

19. Regional Security [248]

Commitment:

“We reaffirm the importance of economic and social development along with counter-terrorism measures in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region, which can play a critical role in bringing lasting peace, stability and security to this region. To this end, we are committed to further strengthening the coordination of our efforts in the border region in cooperation with the respective countries, international organizations, and other donors.”

G8 Leaders Statement on Counter-Terrorism

Assessment:

Compliance Score

Country	Lack of Compliance -1	Work in Progress 0	Full Compliance +1
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy	-1		
Japan	-1		
Russia		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union	-1		
Average Score		0	

Background:

The Afghanistan-Pakistan border region has been an area of concern for some time. The disputed border, also known as the Durand Line, artificially divides the Pashtun people, and cuts through an area of limited government control.¹⁴¹⁴ On the Pakistani side, the region is known as the Federally Administered Tribal Area.¹⁴¹⁵ The area is seen by many as a breeding ground for political extremism that destabilizes both countries.¹⁴¹⁶

The G8 first confirmed its general support for Afghanistan’s Transitional Authority at a G8 Foreign Ministers’ meeting on 12 June 2002. At the same meeting, G8 members pledged to give “the security sector in Afghanistan a special focus in the G8 work on

¹⁴¹⁴ The Troubled Afghan-Pakistani Border, Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder, 29 November 2007. Date of Access: 22 January 2009. <http://www.cfr.org/publication/14905/>.

¹⁴¹⁵ The Troubled Afghan-Pakistani Border, Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder, 29 November 2007. Date of Access: 22 January 2009. <http://www.cfr.org/publication/14905/>.

¹⁴¹⁶ The Troubled Afghan-Pakistani Border, Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder, 29 November 2007. Date of Access: 22 January 2009. <http://www.cfr.org/publication/14905/>.

conflict prevention.”¹⁴¹⁷ In addition, the G8 affirmed its support for the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and the Afghan authorities’ mission to eradicate the opium trade.¹⁴¹⁸

G8 summits in 2004 and 2005 saw further discussion on Afghanistan. The President of Afghanistan, Hamid Karzai, was a guest at the 2004 Sea Island Summit, where the drug trade and the need for continued international support were discussed.¹⁴¹⁹ At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 leaders briefly discussed Afghanistan and expressed support for restoration of the rule of law, security, and counter-narcotics efforts.¹⁴²⁰

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, G8 members affirmed the importance of reducing poverty and engaging the private sector to integrate the border regions of Afghanistan and Pakistan into the global economy.¹⁴²¹ To render the border region’s population “immune to terrorist propaganda and recruitment,” the summit report concluded, the economic development strategy would need infrastructure investment, a growth in employment opportunities, professional training, greater trade, and an expansion of public services.¹⁴²²

At the June 2008 G8 Foreign Ministers’ meeting, the G8 reaffirmed its commitment to the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan and called on Afghanistan and Pakistan to continue cooperation through dialogue.¹⁴²³

Commitment Features:

Members have committed to supplement counter-terrorism measures in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region with coordinated economic and social development programs. Programs must specifically pursue economic and social development. Security initiatives that create a better environment for development do not constitute compliance in this case. We recognize that due to instability in the region, many development programs are still in the planning stages. Compliance based on cooperation in planning future

¹⁴¹⁷ G8 Foreign Ministers’ Statement on Afghanistan, June 12, 2002, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 February 2009. Date of Access: 6 January 2009. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/foreign/fm130602a.htm> .

¹⁴¹⁸ G8 Foreign Ministers’ Statement on Afghanistan, June 12, 2002, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 February 2009. Date of Access: 6 January 2009. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/foreign/fm130602a.htm>.

¹⁴¹⁹ Background Briefing by a Senior US Administration Official on President George Bush’s Meeting with Middle Eastern Leaders, Sea Island, June 9, 2004, 17h20, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 February 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2009. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/mideast040609.html>.

¹⁴²⁰ Chair’s Summary, Prime Minister Tony Blair, Gleneagles, July 8, 2005, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 February 2007. Date of Access: 11 January 2009. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/summary.html>.

¹⁴²¹ G8 Summit Statement on Counter Terrorism, Heiligendamm, June 8, 2007, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2007. Date of Access: 6 January 2009. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-ct.html>.

¹⁴²² G8 Summit Statement on Counter Terrorism, Heiligendamm, June 8, 2007, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2007. Date of Access: 6 January 2009. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-ct.html>.

