Investigations found IEC officials have raised concerns with AIJA as several provincial journalists stations have been raised about the access for and district council elections, slatation. The call from IFJ comes less than a period from IEC to guar- and raises the issue could raise con- sidered to be seriously mal- noured, while another three million stand just one step from famine. No child should be in the cold, sleeping on the ground, shivered by only a sheet with holes in it. But that’s reality for thousands of kids displaced by conflict and drought in Afghanistan. We’re here to help, and everyone needs to step up before Winter’s bite.” Lanner wrote on his personal Twitter account. Fortified flour, vegetable oil, and lentils among other supplies were sent to some 60,000 people. –More on PNL-01

**Price of Democracy**: Afghans Risking Their Lives to Vote

KABUL - From a university student to a middle-aged housewife, Afghans planning to vote in the October 20 par- limentary election say they are willing to risk their lives for democracy. Nearly nine million people have registered to vote, but far fewer are expected to turn out on polling day due to threats of violence and expec- tations of massive fraud. Six people across the war- ten country explain why their vote matters. –Omid, the artist - Out with the old and in with the –More on PNL-01

**Correction to the Request for Bids Goods**

(One-Envelope Bidding Process)

**Country**: Afghanistan

**Name of Project**: Modernization of Afghanistan State Owned Banks (MASOB)

**Contract Title**: Procurement of Licenses for PB (24 Licenses Plus Implementation and Warranty)

**Grant No.**: D2830-AF

**RFB Reference No.**: MM05AEG-F-28

1. The Ministry of Finance has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Modernization of Afghanistan State Owned Banks (MASOB), and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for Procurement of Center System Infrastructure Upgrading (Hardware & Software)

2. The Ministry of Finance now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for Procurement of Licenses for PB (24 Licenses Plus Implementation and Warranty)

3. Bidding will be conducted through international competitive procurement using a Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank’s “Procurement Regulations for IFP borrowers” July 2016 edition (“Procurement Regulations”), and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations

4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from Ministry of Finance Procurement Directorate, Mr. Mohammad Tamim Shafiey, shahimy@hotmail.com and submit their bidding document during hours 8:00 to 17:00 Kabul Time at the address given below

5. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 04/12/2018 at 10:00 Kabul Time.

6. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of USD 25,000 (Twenty Five Thousand US Dollars)

The address(es) referred to above is (are):

**Procurement Directorate of Ministry of Finance**

Contact Name: Mr. Mohammad Tamim Shafiye
Procurement Senior Specialist
Address: Procurement Unit, Second Floor, DM Admin Building, Ministry of Finance, Pashinoistan Watt, Kabul Afghanistan
Phone Number: 0093 (2) 202342311
Facsimile Number: 0093 (2) 20234467
Email Address: shahimy@hotmail.com
Website: www.mof.gov.na

**Summary of contract Award**: Awarded to: SWE” BERNARD Ingenieure ZT GmbH
Address: Apartment No. 7, 4 floor, Kabul plaza, District No. 4, Kabul Afghanistan
License Registration No: IPF Borrowers”
Awarded Bidder Total Points (Technical + Financial) Status of the Proposal
1 BERNARD Ingenieure ZT GmbH 866.62 Contract Awarded

**Proposed Evaluation stage (Technical + Financial)**

No Name of bidders Total Points (Technical + Financial) Status of the Bid
1 Pini Swiss Engineers BA (SWE) 899.20 Qualified
2 Tetra Tech (USA) 753.05 Qualified
3 DZ Consultant International (4291) - Non-responsive proposal
4 SWECO International (HOL) SWECO (GER) - Non-responsive proposal
5 Dongxing Engineering Consulting - Non-responsive proposal

**Notification of Award of Contract**

Project: Consultancy Services for Feasibility Study and Detailed Engineering for: Preparation of Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Corridors 5 & 6 (Skaling Corridor) Project, Independent Proof Check (IPC), Contract No. AGC – SC-2

KABUL - The International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) and its affiliate the Afghan Independent Journalists Association (AIJA) have called for action to ensure media access to polling stations.

According to a statement from IFJ, IEC officials have told the journalists to go to the central office in Kabul to get their coverage cards, which is not a feasible solution. AEA expressed deep concern over the lack of IEC will to allow local journalists to cover the elections and noted the issue could raise concerns at transparency in the elections. –More on PNL-01

**Afghan Forces Continue to Rely on Coalition Support: US**

WASHINGTON - Afghan Na- tion defence Security and Fore- ign (ANDSF) have improved some fundamental capabilities, such as high-level operational planning. However, they continue to rely on American and coalition support to fill several key capability gaps, a US report said on Monday.

The report from US Government Accountability Office on Afghani- an Security found the Depart- ment of Defense lacked critical information on how well Afghan forces operated and maintained this equipment. It added the department had little direct contact with from-time units that made up three-quarters of the Afghan forces.

A copy of the report was sent to the House Armed Services Committee. The US has allocated about USD6 billion for Afghan security in the 17- year from 2002 through 2018. “Senior Restorative Support began, the ANDSF have improved some capa- bilities... but face several capability gaps that leave them reliant on coal- tions.” –More on PNL-01

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**AF-Pak Friendship Gate Reopens after Border Skirmish**

PESHAWAR - A key border crossing between Afghanistan and Pakistan has reopened after brief clashes in the wake of a clash over fencing of the Durand Line.

The Friendship Gate in Baluchistan’s Chaman district was shut in the wake of a skirmish between Afghan and Pakistan security forces over fencing along the border. Officals from the two countries, how- ever, met on Monday and decided to reopen the border for cross- ing by foot. But it will remain closed for commercial traffic.

Despite objections from the neigh- boring country, Pakistan started fencing the 2,400-kilometre border in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balo- chistan provinces. (Pajhwok)

**Stay Impartial in Elections, Bahrami Directs Soldiers**

KABUL - The minister of defence on Tuesday said no Afghan National Army (ANA) soldier reserved the right to support any candidates in the upcoming elections.

Lt. Gen. Faiz Ahmad Bahrami made the remarks at a graduation ceremony for 750 commandos, support ser- vants and soldiers, in the Ghazni area. “You are expected to defend the coun- try and suppress the enemy,” Bahrami told the graduates. All soldiers must work hard to ensure election security, he stressed.

He revealed Afghan Special Forces had made substantial achievements with air support. Their operation had shown an increase of about 90 percent and visible effectiveness as well. Ahead of the October 20 elections, Bahrami said no ANA soldier had reserved the right to support any can- didates but they were duty-bound to en- sure election security.

All MoD personnel were required to demonstrate neutrality in the election and thereby contribute to an accurate outcome of the democratic exercise, the minister concluded. (Pajhwok)