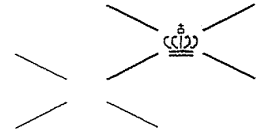


FORSVARSMINISTERIET
DANISH MINISTRY OF DEFENCE



Mr. Wardak
Minister of Defence for Afghanistan

Our ref.: ELI
Our no.: 2008/004910

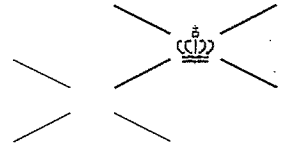
Dear Mr. Wardak,

It was a sincere pleasure seeing you in the margins of the Krakow meeting a few weeks ago and discuss our mutual interests in the ISAF mission.

As you might know the Governor of the Helmand province Mr. Mangal just visited Denmark where he had the opportunity to speak to the Minister of Development Cooperation, the Chief of Defence and members of the Danish Parliament. Numerous times he pointed out that there was an excellent relationship between the Danish forces and the Afghan National Army in Helmand based on trust and mutual understanding. Please receive my strong appreciation for the co-operation between our countries. We depend on each other for the successful development of safety and security both in Afghanistan and in the rest of the world.

In January I visited the Danish troops in the Helmand province myself, and I was delighted to see the positive development of the area. This is certainly an area that gains benefit from the presence of the international forces, and in the effort to ensure long term development and advancement there can be no doubt that the continued and increased attention of the Afghan government in this area will be most valued and of great importance. The further increase in the numbers and the authority of the Afghan National Army will be important steps on the way for the continued successful development already under way.

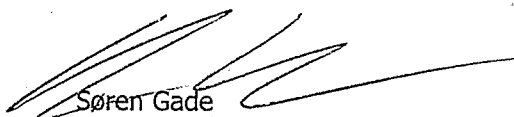
The co-operation and positive attitude from both Danish and Afghan authorities is a source of great contentment on my part and gives hope for further development of the good relationship between our countries. In the Danish Parliament there is a profound political interest regarding detainees and I therefore direct your attention in this context to an incident in the summer when notification about the transfer of two detainees handed over from the Danish troops to the Afghan authorities did not reach the Danish troops. I am confident that you share my view of the importance of the supplemented Afghan-Danish transfer agreement. I refer in this context specifically to clause 6 as amended by the supplement of 1 May 2008 stating that the Afghan authorities must notify the Danish forces prior to the initiation of legal proceedings and "if other relevant changes occur concerning persons transferred from the Danish military forces". This includes notification about changes in the place of detention.



I have no doubt that we share both the hope and the belief that our good co-operation will persist also in all aspects regarding persons transferred from the Danish forces to the Afghan authorities and that the mutual positive attitude of the Afghan authorities and the Danish forces will continue to make our relations fruitful and productive.

Finally, let me say that you are most welcome to visit Denmark – perhaps in connection with one of your future trips to Europe.

As I remain yours sincerely



Søren Gade
Danish Minister of Defence