¹⁴²³ G8 Foreign Ministers Meeting: Statement on Afghanistan, Kyoto, June 26, 2008, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 June 2008. Date of Access: 11 January 2009. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/foreign/formin080626afghan.html>.

endeavours requires meaningful and productive conversations between G8 member states, the respective countries, international organizations, and other donors.

Scoring:

-1	Member does not discuss social and economic development programs with other G8 member states, the respective countries, international organizations and/or other donors.
0	Member discusses social and economic development programs with other G8 member states, the respective countries, international organizations and/or other donors BUT no new projects or plans emerge from the discussion.
+1	Member discusses social and economic development programs with other G8 member states, the respective countries, international organizations and/or other donors AND the discussions result in the announcement or implementation of a new project or program in the region.

Lead Analyst: Egor Ouzikov

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to pursue social and economic development in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region. Canada has hosted workshops between the countries and engaged in discussions on development, and has launched at least one development project in the border region.

Canada is heavily engaged in Afghanistan, and maintains detailed objectives and priorities for the border region. One objective for 2011 relates to social and economic development: “Canada expects that Afghan institutions, in cooperation with Pakistan, will exercise stronger capacity to manage the border and foster economic development in the border area.”¹⁴²⁴

In the short run, Canadian authorities have hosted workshops with Pakistani and Afghan officials. Thanks to this initiative, Afghan and Pakistani border posts to have harmonized working hours and remain open seven days a week.¹⁴²⁵ This should ease the flow of goods across the border promoting economic development in the region.

¹⁴²⁴ Canada's Engagement in Afghanistan Report to Parliament, Priority 4: Border Security and Dialogue, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2008. Date of Access: 10 December 2008. <http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/progress-progres/benchmarks-reperes/priorit4.aspx>.

¹⁴²⁵ Canada's Engagement in Afghanistan Report to Parliament, Priority 4: Border Security and Dialogue, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2008. Date of Access: 7 May 2009. http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/documents/r11_08/border-frontiere.aspx.

Although Afghanistan suspended bilateral meetings with Pakistan in July 2008,¹⁴²⁶ there was an agreement as of September 2008 to resume these meetings as well as trilateral discussions between Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the International Security Assistance Force.¹⁴²⁷

One of Canada's development priorities in Afghanistan is education. Over the next three years, CAD12 million will go towards building or improving 50 schools in Kandahar province.¹⁴²⁸ At least nine schools included in the program are in the border region, specifically Spin Boldak, an Afghan border town.

Through the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team, the Canadian government is working with the Afghan and Pakistani governments to develop an infrastructure target for the border region.¹⁴²⁹ So far, the project has focused on assessing infrastructure needs.¹⁴³⁰

On 31 March 2009, Canada participated in a one day International Conference on Afghanistan in The Hague.¹⁴³¹ The meeting's Final Declaration acknowledged the promotion of regional trade, improved customs services and clearer infrastructure projects as top priorities to be addressed.¹⁴³²

Thus, Canada has been awarded a score of +1.

Analyst: Jesse Sperling

France: 0

France has partially complied with its Hokkaido-Toyako Summit commitment to pursue social and economic development in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region. Although it has facilitated discussions on development between Afghanistan and Pakistan, France has not initiated any development programs in the border region.

¹⁴²⁶ Canada's Engagement in Afghanistan Report to Parliament, Priority 4: Border Security and Dialogue, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2008. Date of Access: 10 December 2008.

<http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/progress-progres/benchmarks-reperes/priorit4.aspx>.

¹⁴²⁷ Canada's Engagement in Afghanistan Report to Parliament, Priority 4: Border Security and Dialogue, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2008. Date of Access: 10 December 2008.

<http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/progress-progres/benchmarks-reperes/priorit4.aspx>.

¹⁴²⁸ Signature Project: Education in Kandahar, Canada's Engagement in Afghanistan. Date of Access: 29 June 2009. <http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/projects-projets/education.aspx>.

¹⁴²⁹ Canada's Engagement in Afghanistan Report to Parliament, Priority 4: Border Security and Dialogue, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2008. Date of Access: 10 December 2008.

<http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/progress-progres/benchmarks-reperes/priorit4.aspx>.

¹⁴³⁰ Canada's Engagement in Afghanistan Report to Parliament, Priority 4: Border Security and Dialogue, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2008. Date of Access: 10 December 2008.

<http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/progress-progres/benchmarks-reperes/priorit4.aspx>.

¹⁴³¹ Chairmen's Statement of the International Conference on Afghanistan, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Amsterdam) 31 March 2009. Date of Access: 8 May 2009.

http://afghanistanconference2009.minbuza.nl/gsp.dll?sid=266&pid=1&p_menuid=51&p_parentmenuid=2.

