KABUL - The newly-appointed High Peace Council (HPC) chief on Monday acknowledged the need for reforming the panel whose strategies and policies required a comprehensive review.

Mohammed Karim Khalili issued the call at his introduction ceremony at the Presidential Palace. The ceremony was also attended by the president, chief executive officer (CEO) Kabul court judge and representatives from the international community.

"There is no doubt that a large part of HPC’s success depends on reforms and changes in this organ, all the strategies and policies and performance of this council,” he said.

He hopes reforms will be introduced soon to ensure HPC efficiency, productivity and transparency. Transparency in financial matters, negotiations and agreements are the most important issues we would focus,” Khalili said.

Stressing the importance of peace in the country, he said “I call on all mili-
tant groups, particularly the Taliban, to join the peace process. Fight is no solution and we can rescue our nation through intra-Afghan talks.” He explained peace was not a game that was won or lost, but it was a victory both for the government and the militants.

"The Qur’an says that both sides benefit from peace," he said. The peace agreement with the Hezb- ul-Islami Afghanistan (HIA) leader, Gulba- din Hekmatyar, was a great achievement, he said, adding violence had not been crushed. He hoped the HPC would be able to reach a similar pact with the Taliban.

Khalili asked the government, interna- tional community, shops, leaders, par- liament members, political parties, civil society organizations, human rights cam- paigners, media and the public to cooper- ate with the HPC on establishing peace. Peace and stability in Afghanistan was in the interest of the region and the world, he argued. The government would not succeed without consistent cooperation from all groups.

President Ashraf Ghani, addressing the ceremony, said “Khalili has many qualifi- cations and he will be able to take effective steps for bringing peace to the country.” Khalili replaces Pir Sayed Ahmad Gilani, who died in January this year. The HPC created in it (More on P6-P10)

Khalili Calls for Comprehensive Reforms in HPC

AFF Hoping to Hire German-Born Afghan Player

KABUL - The Afghanistan Football Federation said it is hoping to get Nadim Amiri, a star UEFA Under-21 player, to play for the Afghan national team.

Football Federation (AFF) of- ficials said Monday that the federation is trying to sign German-born football player Nadim Amiri for the national team. Amiri, whose parents are from Afghan- stan, currently plays with Germany’s Hot- dog.

Amiri recently played a key role in the 2-1 UEFA Under-21 Championship qualifi-
crations. Amiri is also expected to join the UEFA Under-21 Champion- ships... (More on P7)

Afghans in Brussels Stage Protest against Pakistan

KABUL - The Afghans living in Brussels, who have kept an eye on the political changes taking place in the capital of Belgium, staged a rally in support of Afghan security forces and the government and against Pakistan.

Shah Pacha Shinwari, an organizer of the rally, told Pajhwok Afghan News the demon- stration held in front of European Parlia- ment was intended to show solidarity. He said a number of Afghans came from other European countries to Brussels to take part in the rally in support of peace and stability in Afghanistan.

Shinwari added the protesters chanted slogans against Pakistan and the terrorist groups enjoying safe havens in that coun-
y.

Participants reminded the world, particu- larly the European Parliament, that terror- ism had destroyed Pakistan not only disputed security in Afghanistan, but also threat- ened the whole region. He alleged the terrorists trained in Paki- stan were sent to Afghanistan for carrying out attacks. The rally told the international community to declare Pakistan a state of terrorism... (More on P10)

New Alliance is Due to Ghani’s Poor Leadership Skills: Humayun

KABUL - Humayun said the new alliance is due to President Ashraf Ghani’s poor leadership skills and that Ghani has failed to reach agreements with the various political factions.

The first deputy speaker of the Wolesi Jirga (Lower House of Parliament), Humayun, on Monday said the formation of the new alliance was due to the Presi- dence to Rescue Afghanistan is testimony to President Ashraf Ghani’s poor leadership skills especially as the leaders are serving as mediators to solve the problems. The alliance problems are clearly evi-
dent within government in view of the coali-
tion leaders’ positions.

The alliance has been formed by General Abdul Rashid Dostum, the Vice Presi-
dent and head of Jinhoosh-Milli party; the CEO’s second deputy and governor of Kandahar-Pahlavi-e-Islam party, Mohammad Mo- hammad, and the CEO’s deputy of Junbish-e-Islami party; Ata Mohammad Amiri recently played a key role in the 2-1 UEFA Under-21 Championship qualifi-
crations... (More on P4)

China has Actively Pursued Inclusive Growth at Home: Li

DALLIAN - Chinese Premier Li Keqiang delivered a speech at the opening ceremony of the Annual Meeting of the New Champions, 2017, also known as the Survival Forum, in Dalian.

In his speech, Premier Li said that signs of world economic and trade recovery have been emerged and the new round of industrial revolution has given people new hope.

Economic globalization has become an irreversible trend. Meanwhile, global economic recovery remains weighted down by lack of growth drivers and structural imbalances. The new round of industrial revolution are yet to be fundamentally ad-
justed. Political roles are on the rise, and factors of un-stability and uncertainty abound. As long as we harden our resolve and make relentless efforts... (More on P10)

German Envoy Says He Knew Only of General Threat ahead of Bombing

The German ambassador to Kabul said that he did not know of a plan to bomb the embassy ahead of the May 31 attack, but knew only of a general threat.

The German Ambassador to Afghanistan denies reports by some German media outlets that he knew of the planned attack on his embassy in Ka-
bol. Ambassador Walter Haus-
mann told ToloNews that he "had been in possession of such information, all staff at the emb-
assy would have been evacu-
aided ahead of the incident. "If we had known about this attack, we would have both relocated and evacuated the embassy, and would have informed the neighborhood, we didn’t know about this attack, we knew that these bombs are out there, there is a constant stream of threats against us, against Af- ghan interests we all know that, we try to be careful as we can, but we did not know about this attack coming in the morn-
ing,” he said.”

The envoy said that what they knew “were threats... (More on P10-P14)

Visas Denied for All-Girl Robotics Team Competing in U.S.

WASHINGTON - An all-girl ro-
botics team from Afghanistan’s plans to compete in the U.S. were quickly denied by the U.S. embasa-
dy. The team of six teen girls hailing from Herat, Afghanistan had been waiting for months in order to com-
m the team’s site, the girls said that “we want to develop and refine our skills especially as the leaders are serving as mediators to solve the problems. The alliance problems are clearly evi-
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tion leaders’ positions.

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