while urging Pakistan to stop cross- border attacks into Afghanistan if it wants to participate in the Afghan peace process. According to a statement released by the US Embassy in Islamabad the same day, Pompeo and Qureshi “agreed that Pakistan will work with the Afghan Taliban to avail the opportunity for a political solution and mark the occasion by providing the opportunity for dialogue.”

Another statement, issued after Qureshi returned from his meeting with Taliban in Doha, said that Pakistan “would continue to support the efforts for an Afghan-owned and Afghan-led peace and reconciliation process in Afghanistan.”

The statement also underlined Paki- stan’s desire to revive a structured dialogue with the United States, which has been suspended since February 2019.

“Going forward, a broad-based and structured framework for dialogue would best serve the two countries, shared interests,” Qureshi report- edly told Pompeo. “He reiterated Pakistan’s support for a political settlement in Afghanistan, which includes the participation of all relevant Afghan stakeholders.”

While the US acknowledges Pakistani support in the Afghan peace process, Washington complains that Islamabad does not make sufficient effort to prevent the Afghan conflict. For example, the US says that Pakistan allows militiamen – particularly the Pakistani-backed Haqqani Network – to operate in its territory without being stopped, despite being asked by the Afghan government.

The US also acknowledges the need for a peaceful resolution of all conflicts in the region. Pakistan is under some international pressure to resolve the Kashmir dispute with India and to take a more active role in the Afghan peace process.

The Afghan President, Ashraf Ghani, recently said that he was under pressure to find a solution to the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan. “We should not expect Beijing to pressure Pakistan to help the Afghan peace process,” said Karzai.

“Peace has changed into a mirage. It will only happen when all the parties take a firm decision and not when they are under pressure,” Karzai said. “We have an agreement with the US, but our security forces have not been paid to fight against the Taliban.”

Karzai has also warned that the Afghan peace process is not moving forward as expected. “The US has made some progress, but the Afghan peace process is not moving forward as expected,” Karzai said.

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