¹⁴³² Chairmen's Statement of the International Conference on Afghanistan, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Amsterdam) 31 March 2009. Date of Access: 8 May 2009.

http://afghanistanconference2009.minbuza.nl/gsp.dll?sid=266&pid=1&p_menuid=51&p_parentmenuid=2.

France hosted a meeting in Paris on 14 December 2008 between Afghanistan and its immediate neighbours, excepting Iran.¹⁴³³ The agenda included discussion of how other states in the region could assist in reinforcing the economic development of the country.¹⁴³⁴ Reports from the meeting, however, have focused more on security issues rather than economic development.¹⁴³⁵

France's objectives in Afghanistan include the pursuit of a heightened effort in regional cooperation and coordination of international structures, according to the Project de Loi de Finance 2009 budget, released in October 2008.¹⁴³⁶ This objective is in line with the 2006 Afghanistan Pact, which emphasizes a secure environment as a precondition for economic and social development.¹⁴³⁷

On 31 March 2009, France participated in a one-day International Conference on Afghanistan in The Hague. The meeting's Final Declaration acknowledged the promotion of regional trade, improved customs services and clearer infrastructure projects as some of the top priorities to be addressed.¹⁴³⁸ French Foreign Affairs Minister Bernard Kouchner's speech at the Conference underlined the French government's priority of strengthening regional cooperation, especially between Afghanistan and Pakistan, and urged the Afghan and Pakistani authorities to determine a date for a regional economic conference.¹⁴³⁹

On 14-16 May 2009, a French delegation including Minister Kouchner visited Afghanistan. The minister participated in a *shura*, a traditional meeting with community

¹⁴³³ Iran shuns Paris talks on Afghanistan, Reuters (Paris) 14 December 2008. Date of Access: 15 January 2009. <http://www.france24.com/en/20081214-paris-talks-call-regional-players-aid-kabul->.

¹⁴³⁴ Informal meeting of Afghanistan and its neighbours, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (Paris) 14 December 2008. Date of Access: 8 May 2009. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/pays-zones-geo_833/afghanistan_529/afghanistan-communaute-internationale_3245/reunion-ministerielle-informelle-afghanistan-ses-voisins-14-decembre-2008_19448/index.html.

¹⁴³⁵ Iran shuns Paris talks on Afghanistan, Reuters (Paris) 14 December 2008. Date of Access: 8 May 2009. <http://www.france24.com/en/20081214-paris-talks-call-regional-players-aid-kabul->.

¹⁴³⁶ Objectives and performance indicators, Ministry of Budget, Public Accounting and Civil Servants (Paris) 8 October 2008. Date of Access: 9 December 2008. <http://www.performancepublique.gouv.fr/farandole/2009/pap/html/DBGPGMOBJINDPGM105.htm>.

¹⁴³⁷ Objectives and performance indicators, Ministry of Budget, Public Accounting and Civil Servants (Paris) 8 October 2008. Date of Access: 9 December 2008. <http://www.performancepublique.gouv.fr/farandole/2009/pap/html/DBGPGMOBJINDPGM105.htm>.

¹⁴³⁸ Chairmen's Statement of the International Conference on Afghanistan, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Amsterdam) 31 March 2009. Date of Access: 8 May 2009.

¹⁴³⁹ International Conference on Afghanistan "a comprehensive approach in a regional context", Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (The Hague) 31 March 2009. Date of Access: 9 May 2009. <https://pastel.diplomatie.gouv.fr/editorial/actual/ael2/bulletin.asp?liste=20090401.html&xtor=EPR-7#Chapitre3>.

representatives.¹⁴⁴⁰ Afghan participants spoke in part about economic development. The trip did not focus specifically on the border region, however.¹⁴⁴¹

Thus, France has been awarded a score of 0. France has discussed economic and social development with relevant actors, but has not initiated any development programs in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region.

Analyst: Jesse Sperling

Germany: 0

Germany has complied with its Hokkaido-Toyako Summit commitment to pursue social and economic development in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region. Germany has increased support for Afghanistan's police force, as well as its own military presence. Furthermore, it has supported numerous civilian infrastructure projects and promoted dialogue between Afghanistan and Pakistan on development.

