Abdullah Defends His Remarks Against President Ghani

KABUL - The Chief Executive of the National Unity Government (NUG), Abdullah Abdullah, has defended his recent comments against President Ashraf Ghani over what he called the president’s disinterest in addressing national issues – including the electoral reforms agenda and rolling out the electronic national identity cards to the Afghan people.

According to a statement issued by the Chief Executive’s media office, Abdullah on Saturday met with a number of political leaders and two government ministers to discuss the current situation in the country.

The statement comes a few days after the two officials and instead of the implementation of the NUG’s political agreement and bringing reforms to the administration. The meeting was attended by Abdullah’s deputies, Foreign Affairs Minister Salahuddin Rabbani, acting interior minister Amrullah Saleh, Justice Minister Abdul Basit Atwar and a number of other government officials. It was said on Saturday that Abdullah added that the participants of the meeting backed Abdullah’s recent remarks against the government and called for swift action.

The statement added that the president has not shown the necessary leadership to support the agenda of the Afghan public regarding the withdrawal of troops from Iraq in 2011. Experts believed that the only way that would help counter terrorism was the needed measures and facilities have been discussed. But the IS threat in the region is still far from over.