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The situation in Afghanistan****Security Council
Seventy-fourth year****Letter dated 26 July 2019 from the representatives of China,
Pakistan, the Russian Federation and the United States of America
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

We have the honour to forward to you the “Four-Party Joint Statement on the Afghan Peace Process”, adopted at the consultation on the Afghan peace process between the representatives of the People’s Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the United States of America and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, held in Beijing on 11 July 2019 (see annex).

We should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council and the General Assembly.

(Signed) **Wu Haitao**
Chargé d’affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission
of the People’s Republic of China

(Signed) **Vassily Nebenzia**
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation

(Signed) **Cherith Norman-Chalet**
Chargé d’affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission
of the United States of America

(Signed) **Maleeha Lodhi**
Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan



Annex to the letter dated 26 July 2019 from the representatives of China, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Four-Party Joint Statement on the Afghan Peace Process

The text of the following statement was jointly released on the occasion of the four-party meeting on the Afghan peace process, held in Beijing on 11 July 2019.

Representatives of China, Russia and the United States held their third consultation on the Afghan peace process in Beijing on 11 July 2019. China, Russia and the United States welcomed the participation of Pakistan in the consultation and believe that Pakistan can play an important role in facilitating peace in Afghanistan. Pakistan appreciated the constructive efforts being carried out through the trilateral consultation between China, Russia and the United States on the Afghan peace process.

The four sides exchanged views on the current situation and on joint efforts for realizing a political settlement to advance peace, stability and prosperity in Afghanistan and the region.

The four sides emphasized the importance of the trilateral consensus on the Afghan peace process reached in Moscow on 25 April 2019. All sides welcomed the recent positive progress as the crucial parties concerned have advanced their talks and increased contacts with each other. All sides also welcomed the intra-Afghan meetings held in Moscow and Doha.

The four sides called upon the relevant parties to grasp the opportunity for peace and to immediately start intra-Afghan negotiations between the Taliban, the Afghan Government and other Afghans. They reaffirmed that negotiations should be “Afghan-led and Afghan-owned” and further agreed that the negotiations should produce a peace framework as soon as possible. This framework should guarantee the orderly and responsible transition of the security situation and set out the details of an agreement on a future inclusive political arrangement acceptable to all Afghans.

The four sides encouraged all parties to take steps to reduce violence leading to a comprehensive and permanent ceasefire starting with intra-Afghan negotiations.

The four sides agreed to maintain the momentum of the consultation and to invite other important stakeholders to join the consultation, on the basis of the trilateral consensus agreed upon in Moscow on 25 April 2019, and also agreed that this broader group will meet when intra-Afghan negotiations start. The date and venue for the next consultation will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.