Germany hosted discussions between Pakistan and Afghanistan in September 2008.¹⁴⁴² Announcements about the initiative referenced the 2007 Joint Statement by the Foreign Ministers of the G8 and the Foreign Ministers of Afghanistan and Pakistan on the G8 Afghanistan-Pakistan initiative. This document calls for, among other things, more interaction between parliamentarians in order to promote a number of objectives, including "economic growth and opportunity."¹⁴⁴³

Germany has argued that security must precede reconstruction. At the opening ceremony of the 54th General Assembly of the Atlantic Treaty Association on 10 November 2008, German Chancellor Angela Merkel emphasized that security and reconstruction in Afghanistan are "inseparably linked." She said Germany will contribute to the reconstruction efforts, but it "can only do so through a partnership."¹⁴⁴⁴ Merkel did not specifically address development in the border region.

Thus, Germany has been awarded a score of 0. Germany's primary focus in Afghanistan and Pakistan has been reinforcing security, but it has hosted talks aimed in part at promoting economic development.

¹⁴⁴⁰ Statements made by Ministry of Foreign and European Spokesperson, Embassy of France in Washington, 19 May 2009. Date of Access: 29 June 2009. <http://www.ambafrance-us.org/IMG/html/briefing/2009/us190509.htm#2>.

¹⁴⁴¹ Statements made by Ministry of Foreign and European Spokesperson, Embassy of France in Washington, 19 May 2009. Date of Access: 29 June 2009. <http://www.ambafrance-us.org/IMG/html/briefing/2009/us190509.htm#2>.

¹⁴⁴² Joint Afghanistan-Pakistan Parliamentary Group visits Germany, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 19 September 2008. Date of Access: 13 December 2008. <http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/diplo/en/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2008/080919-afg-pak-parlamentarier.html>.

¹⁴⁴³ Joint Statement by the Foreign Ministers of the G8 and the Foreign Ministers of Afghanistan and Pakistan on the G8 Afghanistan-Pakistan Initiative, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 30 May 2007. Date of Access: 15 January 2009. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/foreign/formin070530-joint.pdf>.

¹⁴⁴⁴ Address by Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel at the opening ceremony of the 54th General Assembly of the Atlantic Treaty Association, Federal Government (Berlin) 10 November 2008. Date of Access: 2 January 2009. <http://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Reden/2008/11/2008-11-10-rede-merkel-dt-atlantische-gesellschaft.html>.

Italy: -1

Italy has failed to comply with its Hokkaido-Toyako Summit commitment to pursue social and economic development in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region. Italy's actions on Afghanistan, while numerous, have focused exclusively on security and counter-terrorism.

Italy's limited development work in Afghanistan is not concentrated in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region. The Italian government is providing support in the form of experts and resources in order to reform the justice system and build institutions.¹⁴⁴⁵ Italy has also transferred EUR2.7 million to a programme for the training and development of businesswomen in Kabul.¹⁴⁴⁶

The Italian government has expressed a desire to use its presidency of the G8 in 2009 to help find a regional solution to the Afghanistan conflict.¹⁴⁴⁷ At the L'Aquila Summit, a side meeting on Afghanistan will involve representatives from Afghanistan as well as Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Turkey.¹⁴⁴⁸ In February, Italy also extended an invitation to Iran.¹⁴⁴⁹

Thus, Italy has been awarded a score of -1. While it has pursued international cooperation and economic development for Afghanistan, its efforts have not focussed on the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region.

Analysts: Dmitry Goldman and Anna Vekshina

Japan: -1

Japan has failed to comply with its Hokkaido-Toyako Summit commitment to pursue social and economic development in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region. Despite engagement with security issues and general statements in favour of development, Japan has not engaged specifically with social and economic development in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region.

¹⁴⁴⁵ Italy in Defence of Women in Afghanistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 17 April 2009. Date of Access: 19 May 2009.

<http://diplomacymonitor.com/stu/dm.nsf/dn/dnC24FF11EAAC98B088525759B00382BBD>.

¹⁴⁴⁶ Italy in Defence of Women in Afghanistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 17 April 2009. Date of Access: 19 May 2009.

<http://diplomacymonitor.com/stu/dm.nsf/dn/dnC24FF11EAAC98B088525759B00382BBD>

¹⁴⁴⁷ Italy Sends More Troops to Afghanistan, Guardian News Corporation, UK (London) 6 February 2009. Date of Access: 4 May 2009.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/feb/06/italy-troops-afghanistan-taliban-obama>

¹⁴⁴⁸ Italy Sends More Troops to Afghanistan, Guardian News Corporation, UK (London) 6 February 2009. Date of Access: 4 May 2009.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/feb/06/italy-troops-afghanistan-taliban-obama>

¹⁴⁴⁹ Iran studying Italy's invitation to summit on Afghanistan – spokesman, G8 Live (Toronto) 27 February 2009. Date of Access: 14 June 2009. <http://g8live.org/2009/02/27/iran-studying-italys-invitation-to-summit-on-afghanistan-spokesman/>.

