

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:

Interim Compliance Score

Country	Lack of Compliance -1	Work in Progress 0	Full Compliance +1
Canada		0	
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy	-1		
Japan	-1		
Russia		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States			+1
European Union	-1		
Average Score	-0.22		

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.¹⁰⁶⁵ On the Pakistani side, the region is known as the Federally Administered Tribal Area.¹⁰⁶⁶ The area is seen by many as a breeding ground for political extremism that destabilizes both countries.¹⁰⁶⁷

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

¹⁰⁶⁵ 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/>.

¹⁰⁶⁶ 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/>.

¹⁰⁶⁷ 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.”¹⁰⁶⁸ 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.¹⁰⁶⁹

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.¹⁰⁷⁰ 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.¹⁰⁷¹

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.¹⁰⁷² 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.¹⁰⁷³

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.¹⁰⁷⁴

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

¹⁰⁶⁸ 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> .

¹⁰⁶⁹ 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>.

¹⁰⁷⁰ 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>.

¹⁰⁷¹ 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>.

¹⁰⁷² 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/2007heiligidamm/g8-2007-ct.html>.

¹⁰⁷³ 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/2007heiligidamm/g8-2007-ct.html>.

¹⁰⁷⁴ 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: 0

Canada has partially complied with its Hokkaido-Toyako Summit 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, but no new projects have resulted.

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.”¹⁰⁷⁵ In the short run, Canadian authorities have hosted workshops with Pakistani and Afghan officials. Although Afghanistan suspended bilateral meetings with Pakistan in July 2008,¹⁰⁷⁶ 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.¹⁰⁷⁷

¹⁰⁷⁵ 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>.

¹⁰⁷⁶ 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>.

¹⁰⁷⁷ 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>.

Canada recently pledged to provide funding to establish the Afghan Peace Jirga Secretariat, a group whose goals include “facilitat[ing] meetings of Afghan tribal leaders living along the border.”¹⁰⁷⁸

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.¹⁰⁷⁹ So far, the project has focused on assessing infrastructure needs.¹⁰⁸⁰ Most of Canada’s economic development focus, however, has been further afield in Kandahar province, where the Dahla Dam and an irrigation system project are Canada’s signature projects.¹⁰⁸¹

Thus, Canada has been awarded a score of 0. Canada has engaged in discussions with a number of actors on promoting economic and social development in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region, but these discussions have yet to result in a concrete development project.

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.

France hosted a meeting in Paris on 14 December 2008 between Afghanistan and its immediate neighbours, excepting Iran.¹⁰⁸² The agenda included discussion of how other states in the region could “contribute to the [...] development of Afghanistan.”¹⁰⁸³ Reports from the meeting, however, have focused on security issues rather than economic development.¹⁰⁸⁴

¹⁰⁷⁸ Canada’s Approach in Afghanistan: Priorities, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2008. Date of Access: 10 December 2008. http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/documents/r11_08/border-frontiere.aspx.

¹⁰⁷⁹ 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>.

¹⁰⁸⁰ 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>.

¹⁰⁸¹ Signature Project: Dahla Dam and Irrigation System, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 December 2008. Date of Access: 13 December 2008. <http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/projects-projets/dam-barrage.aspx>.

¹⁰⁸² 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->.

¹⁰⁸³ 14 December 2008 – Ministerial Meeting on Afghanistan’s Relations with the Countries in its Regional Environment, Permanent Mission of France at the United Nations (New York) 14 December 2008. Date of Access : 15 January 2009. <http://www.franceonu.org/spip.php?article3067>.

¹⁰⁸⁴ 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->.

On 14 October 2008, French Prime Minister François Fillon reported to the French National Assembly on the situation in the border region.¹⁰⁸⁵ Fillon urged Pakistan's government to take increased action to control the Federally Administered Tribal Area, as a means of stabilizing the border area.¹⁰⁸⁶ Fillon did not, however, emphasize economic and social development in the border region.

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 2008.¹⁰⁸⁷ This objective is in line with the 2006 Afghanistan Pact, which emphasizes a secure environment as a precondition for economic and social development.¹⁰⁸⁸

Thus, France has been awarded a score of 0. France has demonstrated continuous engagement with security of Afghanistan and Pakistan, but its action to promote social and economic development has been extremely limited.

Analyst: Jesse Sperling

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its Hokkaido-Toyako Summit commitment to pursue social and economic development in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region. Germany has promoted dialogue between Afghanistan and Pakistan on development, but it has not initiated any projects in the border region.

Germany hosted discussions between Pakistan and Afghanistan in September 2008.¹⁰⁸⁹ 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."¹⁰⁹⁰

¹⁰⁸⁵ Déclaration du Gouvernement sur la situation en Afghanistan by Prime Minister François Fillon, National Assembly (Paris) 14 October 2008. Date of Access: 9 December 2008. <http://www.assemblee-nationale.fr/13/dg/dg1115.asp>.

