

Memorandum of Understanding Trilateral Meeting on the Development and Construction of Transit and Transport Infrastructures in Chabahar-Milak-Zaranj-Delaram route Between

the Islamic Republic of Iran, Government of India and the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan

In order to promote the ties between the Islamic Republic of Iran, the government of India and the government of the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan and to consider the development procedures in transport and transit affairs between the three countries, the Trilateral Meeting was held in Tehran on Jan.4-5, 2003 corresponding to Day 14-15, 1381 with participation of H.E.Ahmad Khorram, Minister of Roads and Transportation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, H.E.Digvijay Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs of India and H.E.Seyed Mostafa Kazemi, Minister of Trade of the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan.

The list of the members of delegations is attached to the memorandum of understanding.

As a result of the exchange of views of the parties, the following points have been agreed upon :

- 1. The Ministers of the three countries emphasized on the development of transit and transport affairs, elimination of barriers and constraints and providing a safe, smooth, rapid and low-cost transportation.
- 2. The negotiating parties stressed on the importance of Chabahar - Zahedan - Zabol - MilakBridge - Zaranj -Delaram route.
- 3. The government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has considered the promotion of Chabahar-Milak Bridge route in the national development plans.
- 4. The government of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced that the study and construction of Milak Bridge is under implementation.
- 5. The Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan, while mentioning the national priority and importance of

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study and construction of Milak Bridge to Zaranj road for that country, requested that the mentioned road to be studied and constructed by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

- 6. The Islamic Republic of Iran undertook to study and construct Milak Bridge-Zaranj road within next year.
- 7. The government of India re-emphasized on its interest for the study, appropriate financing and construction of Zaranj-Delaram route.
- 8. The government of India expressed that pre-feasibility studies on Zaranj-Delaram road have been undertaken by the government and the complementary studies and also cost estimation shall be carried out within next six months time.
- 9. In case of providing necessary financial resources for the construction of Zaranj-Delaram road by the government of India, the Islamic Republic of Iran is ready to facilitate the transfer of road construction machinery and equipment from Chabahar port to Milak border and also purchasing construction materials from domestic market of Iran for the usage of Indian side.

In this regard, the Transitional Islamic state of 10. Afghanistan also undertook to furnish the required custom and border facilities for the passage of the machinery and equipment and also issuing visa for technical personnel and road construction staff.

The discussions were held in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

Done and signed in Tehran on Jan.5, 2003 corresponding to Day 15, 1381 in triplicate in the Farsi and English languages, the two texts being equally authentic.

Ahmad Khorram

Minister of Roads and Transportation of the

Digvijay Singh

Seyed Mostafa Kazemi

Minister of Trade of

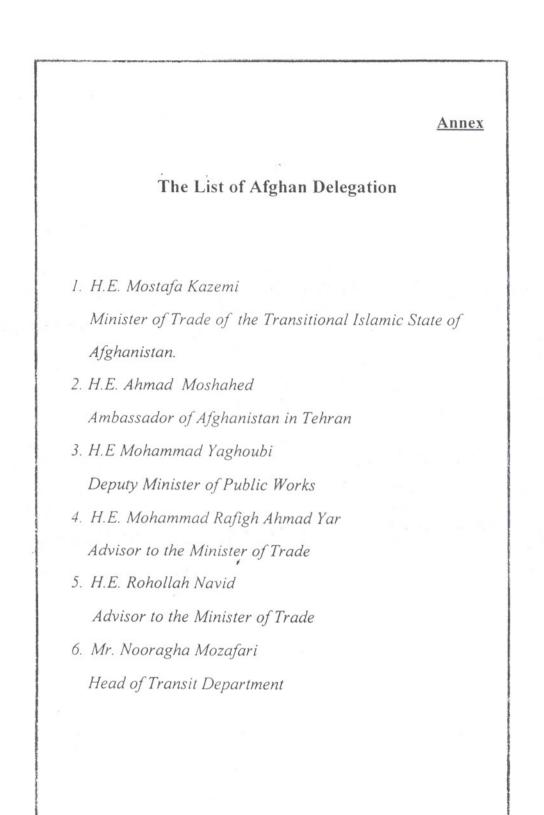
Minister of State for External Affairs

Transitional Islamic

Islamic Republic of Iran

of India

State of Afghanistan



## Annex The List of Iranian Delegation 1. H.E. Ahmad Khorram Minister of Roads and Transportation 2. H.E. Seyed Masih Momeni Deputy Minister of Roads and Transportation for Transport Economy 3. H.E Masoud Khansari Deputy Minister and Head of Transportation and Terminals Organization. 4. Mr. Alireza Motevali Alamoti Director General for International Affairs, M.R.T. 5. Mr. Jalal Kalantari Head of western Asia Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 6. Mr. Akbar Omid Moghaddam Director General for Ministerial Bureau, M.R.T. 7. Mohammad Esmaeil Alikhani Director of Economic Analysis Bureau, M.R.T. 8. Mr. Hossein Fazeli Expert for International Affairs, M.R.T.

## The List of Indian Delegation

Annex

1. H.E.Digvijay Singh

Minister of State for External Affairs

2. H.E.Pripuran Singh Haer

Ambassador of India in Tehran

3. Mr. Arum Singh

Director General, Ministry of External Affairs

4. Mr.R.K.Jain

Director General, Ministry of Shipping and Surface Transport

5. Mr. Vishnu N.Hade

Charge De Affairs of Embassy of India in Tehran

6. N.K.Singh

Commercial Counsellor of Embassy of India in Tehran

7. Tripurari Sharan

Secretary to the Minister of State for External Affairs