On Afghanistan, Japan has focused on security and stability. During the Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, Japanese diplomats said that “promoting economic development and stabilizing the lives of people in poverty is the key to eradicating terrorism in Afghanistan.”¹⁴⁵⁰ Japan, already one of the largest donors to Afghanistan, has offered USD1.4 billion for improvements in law and order and reconstruction.¹⁴⁵¹

During a symposium at the Afghan Embassy in Tokyo on 11 November 2008, Tadahiro Abe, the Foreign Ministry’s top official charged with coordinating assistance to Afghanistan, said that “the realization of stability and development in Afghanistan is indispensable,” and pledged that “Japan would continue contributing to the reconstruction of the war-torn country.”¹⁴⁵² Abe did not specifically mention the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region.

On 31 March 2009, Minister for Foreign Affairs Hirofumi Nakasone participated in the International Conference on Afghanistan in The Hague and reaffirmed Japan’s support for Afghanistan’s National Development Strategy.¹⁴⁵³ So far, Japan’s development work appears to be concentrated in central and northern regions of Afghanistan, however. Nakasone called on the international community to “make pledges of generous assistance” for the stabilization of Pakistan, which is “crucial” for the development of Afghanistan.¹⁴⁵⁴

To mobilize financial support for the stabilization and development of Pakistan, Japan and the World Bank co-hosted the Pakistan Donors Conference on April 17 2009.¹⁴⁵⁵ This resulted in a pledge of over USD5 billion, including USD1 billion from Japan, in assistance for Pakistan over the next two years.¹⁴⁵⁶ The Afghanistan-Pakistan border region, however, has not been specifically mentioned by Japan.

Thus, Japan has been awarded a score of -1. Though Japan has held released statements about the importance of development in Afghanistan, it has not addressed social and economic development in the border region since the 2008 summit.

Analyst: Djastin Park

¹⁴⁵⁰ G8 diplomats renew vow to stabilize Afghanistan, The Japan Times (Kyoto) 6 June 2008. Date of Access: 15 December 2008. <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nn20080627a1.html>.

¹⁴⁵¹ Needs of the Afghan people, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 8 October 2008. Date of Access: 15 December 2008. <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/ed20081022a1.html>.

¹⁴⁵² Afghanistan welcomes Japan’s help, urges greater contribution, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 11 November 2008. Date of Access: 15 December 2008. <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nn20081111a5.html>.

¹⁴⁵³ Statement by H.E. Mr. Hirofumi Nakasone, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Japan At the International Conference on Afghanistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 31 March 2009. Date of Access: 15 May 2009. http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/middle_e/afghanistan/state0903.html.

¹⁴⁵⁴ Statement by H.E. Mr. Hirofumi Nakasone, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Japan At the International Conference on Afghanistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 31 March 2009. Date of Access: 15 May 2009. http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/middle_e/afghanistan/state0903.html.

¹⁴⁵⁵ Friends of Democratic Pakistan Ministerial Meeting and Pakistan Donors Conference Outline and Evaluation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 17 April 2009. Date of Access: 15 May 2009. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/pakistan/meet0904/overview.html>.

¹⁴⁵⁶ Friends of Democratic Pakistan Ministerial Meeting and Pakistan Donors Conference Outline and Evaluation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 17 April 2009. Date of Access: 15 May 2009. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/asia-paci/pakistan/meet0904/overview.html>.

Russia: 0

Russia has partially complied with its Hokkaido-Toyako Summit commitment to pursue social and economic development in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region. Russia has discussed economic and social development programs with G8 member states, the respective countries and international organizations, and has contributed to social and economic restoration of the region.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergey Lavrov paid a working visit to Kabul on 16 March 2009, where he held talks with the President of Afghanistan and other officials. Prospects for intensifying Russian participation in Afghan economic rehabilitation projects were discussed.¹⁴⁵⁷ Reports from the meeting did not mention the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region.

