

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



Forsvarsministeriet  
Att.: Forsvarsminister Nicolai Wammen  
Holmens Kanal 42,  
1060 København K

**AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL**  
DANSK AFDELING

Gammeltorv 8, 5. sal  
1457 København K

T: 3345 6565  
F: 3345 6566

[www.amnesty.dk](http://www.amnesty.dk)  
[amnesty@amnesty.dk](mailto:amnesty@amnesty.dk)

27.05.2014

#### **NATO-topmøde d. 4. – 5. september 2014: Afghanistan og menneskerettigheder**

Kære Nicolai Wammen,

Jeg skriver til dig i anledning af det kommende NATO-topmøde d. 4. – 5. september 2014 da vi er bekendt med, at dagsorden for mødet forhandles i juni måned.

Vi vil gerne opfordre dig til at arbejde for, at menneskerettighederne bliver en central del af drøftelserne om Afghanistan ved mødet. Derfor vil vi gerne bede dig foreslå, at de følgende områder og anbefalinger medtages på dagsorden for topmødet. Vi har vedlagt en længere beskrivelse af vores anbefalinger

Vi mener, at det er endnu mere afgørende, at der bliver fokuseret på, hvordan civile kan beskyttes, nu når de afghanske styrker overtager ansvaret for de militære operationer. Helt konkret bør NATO/ISAF assistere den afghanske regering i at udvikle og implementere beskyttelsesforanstaltninger for civile. Herudover håber vi, at du og dine NATO-kolleger vil drøfte, hvordan I sikrer, at de fortsatte beskyldninger om strafbare overgreb kan blive efterforsket, og hvordan de eventuelle skyldige kan stilles til ansvar.

Et andet centralt område er kvinders rettigheder, som traditionelt har ligget danske regeringer meget på sinde. Vi håber, at I vil sikre, at dette område kommer på dagsorden, bl.a. med fokus på at sikre kvinders deltagelse i det politiske arbejde, i forhold til offentlige anliggender generelt og specifikt i forhold til kvinders deltagelse i freds- og forsoningsprocessen. Herudover vil vi gerne opfordre til, at FN's Sikkerhedsråds resolution om kvinders rolle i Afghanistan implementeres.

Vi håber endvidere at spørgsmålet om internt fordrevne vil blive drøftet. Ca. 631.286 afghanere er internt fordrevne som resultat af konflikterne og de militære operationer. Størstedelen af internt fordrevne er udsat for adskillige krænkelse af menneskerettighederne, herunder manglende adgang til helt fundamentale livsforholdigheder som vand, tag over hovedet, lægehjælp og skolegang.

Endelig vil vi opfordre dig til at arbejde for at sikre, at eventuelle aftaler der måtte blive indgået på topmødet, ikke kan tjene til at underminere, men snarere styrker menneskerettighederne og retsstaten i Afghanistan.

Vi står selvfølgelig til rådighed for en eventuelt uddybende drøftelse af vores anbefalinger.

Venlig hilsen

Lars Normann Jørgensen,  
Generalsekretær



## Amnesty's recommendations - agenda of the NATO Summit

### 1. Protection of civilians

Amnesty International believes that in this year of security transition, with Afghan forces increasingly taking the lead in military operations, NATO/ISAF should assist the Afghan government in developing and implementing robust civilian protection policies and mechanisms. Moreover, although NATO/ISAF forces have greatly strengthened their operational safeguards to protect civilians in recent years, improvements to their process and record of accountability remain necessary. Without greater attention to ensuring that claims of unlawful conduct are properly investigated and, where appropriate, prosecuted, NATO/ISAF forces risk leaving a legacy of unresolved claims following the completion of the security transition. Among other things this would make successful advocacy on national accountability processes more difficult to achieve.

As a NATO/ISAF troop contributing country, we urge you to:

- § Ensure that all allegations of civilian casualties and harm resulting from NATO/ISAF military operations are fully investigated and, if there is sufficient admissible evidence of criminal conduct, prosecute personnel in fair trials without recourse to death penalty.
- § Compensate victims of NATO/ISAF military operations, while ensuring that your country's laws allow all victims to seek redress through civil actions.
- § Review practices to ensure compliance with current tactical directives and other operational guidance, particularly on air-strikes and night raids, and promptly and transparently conduct thorough investigations into the circumstances of civilian casualties that do occur.
- § Assist the Afghan government in establishing a credible, independent mechanism to monitor, investigate and report publicly on civilian deaths and injuries, or destruction of civilian objects, attributed to the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF), and to ensure timely and effective remedies. This mechanism should include detailed procedures for recording casualties, receiving claims, conducting investigations, carrying out disciplinary measures including prosecutions where warranted, and ensuring reparation which includes restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition.
- § As part of NATO/ISAF efforts to mentor and provide guidance to the ANSF, provide robust training in international humanitarian and human rights law (including specific guidance on women's human rights) to all ANSF personnel.

### 2. Women's political participation

The Afghan Constitution grants women equal status to men, with Afghan women having the right to take part in public affairs, participate in the formulation of public policy, hold public office, and perform all public functions. To ensure the fulfilment of these rights, NATO countries should take steps to help strengthen the role of women in the peace and reconciliation process, and, more broadly, to encourage their participation in public affairs. This must include the full implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions on the role of women in Afghanistan.<sup>1</sup>

As a NATO/ISAF troop contributing country, we urge you to:

- § Encourage the Afghan government to strengthen the participation of women in peace talks, as well as in public affairs more broadly.
- § As part of NATO/ISAF efforts to mentor and provide guidance to the ANSF, support the increased participation of women in the ANSF, including in the Afghan National Police Force.
- § Make efforts at the Summit itself, including inside events and in the follow-up process, to ensure the meaningful participation of Afghan women both from state institutions and civil society, and ensure their views are heard and taken into consideration.



### 3. Displacement arising from security operations

An estimated 631,286 Afghans are internally displaced in the country as a result of the conflict, including tens of thousands in the last year alone.<sup>ii</sup> It is possible that the drawdown of international combat forces this year will lead to increased combat operations that trigger further displacement.

Many displaced persons subsist in urban slums and settlements as their only option. The majority experience multiple human rights violations, including lack of adequate housing, food water, healthcare, education and economic opportunities, which could further erode the country's hard-won advances and lead to greater instability in otherwise stable urban areas.

As a NATO/ISAF troop contributing country, we urge you to prevent and mitigate displacement by:

- § Making efforts to predict, monitor and assess the impact of military operations on displacement, and by taking all measures necessary to minimise displacement in areas affected by operations.
- § Supplementing existing tactical directives, operating procedures, and guidance to troops, on humanitarian responses with explicit guidance on the prevention and mitigation of forced displacement.
- § Sharing information on humanitarian needs and displacement with humanitarian actors.

---

<sup>i</sup> These include UN Security Council resolutions S/RES/1325 (2000), S/RES/1960 (2010), S/RES/2106 (2013), S/RES/2122 (2013) on Women, Peace and Security, and S/RES/2120 (2013) and S/RES/2145 (2014) on the mandates of ISAF and UNAMA, respectively.

<sup>ii</sup> UNHCR Afghanistan factsheet, accessed 13 May 2014: <http://www.unhcr.org/50002021b.html>