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## Women for Afghan Women Endorses United Nations Security Council Resolution Condemning the Taliban's Systematic Violation of Women's and Girls' Rights in Afghanistan

(New York, NY) April 28, 2023 - Women for Afghan Women (WAW) strongly affirms and welcomes the passing of Resolution 2681 by the United Nations (UN) Security Council condemning the Taliban's ban on women working with the UN in Afghanistan. Resolution 2681 further makes clear that the Taliban's systematic violations of the rights of women and girls in Afghanistan are not only illegal by any standard under international law, but also will not be tolerated by the international community.

UN Security Council Resolution 2681 was co-authored by Japan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and unanimously passed by all 15 members of the Security Council on Thursday, April 27, 2023. Both Japan and the UAE have provided generous humanitarian and economic assistance to the people of Afghanistan throughout the decades.

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the UAE to the UN, H.E. Lana Zaki Nusseibeh [spoke before the vote](#), calling the Taliban's latest restrictions against women "unprecedented in the history of the United Nations." She reiterated that not only her country but 90 other co-sponsors from the Security Council, Afghanistan's immediate neighborhood, the Muslim world, and countries from all corners of the globe have unanimously endorsed this Resolution and its condemnation of the Taliban's reprehensible and illegal treatment of women and girls. She pointed to the unanimity in cross-regional and international support for Resolution 2681 that made clear "the fundamental message that the world will not sit by silently as women in Afghanistan are erased from society." She further asserted that "stability, economic recovery, and political reconciliation is not possible in Afghanistan without the inclusion of Afghan women and girls." Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, H.E. Ishikane Kimihiro, speaking after the vote and also for the UAE, welcomed the unanimous adoption and thanked Council members ["in light of the pressing nature of the issue."](#)

As an organization with a mission dedicated to protecting and empowering Afghan women and girls, WAW is relieved to witness a unanimous and unwavering stance being made by the international community with regard to the inalienability of women's and girls' rights in Afghanistan. We thus echo the [international community's demand](#) that the Taliban *de facto* authorities immediately ensure "the full, equal, meaningful, and safe participation of women and girls in Afghanistan."

WAW calls on the Taliban administration in Kabul to take immediate and concrete steps to address the profound concerns of the international community reflected in this binding resolution (to be issued as document [S/RES/2681\(2023\)](#)) that demands the Taliban "swiftly reverse its policies and practices restricting



women and girls' enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms — including those related to their access to education, employment, freedom of movement and participation in public life."

Despite [claims made by the Taliban administration](#) that the status of Afghan women "is an internal social issue of Afghanistan that does not impact other countries," UN Security Council Resolution 2681 is a testament to the fact that the routine violation of women's and girls' rights in Afghanistan is not a domestic issue that can be shielded by claims of sovereignty and cultural or religious stances, but a question of gross and internationally illegal human rights violations that will continue to remain a profound source of deep concern for the international community, including all of Afghanistan's neighbors, and all Muslim nations.

WAW Executive Director Najia Nasim says of this historic moment: "WAW unequivocally supports this unprecedented global consensus opposing the Taliban's violation of women's and girls' rights. We urge the international community to take note of this historic moment by implementing the demands of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2681. We are hopeful that with strong action from the international community, we will witness the immediate and full restoration of all the human rights of women and girls in Afghanistan."

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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.*

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