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

## Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief and Development

Press release 29 July 2018

### Protecting Education!

#### ACBAR NGO Members working in the Education sector share their concerns and recommendations

The NGO community is concerned about a recent increase in attacks against schools and education personnel in parts of the country.

This works against 18 years of progress that has been made in developing education in Afghanistan, as it endangers the lives and safety of Afghan children and their teachers, and undermines citizens trust and faith in their education system.

Education is highly affected in conflict areas throughout the country. Also, there is a significant increase of election-related violence as 60% of all designated voter registration centers and polling stations are located in schools.

ACBAR members therefore recommend that:

- The Afghan government should implement the Oslo Safe Schools Declaration (2015);
- International Development Partners should prioritize education as part of their humanitarian response;
- The Afghan government and its national and international development partners should increase investments towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4, ensuring that all Afghan boys and girls can complete primary education of good quality by 2030;
- Relationships between communities and schools are strengthened through targeted government action – this will help to protect schools and make them more resilient in the face of attacks;
- The Afghan government should reform the Election Law (2016) and not designate schools and clinics for voter registration and polling;
- The Afghan government should address citizenship education, dialogue, peace-building and conflict transformation in school curricula violence in schools and their communities to break the circle of violence within and between Afghan communities.

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