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Said Jawad <Jawad@Ambassadorjawad.com>

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Inbox

To:Linda Azodi <Lazodi@idlo.int>;

Statement by Said Tayeb Jawad

IDLO: Rule of Law and the 2030 Agenda

Madam Director General
Excellencies
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to speak this panel. I am honored to be among the distinguished panelists. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, IDLO and our major donors especially Italy, and the United States of America, EU and UN for their generous contributions.

You have significantly and positively changed the judicial sector in Afghanistan and improved access to justice, and empowered the Afghan women to acquire some of their basic rights.

Afghanistan is fundamentally changed and Afghan will never go back to the dark days of Taliban. However, critical challenges of security, economic stability, peace and reconciliation are testing our ability and resilience to sustain our substantial gains in improving the quality of life, access to justice and women rights.

In light of emergence of Daesh in Afghanistan, Afghans are concerned about increased Violence against women, minorities and Children.

Your support for implementation of Justice Training Transition Program JTTP is a prime example of successful capacity building and training of thousands of Afghan judges, legal professionals, police officers, prosecutors, defense attorneys, including hundreds of women. We are grateful.

Your support for National Justice Sector Strategy NJSS helped reduce violence against women, provide shelters for victims, enhanced awareness, reduced discrimination and improved women ability to work in justice sector.

In reforming the justice sector, we have come a long way; but we are not out of the woods, yet.

Ladies and gentlemen, on my introductory remarks, I will focus on how the donor community role on national strategies and how they can help find the right equilibrium between, local characteristics, national ambitions, international human rights standards and donors funding mechanisms based on lessons learned in Afghanistan:

We should avoid building parallel institutions, and invest in reforming and building the capacity and resilience of the permanent state and legal institutions, including building human capital; professional capacity and personal integrity. Good example is: IDLO support to our AGO to build the capacity in implementing the Law on Elimination of Violence Against women by setting up special prosecution units.

2. Assist with developing a holistic strategy with emphasis on rule of law and gender equality across all judicial, social and development sectors:

Enhancing donors coordination in avoiding duplications and implementing complementary projects, smoothing the donors and government cycles.

In this respect, We appreciate IDLO's leadership in integrating rule of law into sustainable development goals.

We should work on ensuring that the state honors its commitments toward inclusive development

However, we must also emphasize the significance of improving the investment climate for private sector growth.

Private sector wants a clear, predictable, just and certain environment to invest.

We need more emphasis and investment on transparent and cost effective commercial dispute resolution mechanisms and arbitration. US assistance is appreciated in this sector in Afghanistan.

Providing legal identity not only to individuals, but also property, both real and intellectual, to change property to capital.

Private sector growth is the best source of employment and giving economic opportunities to women and marginalized segments.

Terrorist and exterimists are capitalizing on injustice and unemployment. We have to improve access to justice but also adopt laws to increase employment and give jobs and hope to the youth.

3. Work more effectively with the governments to avoid sacrificing long term justice for short term stability.

Build permanat institutions to deliver just and inclusive peace

Improving governance and fighting corruption.

4. Plane on transitioning the projects to locals from the first day of implementation. The success and long term imprint of the project depend how successfully it is transients to the local implementer. Work within the structure of the government and society.

5. Share experiences and lesson learned with other countries and projects. For example Women shalters are complex operations in closed cultures. I am glad that Afghanistan xperience is now transposed to Mangolia.

Thank you for you support for Afghanistan.

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