



**Independent Joint Anti-Corruption  
Monitoring & Evaluation Committee**

**NEWS RELEASE**

**MEC calls on the Afghan government and the international community to implement its latest recommendations to effectively fight corruption in Afghanistan**

**KABUL, Afghanistan, March 24, 2013** – The Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (MEC) released its 5th set of benchmarks containing 36 recommendations and benchmarks for the Afghan Government and international community to implement as a means to reduce corruption in the country.

MEC's recommendations are designed to address policy gaps that exist in the national and international effort to fight corruption. The most recent recommendations were developed during MEC's 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> missions, which took place in Afghanistan from November 22 – December 6, 2012 and March 4 – 18, 2013 respectively. During the missions MEC conducted extensive consultations with numerous officials from the Afghan government, the international community, and civil society.

The recommendations are aimed at increasing aid effectiveness, preventing impunity, preventing election fraud, preventing corruption in infrastructure projects and combating land usurpation. Of particular importance are recommendations requesting:

- Enhanced coordination in developing infrastructure projects and technical capacity for oversight of their implementation, including community based monitoring of projects. Registration of voters in insecure areas.
- Enhanced participation of governmental institutions and civil society in the assessment of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the sharing of the results of that assessment
- Audits of UNHCR and CTAP to review allegations of corruption and ensure integrity.

Drago Kos, the Chair of MEC, stated:

MEC has engaged with national and international government and non-government organizations extensively to identify gaps in the fight against corruption. Our recommendations reflect sound policy and operational advice that would help curb corruption in Afghanistan, if implemented. That's why we're calling on the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to demonstrate their commitment to fighting corruption by implementing our recommendations effectively.

MEC will continue to work with implementing partners to ensure that the recommendations are fully understood and implemented. Every six months, MEC reports to the public, Parliament, the President, and the international community on the progress that institutions have made in implementing its recommendations.

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