

NATO'S ENDURING COMMITMENT IN AFGHANISTAN

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DISCLAIMER

- The presenter's views are his own. They do not constitute, per se, the official policy of the organization represented.

AGENDA

- Mandate and end state of NATO in Afghanistan.
- Few take-aways from 2009.
- The present.
- Way Ahead.

MANDATE AND END STATE

- Mandate: To assist Afghan authorities in the creation of a secure environment for the promotion of stability, governance, and development.
 - Under Afghan request;
 - And on the basis of UN Security Council resolutions (ex. Chapter VII of the UN Charter).
- End state: create the conditions allowing the Afghan authorities to exert and sustain security on a country-wide scale, without the need for an open ended commitment of external assistance.

NATO STRATEGY: INFORMING PRINCIPLES

- Long-term commitment.
- Afghan ownership.
- Afghan-international coordination
(COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH).
- Regional cooperation and engagement, in particular with Pakistan.

ADAPTING OUR MILITARY POSTURE

- COMISAF's approach
 - Assumption: the mission remains achievable provided that we:
 - Resource NATO/ISAF properly;
 - Protect the Afghan population (OUR CENTRE OF GRAVITY);
 - Enhance the capabilities of the Afghan National Security Forces;
 - Facilitate governance and development.

MAIN TAKE AWAYS FROM 2009

- Enhanced effectiveness of the Afghan National Security Forces.
- First ever Afghan-led elections (President and 34 Provincial Councils).
- Improved Afghan-international partnership and coordination (Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board; PRT Executive Steering Committee; and International Police and Coordination Board).
- Improved regional cooperation (NATO/ISAF-Afghan-Pakistani Tripartite Commission; NATO-Russia Council Counter-Narcotics Programme; Kazakhstan allocation of 50 million USD for the education of 1,000 Afghan students over 5 years).

THE LONDON CONFERENCE (28-01-10)

- Attended by more than 70 heads of state/government and leaders of international organizations.
- 5 messages:
 - The International Community has the resolve to stay the course and finish the job.
 - Clear plans developed by the Afghan authorities to strengthen their military and civilian governance (new ANSF growth targets for 2010-2011 and the Afghan Integrated Plan for Economic Development).

THE LONDON CONFERENCE (CONTINUED)

- Approval of a Peace and Reintegration Plan (with clearly indicated red-lines).
- Agreement to start the transfer of security responsibilities from NATO/ISAF to Afghan National Security Forces as soon as possible, pending military and non-military conditions (transition is not a code word for a run towards the exit; so transition and confirmation of our long-term commitment are two sides of the same coin).
- Call upon regional organizations to provide their contribution to promote Afghan and regional stability.

WAY AHEAD

- Bring Operation *Moshtarak* to its successful completion.
- Implement NATO/ISAF surge, particularly in support to the NATO Training Mission to Afghanistan.
- Operationalize the London Agenda (creation of inter-ministerial clusters; establishment of a technical committee for peace and reintegration; continue supporting the growth of the Afghan National Security forces; etc.).
- Maintain the momentum in the domain of regional cooperation.