CEOs Speak at Davos, Criticizes Taliban

Participating in a panel discussion, Abdullah said Afghans in general were not in support of the Taliban’s perception of governance.

Abdullah said a number of the representatives who attended the Abu Dhabi talks were absent from the ongoing negotiations with the US in Doha, as a result of the Taliban’s hard-line approach towards the Afghan government.

The CEO also noted that a wider segment of society, the Afghan people in general, were not in support of the Taliban’s perception of governance or to see them back in power. “Taliban are asking for Islamic Emirates which is a different type of ruling, like the religious scholars are getting together and appointing an Amir (Emir) so everybody could be obedient to that type of system while we embraced upon a different system,” Abdullah told a panel of world leaders at Davos.

The CEO said the Taliban’s hard-line approach towards the Afghan government has been one of the key obstacles undermining intra-Afghan dialogue with government in its bid to find a negotiated settlement to the conflict in the country. (More on P4)

Some Taliban Reps in UAE Meeting Barred from Qatar Talks

Sources close to the Taliban on Tuesday said a number of the representatives who attended the Abu Dhabi talks were absent from the ongoing negotiations with the US in Doha, as a result of the Taliban’s hard-line approach towards the Afghan government.

The CEO said a number of the representatives who attended the Abu Dhabi talks were absent from the ongoing negotiations with the US in Doha, as a result of the Taliban’s hard-line approach towards the Afghan government.

It is not yet clear why they were not invited to the talks. The CEO said the government’s stance was that the Taliban should not be part of any type of negotiations with the government.

Turkey Warns Against Creation of 2nd Afghanistan

Turkey has warned against the creation of a second Afghanistan in the Mediterranean.

Speaking at a news conference at the Justice and Development (AK) Party headquarters in Ankara, Osman Celik said several countries used terrorist groups as proxies in Afghanistan and now it has become impossible to control them.

Ankara - Policies that will lead to a second Afghanistan in the Mediterranean should be avoided, said the spokesperson of Turkey’s ruling party on Syria crisis on Monday.

Speaking at a news conference at the Justice and Development (AK) Party headquarters in Ankara, Osman Celik said some countries used terrorist groups as proxies in Afghanistan and now it has become impossible to control them.

He stated that the same thing could happen in Syria if the support to terrorist groups is not cut off.

Celik said the victims of these “irrational policies” which were proven to be wrong many times “hurt Afghans, Syrians, and those who want democracy and human rights.”

“Policies which will form a second Afghanistan in the Mediterranean should be avoided as the world is paying such a high price to maintain stability in Afghanistan,” Celik said.

Taliban Attacks, Talks

KABUL - The Taliban on Tuesday announced a resumption of peace talks with the US, the group attacked an Afghan intelligence base yesterday. The attack killed at least 48 people and wounded as many as 70, most of them military personnel,according to provincial officials quoted by the AP.

A suicide bomber committed the brazen assault by driving an explosive-laden Humvee into the intelligence base’s main building, causing the complex to collapse. That assault apparently resulted in the heavy casualties, making one of the deadliest attacks against the home country’s intelligence service in the 17-year-plus war.

The Taliban promptly claimed responsibility. Then, in a separate statement, said they had not again yesterday with US representatives in Qatar, to discuss ending the invasion of Afghanistan.

The AP reported, “The Taliban, who now hold sway in almost half of Afghanistan, carried out attacks on a daily basis, mainly targeting the country’s beleaguered security forces.” (More on P4)

DABS Sets Defaulters Another 3-Day Deadline

The power distribution company, Da Afghanistan Buddha Shirkat (DABS), today warned defaulting individuals of legal action if they failed to clear their dues within three days.

Waqar Ullah, DABS spokesman said a list of Afghan intelligence base’s main building, causing the complex to collapse. That assault apparently resulted in the heavy casualties, making one of the deadliest attacks against the home country’s intelligence service in the 17-year-plus war.

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