In the statement on behalf of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) at the Plenary Meeting of the 63rd Session of the UN General Assembly on the Situation in Afghanistan on 20 November 2008, Vitaly Churkin, Permanent Representative of Russia to the UN, stressed that durable peace and stability in Afghanistan would only be possible if security measures were backed by social and economic development. He declared the SCO Member States' intention to further develop their diversified cooperation with Afghanistan, including within the implementation of projects for socio-economic recovery and development.¹⁴⁵⁸

A special SCO conference on Afghanistan was held in Moscow on 27 March 2009. The SCO member states (Russia, Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan) observer states (India, Iran, Mongolia and Pakistan) Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, Turkey, the G8 member countries, the UN and its specialized agencies, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO), the EU, NATO, the OSCE, the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA) took part in the conference.¹⁴⁵⁹

In the Declaration of the Conference the participants “expressed conviction that the successful combat against terrorism, production and trafficking of narcotics and organized crime in Afghanistan and the region requires a due combination of enforcement and administrative methods, accompanied by targeted social and economic

¹⁴⁵⁷ Press Release. Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergey Lavrov's Working Visit to Afghanistan. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia (Moscow) 16 March 2009. Date of Access: 16 May 2009.

http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/e78a48070f128a7b43256999005bcbb3/ed3a3ee3577297c4c325757c003509e2

¹⁴⁵⁸ Statement by H.E. Mr. Vitaly Churkin, Permanent Representative of Russia to the United Nations in New York, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia (Moscow) 12 November 2008. Date of Access: 16 May 2009.

http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/e78a48070f128a7b43256999005bcbb3/9a5ad742f4f65044c3257523003f9f06.

¹⁴⁵⁹ Russian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Alexei Borodavkin Interview with the Interfax News Agency about Assistance from Russia for the Reconstruction of Afghanistan. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia (Moscow) 26 March 2009. Date of Access: 16 May 2009.

http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/e78a48070f128a7b43256999005bcbb3/db616f30589ee3f3c3257585004747d5

programs”¹⁴⁶⁰ They also declared support for transregional projects that were aimed at comprehensive regional development.¹⁴⁶¹ Many conference participants have also affirmed the readiness to give assistance to the economic and social reconstruction of Afghanistan on an increasing scale.¹⁴⁶²

The Plan of Action adopted after the Conference stated that “the SCO Member States will further develop their bilateral trade and economic cooperation with Afghanistan, engagement in international efforts to provide assistance in its economic recovery, and will explore opportunities for implementing joint projects aimed at social and economic rehabilitation of this country.”¹⁴⁶³ In organizing this forum, Russia has partially complied with the commitment.

Minister Lavrov participated in the International Conference on Afghanistan in The Hague on 31 March 2009, and supported “a comprehensive approach combining the struggle against terrorism and narco-crime with the measures for the economic and social reconstruction of Afghanistan.”¹⁴⁶⁴ Minister Lavrov did not mention the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region in his remarks.

Russia has continued to develop bilateral economic relations and render assistance to Afghanistan. According to the Russian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Alexei Borodavkin “the priority direction of Russian aid to Afghanistan and bilateral economic cooperation with the country is the restoration of the energy industry, transport, and education and health care systems.”¹⁴⁶⁵ According to the Russian Foreign Minister Russia is considering the possibility of carrying out energy and transport projects in Afghanistan

¹⁴⁶⁰ Declaration of the special Conference on Afghanistan convened under the auspices of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia (Moscow) 27 March 2009. Date of Access: 16 May 2009.

¹⁴⁶¹ Declaration of the special Conference on Afghanistan convened under the auspices of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia (Moscow) 27 March 2009. Date of Access: 16 May 2009.
http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/e78a48070f128a7b43256999005bcbb3/bdf6d7f5c1f47fe7c3257586005c8cc4.

¹⁴⁶² Transcript of Concluding Remarks by Russian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Alexei Borodavkin at the Special Conference on Afghanistan convened under the aegis of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia (Moscow) 27 March 2009. Date of Access: 16 May 2009.
http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/e78a48070f128a7b43256999005bcbb3/43a2a2b8c1ffa418c3257589002e1208

¹⁴⁶³ Plan of Action of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Member States and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan on combating terrorism, illicit drug trafficking and organized crime, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia (Moscow) 27 March 2009. Date of Access: 16 May 2009.
http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/e78a48070f128a7b43256999005bcbb3/83b758f31b67ed7dc3257586005bf98a

¹⁴⁶⁴ The Main Points of the Speech of Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergey Lavrov at the International Conference on Afghanistan: a Comprehensive Strategy in a Regional Context, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia (The Hague) 31 March 2009. Date of Access: 16 May 2009.
http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/e78a48070f128a7b43256999005bcbb3/3ccd7306cb833611c325759200287c6d.

¹⁴⁶⁵ Russian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Alexei Borodavkin Interview with the Interfax News Agency about Assistance from Russia for the Reconstruction of Afghanistan. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia (Moscow) 26 March 2009. Date of Access: 16 May 2009.
http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/e78a48070f128a7b43256999005bcbb3/db616f30589ee3f3c3257585004747d5

in cooperation with the US.¹⁴⁶⁶ It is not clear whether any of these projects will be located in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region.

