



NATO's commitment to Afghanistan after 2014

The end of 2014 will mark the completion of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) mission. ISAF was established in 2001, at the request of the Afghan authorities and as mandated by the United Nations Security Council. Its task was to help the Afghan authorities provide security and develop new national security forces, so that Afghanistan never again becomes a safe haven for international terrorists. Today, Afghanistan is no longer a refuge for international terrorism. Over 350,000 Afghan national security forces are on the path to take full security responsibility by the end of 2014, as agreed with the Afghan authorities at the NATO Chicago Summit in 2012.

Afghanistan still faces many challenges, including security challenges. These will not disappear at the end of 2014. As agreed with the Afghan authorities at the 2012 NATO Chicago Summit, NATO remains committed to Afghanistan after 2014. NATO's engagement after 2014 will have three inter-related components: a NATO-led Resolute Support mission to train, advise and assist the Afghan security forces and institutions; a contribution to the broad effort of financial sustainment of Afghan security forces and institutions; and the NATO-Afghanistan Enduring Partnership.



Financial sustainment of the Afghan security forces in the long term

Since 2007, ISAF nations have been further contributing to the development of the Afghan National Security Forces through the Afghanistan National Army (ANA) Trust Fund. The Fund originally provided a mechanism for ISAF nations to support the transportation and installation costs of donated equipment, the purchase of ANA equipment and services, and in-and out-of country training.

The scope of the ANA Trust Fund was expanded in 2009 to support the long-term sustainment of the ANA and then further expanded in 2011 to support long-term literacy, English language training and professional military education of Afghan National Security Forces.

The ANA Trust Fund is open for contributions by the broader International Community.

At the NATO Summit in Chicago in May 2012, NATO Allies and ISAF nations agreed that, as part of the International Community, and building upon existing mechanisms, they would play their part in developing appropriate, coherent and effective funding mechanisms and expenditures arrangements for the Afghan National Security Forces after 2014. Such mechanisms would have to be flexible, transparent, accountable and cost effective and would need to include measures against corruption. Multiple funding streams would continue to exist.

The preliminary model for a future total size of the Afghan National Security Forces, defined by the International Community and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, envisages a force of 228,500 with an estimated annual budget of US\$ 4.1 billion, and will be reviewed regularly against the developing security environment.

Following an agreement by NATO Foreign Ministers in April 2013, the ANA Trust Fund has been adapted as one of those funding streams. New provisions of the adapted ANA Trust Fund were agreed to at the December 2013 Foreign Ministers' meeting. These notably stipulate that:

- The adapted ANA Trust Fund will continue to focus its activities on the Afghan National Army primarily, while retaining the existing flexibility to provide support to other elements of the Afghan National Security Forces as necessary.
- Funds will be allocated against the Afghan security forces requirements plan, which the Afghan authorities will develop.
- The United States will continue to manage the Fund until 2017; any extension of this mandate after 2017 will be subject to future decisions.
- The use of the adapted ANA Trust Fund will be regulated by a yearly Implementation Plan which will include estimated costs, timelines and performance objectives.
- The management and implementation of the adapted ANA Trust Fund will be subject to annual audit.
- An ANA Trust Fund Board will be constituted to monitor the ANA Trust Fund and to review its cost effectiveness, financial integrity and accountability. The Board is composed of national representatives of donor nations and the Trust Fund manager. The ANA Trust Fund Board had its first inaugural meeting in Brussels on 1 September 2014.



The lead responsibility for the financial sustainment of the Afghan National Security Forces rests with the Afghan government. At the Chicago Summit, the Afghan authorities agreed to provide at least 500 million Euros per year at the start, with their contribution increasing steadily over time. The Afghan authorities have committed to undertake full financial responsibility for the annual sustainment of their security forces no later than 2024.

Resolute Support Mission

Resolute Support will be a non combat, NATO-led mission designed to help establish processes and systems that will allow the Afghan government to effectively provide for its national security in a sustainable manner. It will carry out training, advising and assistance activities at the security ministries and national institutional levels and at the higher levels of the Army and Police. This new mission will have several functions. These will include, amongst others:

- Supporting planning, programming and budgeting;
- Assuring transparency, accountability and oversight;
- Supporting the adherence to the principles of rule of law and good governance;
- Supporting the establishment and sustainment of such processes as force generation, recruiting, training, managing and development of personnel.

Resolute Support will initially have approximately 12,000 personnel from NATO Allies and Partners. It will operate with one hub (Kabul/Bagram) and four spokes (Mazar-e-Sharif, Herat, Kandahar, and Jalalabad).

The detailed operation plan for Resolute Support was approved by the Foreign Ministers from NATO member and partner countries at the end of June 2014. This is an important step in finalizing the necessary preparations to establish this new, NATO-led mission. However, Resolute Support will only be launched if the required legal framework is in place.

NATO-Afghanistan Enduring Partnership

At the NATO Lisbon Summit in 2010, NATO and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan signed a Declaration on an Enduring Partnership. The Enduring Partnership provides a framework for long term political consultations and practical cooperation between NATO and Afghanistan after 2014.

The Enduring Partnership includes a series of agreed programmes and activities made available to Afghanistan. Many of these programmes are capacity building efforts, including professional military education programmes. Afghan security institutions will be able to draw from the tools currently available in the Building Integrity programme. This programme provides practical tools to help participating countries strengthen integrity, transparency and accountability, and reduce the risk of corruption in defence and security sectors. Part of this practical cooperation will include supporting the process to normalise the aviation sector, with the aim of establishing an independent Civil Aviation Authority, civil emergency planning and disaster preparedness, and continued public diplomacy efforts.

At the NATO Summit in Chicago in 2012, NATO and the Afghan government reaffirmed their commitment to further develop the NATO-Afghanistan Enduring Partnership. The Enduring Partnership will evolve to reflect the changing nature of NATO's mission and its relationship with Afghanistan and the gradual development of Afghan institutions. This recognises the strategic importance of NATO's engagement in Afghanistan and further underscores the commitment to global partnerships outlined in the 2010 NATO Strategic Concept.



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