¹⁰⁸⁶ Déclaration du Gouvernement sur la situation en Afghanistan by Prime Minister François Fillon, National Assembly (Paris) 14 October 2008. Date of Access: 9 December 2008. <http://www.assemblee-nationale.fr/13/dg/dg1115.asp>.

¹⁰⁸⁷ Objectifs et Indicateurs de Performance, Ministère du Budget, des Comptes Publics et de la Fonction Publique (Paris) 8 October 2008. Date of access: 9 December 2008. <http://www.performance-publique.gouv.fr/farandole/2009/pap/html/DBGPGMOBJINDPGM105.htm>.

¹⁰⁸⁸ Objectifs et Indicateurs de Performance, Ministère du Budget, des Comptes Publics et de la Fonction Publique (Paris) 8 October 2008. Date of access: 9 December 2008. <http://www.performance-publique.gouv.fr/farandole/2009/pap/html/DBGPGMOBJINDPGM105.htm>.

¹⁰⁸⁹ 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>.

¹⁰⁹⁰ 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>.

Germany has increased its military presence in Afghanistan. On 7 October 2008, the German cabinet resolved to extend its mandate in Afghanistan by 14 months,¹⁰⁹¹ and to increase troop numbers from 3,500 to 4,500 soldiers. Germany has also established new Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs) in northern Afghanistan.¹⁰⁹²

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.”¹⁰⁹³ 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.

Analyst: Aberdeen Berry

Italy: -1

Italy has not complied 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 plans to increase its military presence in Afghanistan, and has called for greater European Union participation. Italian Foreign Minister Franco Frattini announced on 5 December 2008 that Italy will send more troops to Afghanistan.¹⁰⁹⁴ Frattini also met the American commander of military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, General David Petraeus.¹⁰⁹⁵ Frattini, coordinating with Petraeus, outlined possible new strategies. They

¹⁰⁹¹Bundeswehr continues to secure reconstruction in Afghanistan, Federal Government (Berlin) 7 October 2008. Date of access: 13 December 2008.

http://www.bundesregierung.de/nn_353632/Content/EN/Artikel/2008/10/2008-10-07-verlaengerung-einsatz-bundeswehr_en.html.

¹⁰⁹² Germany’s Commitment to Northern Afghanistan, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 7 October 2008.

Date of Access: 13 December 2008. <http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/diplo/en/Aussenpolitik/RegionaleSchwerpunkte/AfghanistanZentralasien/Engagement-D-Kundus-Fajsa-Mazar.html>.

¹⁰⁹³ 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>.

¹⁰⁹⁴ Italy pushes stronger EU role on Afghanistan, Thomson Reuters Foundation (London) 5 December 2008. Date of Access: 15 December 2008. <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L5219425.htm>.

¹⁰⁹⁵ Italy pushes stronger EU role on Afghanistan, Thomson Reuters Foundation (London) 5 December 2008. Date of Access: 15 December 2008. <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L5219425.htm>.

include giving power to tribal chiefs along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border, which Frattini said would give tribes an incentive to fight against the Taliban.¹⁰⁹⁶

Italy will host the 2009 G8 Summit, and Foreign Minister Frattini is preparing a separate foreign ministers conference in preparation for the summit which will specifically address the stabilization of Afghanistan and will involve Afghanistan's neighbours and Saudi Arabia.¹⁰⁹⁷ According to Frattini, Saudi Arabia can play a very important mediation role with the Taliban.¹⁰⁹⁸ Frattini has also said Italy would be willing to talk with Taliban groups that have officially renounced violence.¹⁰⁹⁹

Thus, Italy has been awarded a score of -1. Italy has not expanded its efforts on Afghanistan beyond counter-terrorism and security and has not participated in discussions on social and economic development programs.

Analyst: Dmitry Goldman

Japan: -1

Japan has not complied 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.

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."¹¹⁰⁰ Japan, already one of the largest donors to Afghanistan, has offered USD1.4 billion for improvements in law and order and reconstruction.¹¹⁰¹

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

¹⁰⁹⁶ Italy pushes stronger EU role on Afghanistan, Thomson Reuters Foundation (London) 5 December 2008. Date of Access: 15 December 2008. <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L5219425.htm>.

¹⁰⁹⁷ Italy pushes stronger EU role on Afghanistan, Thomson Reuters Foundation (London) 5 December 2008. Date of Access: 15 December 2008. <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L5219425.htm>.

