



EUROPEAN UNION

DELEGATION TO AFGHANISTAN AND
OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE

Kabul, 6 May 2015

FMM/IS/297/15

NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF PSC AMBASSADORS

Subject: EUSR Afghanistan Election Adviser position

I would like to draw your attention to the re-launch of a call for contributions to the EUSR Afghanistan for an Election Adviser position to be filled as soon as possible as the former candidate suddenly had to terminate his contract.

The election adviser will be playing a crucial for enabling me to achieve my mandate to contribute in strengthening democratization processes; helping peaceful transition of power; conducting free, fair and transparent election; building democratic institutions to have strong political parties, civil society and elected bodies in Afghanistan. The position is of paramount importance, as the Afghan National Unity Government promised for extensive electoral legal and institutional reform—to avoid future electoral crises, like the 2014-presidential election. Further the Afghan government is about to conduct a parliamentary election, and possibly the district councils' election for the first time.

I am commissioning extensive activities in helping and encouraging the National Unity Government to bring-about a comprehensive and required electoral reform in Afghanistan. I further advocate for inclusiveness of the reform commission in terms of civil society, political parties, former electoral camps (both sides of the Unity Government) and other stakeholders. In the 2014 presidential election, EU not only played a very proactive role in monitoring the election processes, but also alongside other international community members brokered the political deal between the election camps to form the Unity Government. Therefore, the Afghan government, civil society and international community and other stakeholders expect EU's proactive role again for the upcoming electoral reform, preparation for the parliament and district councils' election—which is deemed to contribute for convening a Constitutional Loya Jirga (Constitutional Grand Council) to carry through a constitutional reform.

As these are key goals of both the EU and all its Member States for our engagement in and with Afghanistan, I hope that Member States will be able to support my work in the field of Election through the secondment of a qualified and motivated Election Adviser replacement to my office in Kabul.

Thank you very much for the attention you may give to this issue.

Franz-Michael Mellbin