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Women for Afghan Women Signs Historic Memorandum of Understanding with the Afghan Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation

*Women for Afghan Women will implement its Protection Monitoring Project for another year in partnership with the Afghan Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation*

(Kabul, Afghanistan) July 15, 2019 – Executive Director of Women for Afghan Women (WAW), Ms. Najia Nasim, recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Rasuli, Director of Legal Protection of the Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation (MoRR) of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. WAW will partner with the MoRR in the implementation of its Protection Monitoring Project (PMP) in 13 Afghan provinces: Balkh, Samangan, Jawzjan, Saripul, Faryab, Baghlan, Kunduz, Takhar, Badakhshan, Nangarhar, Kunar, Laghman, and Nuristan. The PMP, currently funded through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), supports local community reintegration efforts for internally-displaced persons and refugee returnees and strengthens the monitoring and efficacy of protection environments.

A press release issued by the MoRR provided details of the MoU and the processes that led to the successful signing of this agreement. During the negotiations, Ms. Nasim presented WAW’s excellent record, expertise, resources, and capabilities, and highlighted the positive impact that WAW's PMP has had on its beneficiaries. Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Rasuli affirmed the Afghan government’s confidence in WAW’s programs and services, particularly the PMP.

WAW began discussions with the MoRR for expanding and extending its PMP in February 2019. After numerous meetings, applications, and extensive follow-up, WAW successfully met all of the Afghan government’s procedural requirements. WAW’s staff repeatedly met with the MoRR to work on the details of the MoU, which was finalized and signed on June 30, 2019 at the offices of the MoRR in Kabul.

Upon the conclusion of the agreement, Mr. Rasuli promised to support continued cooperation and collaboration with WAW. He extended the Afghan government’s appreciation of Ms. Nasim’s invaluable efforts to improve the lives of the Afghan people and WAW’s life-saving and life-changing work under her leadership through its 32 centers, Women's Rights ARE Human Rights training program, PMP, and other services and programs that the organization implements across 16 provinces in Afghanistan. WAW also operates in the United States through a bustling New York Community Center in Queens, New York and a dynamic Advocacy Office in Washington, DC.
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Women for Afghan Women (WAW) is a grassroots, non-profit organization dedicated to securing and protecting the rights of disenfranchised Afghan women and girls in Afghanistan and New York, particularly their rights to develop their individual potential, to self-determination, and to be represented in all areas of life: political, social, cultural, and economic. WAW advocates for women’s rights and challenges the norms that underpin gender-based violence wherever opportunities arise to influence attitudes and bring about change.

WAW is now the largest Afghan women’s and children’s rights organization in the world with over 850 full-time staff, 32 facilities, and programs in 16 provinces throughout Afghanistan. In addition, WAW’s work in the United States includes our New York Community Center and Washington, DC Advocacy Office.