



KINGDOM OF BELGIUM

Statement by

Ambassador Karen Van Vlierberge, Deputy Permanent Representative
of Belgium to the United Nations

Explanation of the vote on the situation in Afghanistan Security Council

New York, 10/3/2020

Mr President,

Today, Belgium voted in favour of the resolution on the situation in Afghanistan and welcomes its unanimous adoption.

We congratulate the United States and all the Council members for the close collaboration that led to this result. Today's resolution is a strong, important indication of this Council's commitment to all the parties in Afghanistan.

We welcome the recent peace and reconciliation efforts. We now await the prompt launch of intra-Afghan dialogue that includes diverse, inclusive negotiation teams and a ceasefire to reduce the number of civilian victims. The civilian death toll from the conflict, including children, is tragic. We also remind all parties that any agreement must protect the rights of all Afghans, including women.

I will conclude by reiterating Belgium's support to UNAMA and the Afghan people. The UN must play a major role during this crucial period for Afghanistan.

Thank you, Mr President.