¹⁰⁹⁸ Italy pushes stronger EU role on Afghanistan, Thomson Reuters Foundation (London) 5 December 2008. Date of Access: 15 December 2008. <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L5219425.htm>.

¹⁰⁹⁹ Italy pushes stronger EU role on Afghanistan, Thomson Reuters Foundation (London) 5 December 2008. Date of Access: 15 December 2008. <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L5219425.htm>.

¹¹⁰⁰ 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>.

¹¹⁰¹ 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>.

of the war-torn country.”¹¹⁰² Abe did not specifically mention the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region.

On 18 October 2008, Prime Minister Taro Aso said that Japan must keep backing the US-led War on Terror and reiterated his support for his country’s controversial naval mission at Afghanistan. After a vote passed in the government-controlled lower house, Japan will extend “for another year the mission of providing fuel and other logistical support to US-led forces.”¹¹⁰³ This mission, however, is not directly related to economic and social development.

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

Russia: 0

Russia has partially complied with its Hokkaido-Toyako Summit commitment to pursue social and economic development in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region. Although Russia has engaged in discussions of economic and social development programs with G8 member states, the respective countries and international organizations, it has not launched any new projects for the region.

At the United Nations Security Council meeting on 14 October 2008, Vitaly Churkin, permanent representative of the Russian Federation to the UN, said that the steps to restore the security situation in Afghanistan “must be backed by efforts towards the socio-economic revival of the Afghan State.”¹¹⁰⁴ He said that Russia is actively working in that area, participating in the implementation of a number of projects to restore energy and transport infrastructure in Afghanistan, and will remain active in those efforts.¹¹⁰⁵

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev discussed, with other member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), during the Dushanbe summit on 27-28 August 2008, the development of Afghanistan and counter-terrorism measures in the border region.¹¹⁰⁶ In the Dushanbe Declaration, members expressed their joint support

¹¹⁰² 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>.

¹¹⁰³ Japan lower house votes to extend Afghan mission, AFP (Tokyo) 20 October 2008. Date of Access: 15 December 2008. <http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5jhIUmxwaWahOi4mrzAesQp5AuMcA>.

¹¹⁰⁴ The situation in Afghanistan: Report of the Secretary-General on the Situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security, Security Council Meeting 5994, 14 October 2008. Date of Access: 8 December 2008. http://www.undemocracy.com/securitycouncil/meeting_5994.

¹¹⁰⁵ The situation in Afghanistan: Report of the Secretary-General on the Situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security, Security Council Meeting 5994, 14 October 2008. Date of Access: 8 December 2008. http://www.undemocracy.com/securitycouncil/meeting_5994.

¹¹⁰⁶ Dushanbe Declaration of Heads of SCO Member States. President of Russia. Official Web Portal (Moscow) 28 August 2008. Date of Access: 8 December 2008. <http://www.kremlin.ru/eng/events/articles/2008/08/205865/205913.shtml>.

Russia's proposal to hold a conference on Afghanistan under the SCO's auspices.¹¹⁰⁷ Medvedev said that such a conference would help "develop a specific set of proposals."¹¹⁰⁸ The summit's joint communiqué also noted the need to enhance the activity of the SCO-Afghanistan Contact Group.¹¹⁰⁹

Russia has actively discussed Afghanistan's security and economic development with neighbouring countries and other G8 members, but it has not introduced any new projects for the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region. Therefore, Russia has been awarded a score of 0.

Analyst: Mark Rakhmangulov

United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its Hokkaido-Toyako Summit commitment to pursue social and economic development in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region. The UK has actively promoted economic development in Afghanistan as a whole, but has not focused on the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region.

British Prime Minister Gordon Brown announced on 21 August 2008 an increased aid contribution of USD140 million to enhance communications and education in Afghanistan.¹¹¹⁰ Brown said the British government is giving advice to help Afghanistan develop its own local and national government administration.¹¹¹¹ The UK also set aside USD120 million in development assistance, including money for teachers.¹¹¹²

At a meeting of business leaders and Afghan government officials in Kabul on 29 June 2008, Douglas Alexander, development secretary, pledged GBP30 million towards the Afghan Investment Climate Facility (AICF).¹¹¹³ The AICF is an independent fund to help Afghanistan improve its business environment.¹¹¹⁴ Its goal is to raise USD100 million to

¹¹⁰⁷ Dushanbe Declaration of Heads of SCO Member States. President of Russia. Official Web Portal (Moscow) 28 August 2008. Date of Access: 8 December 2008.

<http://www.kremlin.ru/eng/events/articles/2008/08/205865/205913.shtml>.

¹¹⁰⁸ Speech at a Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). President of Russia. Official Web Portal (Moscow) 28 August 2008. Date of Access: 8 December 2008.

http://www.kremlin.ru/eng/speeches/2008/08/28/1821_type82914_205843.shtml.

