



## Press Release

### 40 of MEC's Recommendations Have Been Fully Implemented in the Afghan Justice Sector

**Kabul - Afghanistan, July 28, 2019:** The Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (MEC) released its Fourth Monitoring Report on the implementation of its anti-corruption recommendations for the Afghan Justice Sector, issued in MEC's Vulnerability to Corruption Assessment (VCA) of the Attorney General's Office (AGO). The original VCA was released in July 2017 and focuses on anti-corruption efforts and proposed reforms within the AGO and its relevant stakeholders.

Observations of MEC's Active Follow-Up team showed improvements in the implementation of the recommendations, with 40 out of the 51 recommendations considered as completely implemented and ten recommendations as partially implemented. One recommendation was archived due to legal issues.

The Active Follow-Up team also identified certain issues that have caused delays in the implementation of the recommendations, including issues related to changes in legislation and organizational context. The reasons provided by the implementing entity were regarded as valid by the MEC Active Follow-Up team.

The Fourth Monitoring Report findings indicate further progress in the implementation of the recommendations, including the following improvements:

- Increase in female employment between 2017 and 2019.
- The AGO High Council has prepared and approved the Prosecutor's Conflict of Interest Form 12. The Form of a Senior Prosecutor of AGO has been shared with the MEC Active Follow-Up team. All the civil and military prosecutors are required to complete and sign the Form.
- The AGO has developed a complaint handling mechanism, in accordance with Article 28 of the Civil Servants' Law and Draft Procedure of Addressing Complaints, in order to regulate how complaints received from individuals are to be handled.
- 101 employees have been newly added to the AGO *Tashkiel* and their recruitment has commenced. These employees will work on the Case Management System in Kabul and the Provinces.
- The AGO suggestions for the improvement of the national curriculum for the Faculty of Law, Political Sciences and Shari'ah Law are now included in the Curriculum for Higher Education.
- The AGO has recently reactivated 57 inactive District AG offices. These Districts were inactive for years due to insecurity.
- The AGO has recently established an independent committee to investigate corruption cases of high-ranking Government officials.
- The Attorney General, his Deputies, central Directors and other staff of the AGO, including within the Finance and Procurement Offices, have registered their assets in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, the Law on the Registration of Assets, and Article 20 of Prosecutors' Code of Conduct. These have been delivered to the Asset Registration Department of the General Directorate of Administrative Office of the President.



کمیته مستقل مشترک نظارت و ارزیابی مبارزه علیه فساد اداری  
د اداری فساد پروړاندې د مبارزې د څارنې او ارزونې خپلواکه گډه کمیته  
Independent Joint Anti-corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee

Meanwhile, MEC's findings indicate that the implementation of some of the recommendations has seen only limited progress.

- Afghanistan Independent Bar Association was recommended to enhance its oversight on defense attorneys and de-bar any lawyer found to be engaged in criminal activity or corruption. During the current reporting period MEC received no updates on the implementation status of this recommendation.
- Likewise, there were no updates on efforts by the Ministry of Interior or the Ministry of Public Health to establish forensic, ballistic and drugs laboratories in the main Provincial capitals.

MEC will continue to regularly monitor the implementation of the partially completed recommendations.