



Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission

Text of Video Statement by Dr. Sima Samar, Chairperson of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, addressing 35th Session of Human Rights Council, related to Item 10 of the Agenda

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen;

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome His Excellency High Commissioner's report on Afghanistan. The report indicates the need for more work and joined efforts for promotion and protection of human rights in my country.

Mr. President;

I would also like to acknowledge the remarkable progress of the AIHRC, the Afghan Government and International Partners, including the Office of the High Commissioner on promotion, protection and fulfillments of human rights in Afghanistan.

This progress includes but is not limited, to the reform of the laws according to the International Human Rights Conventions, progress on fight against torture, realization of civil, political, economic and social rights of all the people.

The continuation of conflict, insecurity and acts of terrorism is a major threat to this success and continue to cause violations of human rights.

Taliban, ISIS and other forces continue to commit human rights violations without accountability and with full impunity.

Last year in Afghanistan, we witnessed a new level of increased attacks on civilians, civilian places, mosques and religious minority group, which in turn increased civilian casualties.



Taliban and ISIS claimed most of the responsibilities of those attacks, including suicide, mass killings of people in public places, target killings and extra judicial punishment of innocent, men and women.

The parties to conflict, of course are not only Taliban and ISIS, the Afghan security and defense forces and its international partners are also involved in some of the cases that civilians were killed, wounded or displaced.

The AIHRC has continuously been calling upon the Afghan Government and the Anti-Government forces to respect IHL and take all necessary steps and measures that protect civilians and prevent torture, ill treatment, inhuman and degrading punishment.

Our call will continue until there is an end to the culture of impunity for violation of human rights.

Violence against women, cruel and extrajudicial punishment of women, child exploitation for different purposes are matters of concerns and these issues must be addressed without further delay.

Poverty and youth unemployment create the environment for the continuation of violence and conflict.

In view of universality and shared responsibility for promotion and protection of human rights between the International community, Afghan government and people.

More technical, financial and political support is needed for better and effective measures for promotion, protection and fulfillment of human rights and access to justice for everyone in the country, including continues support to achieve the SDG's and help Afghan people to live with dignity.

Thank you.