¹¹⁰⁹ Joint Communiqué of meeting of SCO Heads of State Council. President of Russia. Official Web Portal (Moscow) 28 August 2008. Date of Access: 8 December 2008.

<http://www.kremlin.ru/eng/events/articles/2008/08/205865/205925.shtml>.

¹¹¹⁰ DFID in Afghanistan, Department for International Development (London). 22 August 2008. Date of Access: 15 December 2008. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/countries/asia/afghanistan.asp>.

¹¹¹¹ 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>.

¹¹¹² 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>.

¹¹¹³ Britain gives 30 million pounds to project supporting Afghan businesses, Department for International Development Press Release (UK). 29 June 2008. Date of Access: 14 December 2008.

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/30m-support-afghan-business.asp>.

¹¹¹⁴ Britain gives 30 million pounds to project supporting Afghan businesses, Department for International Development Press Release (UK). 29 June 2008. Date of Access: 14 December 2008.

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/30m-support-afghan-business.asp>.

improve business rules and regulations to make Afghanistan more appealing for foreign investment.¹¹¹⁵

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 that commitment to border development may be a priority in the coming year.

Thus, the UK has been awarded a score of 0. Despite comprehensive efforts to promote economic and social development in Afghanistan, the UK has only made general statements in support of projects in the border region. The UK claims, however, to be cooperating with Pakistan on the issue.

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

Recently, the US has developed programs in the Afghan border province of Kunar. Kunar is generally considered too volatile for civilian aid workers.¹¹¹⁶ 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.¹¹¹⁷

Admiral Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, announced on 20 December 2008 plans to send 20,000 to 30,000 extra troops to Afghanistan by the beginning of summer 2009, to reinforce the 31,000 troops already there.¹¹¹⁸ Mullen noted that more must be done to boost economic development in Afghanistan and to make the

¹¹¹⁵ Britain gives 30 million pounds to project supporting Afghan businesses, Department for International Development Press Release (UK). 29 June 2008. Date of Access: 14 December 2008.

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/30m-support-afghan-business.asp>.

¹¹¹⁶ 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>.

¹¹¹⁷ 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>.

¹¹¹⁸ US Could double number of troops in Afghanistan, USA Today (Washington) 20 December 2008. Date of Access: 20 December 2008. http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/2008-12-20-troops-afghanistan_N.htm.

Afghan government more effective. “No amount of troops, no amount of time will provide a solution here without development,” Mullen said.¹¹¹⁹

Army Major General Michael Tucker said on 5 December 2008 that “recent efforts by Afghan military and police coordinated with the Pakistani military and frontier corps have been very effective in targeting insurgents’ trans-border activities.”¹¹²⁰ In accordance with General David McKiernan’s belief of success in Afghanistan, Tucker also stated that “military power, or security, must be combined with governance, reconstruction and economic and political aid for an Afghan culture that historically has lacked a central government.”¹¹²¹

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: DJustin 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.

The EU has discussed Afghanistan on numerous occasions. At the Cooperation Council meeting between the European Union and the Republic of Uzbekistan on 16 September 2008, talks focused on the importance of regional cooperation in bringing about “conflict prevention and socio-economic development in the region.”¹¹²² Afghanistan was discussed at the 22 July 2008 meeting of the Cooperation Council between the European Union and the Kyrgyz Republic.¹¹²³ The EU has also raised Afghanistan as a topic at

¹¹¹⁹ US to send 30,000 extra troops to Afghanistan as war hits setbacks, The Guardian (London) 20 December 2008. Date of Access: 2 January 2009 <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/dec/20/us-afghanistan-troops-surge>.

¹¹²⁰ More Troops, Centralized Command Boosts Afghan Campaign, General Says, US Department of Defence (Washington) 5 December 2008. Date of Access: 15 December 2008. <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=52205>.

¹¹²¹ More Troops, Centralized Command Boosts Afghan Campaign, General Says, US Department of Defence (Washington) 5 December 2008. Date of Access: 15 December 2008. <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=52205>.

¹¹²² Eighth Meeting of the Cooperation Council between the European Union and the Republic of Uzbekistan, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 16 September 2008. Date of Access: 14 December 2008. <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=PRES/08/217&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

¹¹²³ Tenth meeting of the Cooperation Council between the European Union and the Kyrgyz Republic (Brussels) 22 July 2008. Date of Access: 14 December 2008. <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=PRES/08/217&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

various other intergovernmental summits. At the EU-India summit on 29 September 2008, the parties discussed deteriorating border security.¹¹²⁴

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

¹¹²⁴ EU-India Summit, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 29 September 2008. Date of Access: 14 December 2008.
<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=PRES/08/277&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.