KARUL - President Ashraf Ghani and US special envoy for peace Zalmay Khalilzad discussed the Afghan peace process and the way forward to peace and stability to the war-torn Afghanistan, a statement said on Friday.

"We are united in our pursuit of peace," said Khalilzad, who is due to meet Taliban negotiators in Qatar as part of the scheduled talks in Qatar on Feb 25.

Khalilzad resumed his Afghan peace process diplomacy on Feb 10 to visit Belgium, Germany, Turkey, Qatar, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. (Pajhwok)

NATO Decisions Welcome if Serve Afghanistan Interest

KARUL - The Afghan Ministry of Defense (MoD) on Thursday said it would welcome any NATO decisions that serve the interests of Afghanistan.

Javed Ghafari, MoD spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News regarding the defense ministers meeting in Brussels, the capital of Belgium, that Afghanistan had strategic ties with NATO.

The two-day NATO ministerial meeting began on Wednesday and Thursday was attended by Afghanistan.

The agreement was signed between acting minister of commerce, Kamir, and the chamber of commerce and industry of Afghanistan.

Sanee Rave, police inspector in charge of the Afghan government’s inclusion in the talks. (Pajhwok)

Women Recall the ‘Hell’ of Soviet War in Afghanistan

MOSCOW - Sitting in her living room, 69-year-old Tanya Rybachkina goes through a stack of black-and-white photos from more than 30 years ago. In one of them, she is dressed in a nurse’s coat and smiles sheepishly at the camera.

In another, she shares a laugh with her colleagues that Rhyslubkina and 20,000 Soviet women like her went through after they enlisted as civilian support staff during the Soviet Union’s 1979-1989 invasion of Afghanistan.

Although they did not serve in combat roles, they still experienced the horrors of war.

As Russia on Friday marked the 30th anniversary of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, the memories are still fresh for the nurses, clerks and shopkeepers, predominantly young and single women who were thrust into the bloody conflict.

Rybachkina enlisted on a staff during the Soviet Ukraine, and was going to the 30th anniversary of the withdrawal plans.

At least 15,000 Soviet troops died in Afghanistan, the ministry of defense said, and about 80,000 were wounded.

The agreement was signed in 2014.

KABUL - An agreement was signed with Kamir airlines on direct flights between Afghanistan and China.

Khalil Seddiq, the governor of the Central Bank of Afghanistan, said the inclusion of Afghanistan in the blacklist of ‘dirty money’ not only results to reputational damage but would also complicate financial relations with the international community.

As he said this an Afghan Foreign Ministry official told the media that the talks Moscow hosted earlier this month between Taliban and Afghan politicians, Russia’s deputy ambassador Albert Khorev said the talks had been organized by a group of Afghan elders from Russia and Moscow supported the initiative.

The diplomat also translated a verbal agreement between Russia for hosting the talks and said “Russia was reconstructing funding the Afghan government to host the two rounds of direct flights between Moscow and Kabul. It was enough to fly on direct flights as a sign of support for the peace process.” (Pajhwok)

Agreement Signed on Direct Herat-New Delhi Flights

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German Mission in Afghanistan Extended for a Year

KARUL - Another US plans to withdraw troops from Afghanistan, the Angélique Merat, administration has decided to extend German military mission in Afghanistan for another year.

The cabinet’s decision came a day after an internal strategy paper indicated Germany’s readiness to host another peace conference.

Deutsche Welle reported the Taliban, who have been in talks with US Special Representative Zalmay Khalilzad, US and attended a recent meeting in Moscow, would also like to be invited to the event.

Germany has about 1,200 soldiers in Afghanistan within the framework of NATO’s Resolute Support Mission, which assists the lo-

cal security personnel.

In late December, reports, US President Donald Trump suggested withdrawal of half of the US military’s 14,000 troops from Afghanistan. The announcement upset US allies, including Ger-

many.

Released on Wednesday, an internal document showed Ber-

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EU Adds Saudi Arabia, Other Jurisdictions Including Afghanistan to Dirty-Money Blacklist

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