Russia has participated in and hosted several events on social and economic development of the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

Analyst: Mark Rakhmangulov

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its Hokkaido-Toyako Summit commitment to pursue social and economic development in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region.

On 21 August 2008, Prime Minister Gordon Brown announced USD140 million in aid to improve education in Afghanistan.¹⁴⁶⁷ The UK also set aside USD120 million in development assistance, including money for teachers.¹⁴⁶⁸ There is no evidence that this assistance will be disbursed in the volatile Afghanistan-Pakistan border region, however.

Some of the UK's development work has been concentrated in the border region, however. The British Ministry of Defence has reported that on 4 February 2009, Royal Naval Reservist Leading Hand Richard Byrne was deployed to Helmand Province in Afghanistan.¹⁴⁶⁹ He used his knowledge of agricultural development to assist Helmand's farmers in growing crops – other than poppy – that will provide food for the population.¹⁴⁷⁰

Further, the Department for International Development's 2009 country plan for Afghanistan identifies Helmand Province as a priority. DFID has promised to create employment opportunities in the region "by investing in agriculture and by building vital infrastructure including new roads and better electricity supply in Helmand."¹⁴⁷¹

¹⁴⁶⁶ Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergey Lavrov Interview to Afghanistan's Leading News Agencies. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia (Moscow) 16 March 2009. Date of Access: 16 May 2009.

¹⁴⁶⁷ Prime Minister Gordon Brown visits Afghanistan, 21 August 2008, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 21 August 2008. Date of Access: 14 June 2009. <http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/fco-in-action/uk-in-afghanistan/visits/visits-pm-august-2008>.

¹⁴⁶⁸ More support for Afghanistan, The official site of the Prime Minister's Office (London) 21 August 2008. Date of Access: 14 December 2008. <http://www.number10.gov.uk/Page16641>.

¹⁴⁶⁹ Naval Reservist Helps Helmand Become the Breadbasket of Afghanistan, Ministry of Defence (London) 4 February 2009. Date of Access: 4 May 2009. <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/DefenceNews/PeopleInDefence/NavalReservistHelpsHelmandBecomeTheBreadbasketOfAfghanistan.htm>.

¹⁴⁷⁰ Naval Reservist Helps Helmand Become the Breadbasket of Afghanistan, Ministry of Defence (London) 4 February 2009. Date of Access: 4 May 2009. <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/DefenceNews/PeopleInDefence/NavalReservistHelpsHelmandBecomeTheBreadbasketOfAfghanistan.htm>.

¹⁴⁷¹ How we are working in Afghanistan, DFID 2009 Country Plan for Afghanistan. Date of Access: 29 June 2009. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Documents/publications/Afghanistan-Country-Plan-2009.pdf>.

The Civil-Military Co-operation group (CIMIC) links the British military effort on the ground to the broader strategy of carrying out reconstruction and development.¹⁴⁷² The CIMIC allows military teams to operate in areas that are not safe for typical humanitarian agencies.¹⁴⁷³ A report on 13 March 2009 by the Ministry of Defence indicated that a joint British and Danish Military Stabilization Support Team is working in Helmand province to provide reconstruction and development for the Afghan civilians.¹⁴⁷⁴ Efforts have focused on construction of small bridges and wells, ensuring clean drinking water, as well as bigger construction projects for water towers, roads, parks, and refurbishing schools, health clinics and hospitals.¹⁴⁷⁵ The CIMIC works in cooperation with Afghan authorities.¹⁴⁷⁶

In background material for the December 2008 Queen's Speech, the UK government mentioned, in passing, development in the border region. A press release reads, "The Government of Pakistan has stated its commitment to implementing a comprehensive strategy for tackling violent extremism in the tribal belt, combining security measures with political reform and economic development. We are working to help them with this." The excerpt indicates a commitment to development in the region.

Thus, the UK has been awarded a score of +1. The UK is engaged in a number of projects to promote economic and social development in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region.

Analyst: Dmitry Goldman

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its Hokkaido-Toyako Summit commitment to pursue social and economic development in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region. The US has frequently discussed supplementing counter-terrorism measures in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region with social and economic development programs,

¹⁴⁷² British and Danish Soldiers Help Reconstruct Gereshk, Ministry of Defence (London) 13 March 2009. Date of Access: 4 May 2009. <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/DefenceNews/MilitaryOperations/BritishAndDanishSoldiersHelpReconstructGereshk.htm>.

