 10 November, UNAMA participated in a briefing hosted by the Ministry of Finance on the Afghan National Development Strategy (ANDS), chaired by the Deputy Minister of Finance Shahrani, on the proposed medium term budget ceilings, as approved by the ANDS Oversight Committee. Once approved by the cabinet, it would guide budgetary allocations to Ministries over the 5-year period of the ANDS covering all three budgetary frameworks - recurrent, development and external budgets. The proposal envisages a ceiling of US\$ 35 billion for this 5-year period, of which US\$ 6.5 billion would be raised domestically.
17. On 11 November, UNAMA participated in the 8th Cross Cutting Consultative Group (CCCCG) meeting on Gender in the ANDS office. The Deputy Minister of Women Affairs (MoWA) chaired the meeting. The main problem in this CG was that only representatives of the Civil Service Commission (CSC) attended the meeting and there were no representatives from other line Ministries. At present only 17% civil servants are women and the number is increasing because MoWA is recruiting more women in the Ministry as well as in the provinces. According to the benchmark of the Afghanistan Compact, it is expected that the number will increase to 30% by 2010, therefore stronger support and advocacy for gender mainstreaming will be needed.

III. Regional Developments**North**

18. In a show of solidarity, Balkh University undergraduates condemned the attack on innocent civilians and MPs killed last week in the Baghlan factory attack. The undergraduates called for the perpetrators to be swiftly brought to justice. In another student motivated event, nearly 200 students from the Sharia faculty at Balkh University, orchestrated a demonstration against a fellow student, accused of spreading anti Islamic sentiment, in the form of texts adapted from the internet.
19. On 4 November, the German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, visited the German regional command at Camp Marmol. Statements in support of the police reform process were made, however the chancellor reiterated that the German military would not broaden its operations and engage in the south of Afghanistan.
20. In Balkh, the Governor's Executive Director, Mr. Razaqyar, inaugurated the asphaltting and repairing of 1.3 km of the Ariana Main Road in Mazar city, funded by four Afghan businessmen. In Faryab, the Deputy Head of the Rural Rehabilitation and Development (RRD) Department laid the foundations for two schools in Pashtun Kot and Khoja Sabz Posh districts. Furthermore, the RRD laid the foundations for a middle school and established three Community Development Committees in Qata Qala village in Pashtun Kot district. Implementation of these projects is a fundamental step towards the achievement of universal primary education in the area.
21. The graduation of 23 female police members who successfully completed a four-month sergeant's course took place in Badakhshan on 4 November. PC

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members responding to a DoWA request have committed themselves to assist DoWA in promoting among communities the recruitment of more women to the police, with the aim to increase the female staff in the Badakhshan ANP.

South

22. Around 600 to 700 families have been relocated by the local authorities from Marghar IDP camp to Khyber Ghar of Pajwai district (Kandahar) for the past week. Reportedly, IDPs are in a desperate situation and need water, food and sanitary facilities. In an emergency meeting at UNAMA on 11 November, UN agencies agreed to start to preposition food and NFI for affected families while waiting for the official request from the provincial authorities. It was also decided that the heads of relevant UN agencies would request a meeting with the provincial governor to stress the importance of humanitarian coordination.
23. On 6 November, UN agencies met at UNAMA to discuss the request of Provincial Disaster Management Committees for the assistance of battle-affected families and Kuchi (nomads) families of Kandahar and Helmand provinces. Participants included representatives from IOM, UNHCR, WFP and UNICEF. The meeting determined that assistance for 1,043 battle affected families of Musa Qala, Sangeen and Kajaki (Helmand) that currently live in Arghandab and Dand district of Kandahar province will be provided next week; that the distribution of food and NFI by UNICEF, UNHCR and WFP for 2,500 Kuchi families in Kandahar city will start on 11 October.

West

24. In Farah province, there has been fallout between provincial authorities and PC/elders. It is of great concern to the PC and to elders that the Farah Governor and his security officials are downplaying the current deterioration in security and they have not taken any significant measures against the kidnappings in Farah province. The situation has been exacerbated by the release of Noor Mohammed, an alleged kidnapper from Bal Buluk district, due to intervention of the Governor and senior officials from Kabul. Farah Governor and his security officials have requested that UNAMA ask the police reform committee to reconsider increasing the number of ANPs in each of the districts of eastern Farah.
25. In response to the request of the UNRT, UNAMA drafted a document on how to improve the effectiveness of humanitarian coordination and response in the Western Region. Prior to its implementation, this document, "Humanitarian Coordination Structures," in which UNHCR is to lead the IDPs related issues in the Western Region will be further discussed with the UN agencies next week. The proposed coordination structure describes who and how to coordinate a timely, effective and collective response to the current and the increasing humanitarian needs in the Region.
26. UNAMA has been monitoring the reported displacement of 30 families from Gulistan district to Delaram district of Farah Province. There are also unconfirmed reports of more displacement from Gulistan and Bakwa to other

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parts of Farah Province. DoRR and the P-CDMT have been making every effort to confirm the exact localities and figures, and assess their situation. This is because most parts of Farah Province have not been easily accessible due to the deteriorating security situation in the Province. The American PRT agreed to assist the mentioned battle-affected 30 displaced families by providing food and non-food assistance through DoRR/CDMT in Farah Province. These families have been allegedly assumed to be the relatives of the Gulistan district officials, who left the area probably due to jeopardy.

27. UNAMA assisted ANDMA in consolidating the Regional Winter Response Plan for the Western provinces. Once endorsed by the R-CDMT, the mentioned plan will be shared with relevant government departments, UN agencies, I/NGOs and PRTs for their pursuance in the Region. This is in view of the fact that the Regional and Provincial CDMTs should oversee and facilitate the implementation of the mentioned plan as circumstances required.

East

28. The US Ambassador to Afghanistan visited Kunar province and met with the local administration, PC members and tribal elders, along with the ISAF/PRT/CF operating in the province. His visit to the province, stricken with insurgency and marked with an increase in civilian casualties, renews the commitment of the government of the United States of America to the people of Kunar to pave the way for further development in the area.
29. DIAG-targeted IAGs from Khewa district in Nangarhar handed over 10 light weapons to DIAG in an open meeting attended by almost 60 tribal elders, Ulomas and ANBP officials. Meanwhile, ANBP held a number of meetings with district officials of targeted districts (Behsoud, Bafikot, Surkhroad and Dara-e-Noor) to accelerate the process.

Central

30. UNAMA is conducting Disaster Management workshops in all districts in Bamyan province. The first workshop was completed in Panjab on 7 November and the district workshop for Waras is currently being implemented. The workshop is aimed at the preparedness and response of local communities and better coordination among the different stakeholders for operational and logistical issues in the district. It is also a platform whereby a bottom-up approach to disaster mitigation is discussed and ultimately enhances quick responses in the situation of disasters.
31. Efforts to enhance good governance in Dai Kundi continue with a number of transparency and accountability initiatives. For the first time, the Department of Public Health organized a Public Hearing meeting in Nili, Dai Kundi. Current activities of the DoPH and its future plans were briefed to the public. People took the opportunity to ask questions and share their concerns with the department in front of the Deputy Governor and other representatives of the people. The program was facilitated by the Provincial Council, financially supported by USAID and implemented by NDI (a local NGO) in Dai Kundi.

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32. On October 10, UNAMA arranged a meeting of the Bagram District leadership and the elders from the district. Security issues and DIAG implementation were the main point on the meeting's agenda. The Bagram representatives committed themselves to surrendering all 108 weapons from the approved by the JS DIAG list by 29 November.

[Drafted by Suh - OSRSG]