KABUL - Germany’s interior minister is meeting officials in Kabul as he tries to reduce the number of Afghans heading to Europe and considers how to get some of those who have arrived to return home.

Thomas de Maiziere’s ministry said he visited Afghanistan Monday to confer with Afghan officials on longstanding efforts to train Afghan police and to address the migration issue.

Afghanistan was the second-biggest single source of new arrivals in Germany last year, after Syria. Out of nearly 1.1 million people registered as asylum-seekers, more than 150,000 came from Afghanistan.

De Maiziere told German news agency dpa that the security situation in Afghanistan is “complicated” but “there are unsafe and safe areas.” He said the aim is to make people stay in Afghanistan and rebuild the country.

The United Nations’ top human rights official says the assaults a month ago in Germany that have been marked largely on foreigners must not be used as a reason to stigmatize migrants in general.

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