

ACBAR



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اداره هماهنگی کمکهای بشری و انکشافی برای افغانها دافغانانو لپاره د بشری او پرمختیایی مرستو د همغږی اداره

## Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief and Development

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### ACBAR condemns the attack on civilians in Kabul

ACBAR strongly condemns the recent attack by an armed group which affected civilians and the staff of two of our member Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) in Kabul on Wednesday 8 May 2019.

The loss of 13 lives, including those of three NGO staff members, along with at least 28 people (11 are NGO staff) wounded is deeply disheartening and we pass our sincere condolences to the families and colleagues of those affected and wish the injured a rapid recovery.

*“Civilians are not a target and should never be a target in this conflict. As aid workers we will continue to provide support and services to all Afghan people. Armed parties must respect the International Humanitarian Law by not targeting civilians and aid workers. Giving aid is a neutral act”* says Ms. Fiona Gall (Director of ACBAR).

ACBAR and its members stand by their NGO Code of Conduct where it is stated that NGOs will be independent and not discriminate against any individual or group.

Any attack, intimidation, violence or threat against aid workers will ultimately result in delays in implementation of programmes and have a negative impact on the welfare of the people of Afghanistan.

Ms. Fiona Gall

Director of ACBAR

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## Notes for Editors

- **ACBAR, the Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief and Development**, is an Afghan independent body bringing together 154 national and international NGOs working in Afghanistan and abiding by the humanitarian principles of independence, neutrality, impartiality and humanity. As the collective voice of NGOs operating in Afghanistan, ACBAR's activities have focused heavily on providing information to its members / the aid community, coordination of activities at the national / regional levels and advocacy on issues affecting the work of its members. <http://www.acbar.org>
  
- **NGO Code of Conduct**  
In 2004, ACBAR established a mandatory Code of Conduct to help members to demonstrate their legitimacy and accountability.
  1. We are committed to **comply strictly with international humanitarian principles and human rights law**.
  
  2. Our work is based on **the principle of DO NO HARM** and it focuses on responding to emergencies, to chronic needs, reducing the impact of disasters and climate change, and dealing with the root causes of poverty, meeting basic needs, and enabling communities to become resilient and self-sufficient.
  
  3. **We are accountable** to those whom we seek to assist, to those providing the resources, and to legal authorities.
  
  4. **We are transparent** in our dealings with the government and community partners, the public, donors and other interested parties.
  
  5. **We are independent** and we strive to maintain our autonomy according to Afghan and international law, and to resist the imposition of conditionality or corrupt practices that may compromise our missions and principles.
  
  6. **We will not discriminate against any individual or group** on the grounds of gender, political affiliation, ethnic origin, religious belief, disability or sexual orientation.