¹⁴⁷³ British and Danish Soldiers Help Reconstruct Gereshk, Ministry of Defence (London) 13 March 2009. Date of Access: 4 May 2009. <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/DefenceNews/MilitaryOperations/BritishAndDanishSoldiersHelpReconstructGereshk.htm>.

¹⁴⁷⁴ British and Danish Soldiers Help Reconstruct Gereshk, Ministry of Defence (London) 13 March 2009. Date of Access: 4 May 2009. <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/DefenceNews/MilitaryOperations/BritishAndDanishSoldiersHelpReconstructGereshk.htm>.

¹⁴⁷⁵ British and Danish Soldiers Help Reconstruct Gereshk, Ministry of Defence (London) 13 March 2009. Date of Access: 4 May 2009. <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/DefenceNews/MilitaryOperations/BritishAndDanishSoldiersHelpReconstructGereshk.htm>.

¹⁴⁷⁶ British and Danish Soldiers Help Reconstruct Gereshk, Ministry of Defence (London) 13 March 2009. Date of Access: 4 May 2009. <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/DefenceNews/MilitaryOperations/BritishAndDanishSoldiersHelpReconstructGereshk.htm>.

and within this compliance cycle, has funded and supervised a number of development projects in the region.

In this compliance cycle, the US has developed programs in the Afghan border province of Kunar. Kunar is generally considered too volatile for civilian aid workers.¹⁴⁷⁷ American military personnel in charge of reconstruction say, however, that USD82 million's worth of development projects are already underway or planned for the near future.¹⁴⁷⁸

On May 2009, President Barack Obama directly addressed development in the border region. "We must [...] meet the threat of extremism with a positive program of growth and opportunity," he said. "That's why my administration is working with members of Congress to create opportunity zones to spark development. That's why I'm proud that we've helped advance negotiations towards landmark transit-trade agreements to open Afghanistan and Pakistan borders to more commerce."¹⁴⁷⁹

Thus, the United States has been awarded a score of +1. The United States is actively pursuing development projects in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region.

Analyst: Djastin Park

European Union: -1

The European Union has not complied with its Hokkaido-Toyako Summit commitment to pursue social and economic development in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region. The EU has engaged in dialogue with other governments and organizations to support development in Afghanistan as a whole, but has not focused on the border.

On 16 March 2009, the Council of the EU External Relations "reaffirmed its long-term commitment" to Afghanistan, supporting dealing with development, prevention of drug trafficking, governance and security, as well as a broader regional approach, including Pakistan.¹⁴⁸⁰ The statement did not specifically mention the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region, however.

In a speech delivered on 24 April 2009, European Commissioner for External Relations and European Neighbourhood Policy Benito Ferrero-Waldner noted that it was necessary to have "credible government structures which inspire the trust and loyalty of citizens" in

¹⁴⁷⁷ On Afghan-Pakistan Border, Security Worsens, National Public Radio's All Things Considered. 13 October 2008. Date of Access: 15 January 2009.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=95674002>.

¹⁴⁷⁸ On Afghan-Pakistan Border, Security Worsens, National Public Radio's All Things Considered. 13 October 2008. Date of Access: 15 January 2009.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=95674002>.

¹⁴⁷⁹ Obama "Pleased" With Afghanistan Pakistan Talks, RTT News. 6 May 2009. Date of Access: 17 May 2009. <http://www.rttnews.com/ArticleView.aspx?Id=938899&SMap=1>.

¹⁴⁸⁰ Council of the EU External Relations (Brussels) 16 March 2009. Date of Access: 9 May 2009 <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=PRES/09/63&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

Afghanistan.¹⁴⁸¹ To this end, the European Commission contributed EUR40 million to fund the Afghan election.¹⁴⁸² It also supported the improvement of capacity for the judicial system.¹⁴⁸³ These initiatives do not constitute with this commitment, however, as they do not directly tackle economic and social development.

Thus, the European Union has been awarded a score of -1. Although the EU has engaged in discussions on development in Afghanistan in general, it has not discussed development specifically in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region.

Analyst: Aberdeen Berry

¹⁴⁸¹ G8 conference on destabilizing factors and trans-national threats, 24 April 2009 (Rome). Date of Access: 29 June 2009.

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/09/194&format=DOC&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

¹⁴⁸² G8 conference on destabilizing factors and trans-national threats, 24 April 2009 (Rome). Date of Access: 29 June 2009.

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/09/194&format=DOC&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

¹⁴⁸³ Council of the EU External Relations (Brussels) 16 March 2009. Date of Access: 9 May 2009.

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=PRES/09/63&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.