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Women for Afghan Women Statement on Biden Administration Extending and Redesignating TPS for Afghanistan

(New York, NY) September 25, 2023 – [Women for Afghan Women \(WAW\)](#) applauds the Biden administration's decision to extend and reestablish Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Afghanistan. This extension enables Afghan nationals who already benefit from the initial TPS approval to renew their protection and work authorization for an additional 18 months. WAW stands in solidarity with all those who will benefit from this decision and remains committed to supporting and advocating for the rights of Afghan individuals and families who are seeking refuge in the United States.

It is absolutely essential to recognize that the re-registration of TPS is a vital step for Afghan nationals who are already benefiting from TPS to continue living safely and securely in the United States. Current beneficiaries of TPS must act promptly during the 60-day re-registration window, which is open from September 25, 2023 through November 24, 2023.

Equally important, the re-designation of Afghanistan for TPS opens doors for approximately 14,600 additional Afghan nationals who entered the United States to file their initial applications for TPS, if they meet the eligibility criteria. Detailed guidance on meeting the eligibility criteria and how to apply for re registration can be found by the Federal Register, [here](#).

The decision to designate Afghanistan for TPS was first issued on May 20, 2022 by Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Mayorkas, due the ongoing violence and armed conflict in Afghanistan. The ongoing violence and uncertainty in Afghanistan is preventing Afghan nationals from returning to their country and residing there safely. This new decision by DHS to redesignate and extend allows for Afghan nationals to reside in the United States safely for an extended period of time.

WAW welcomes this decision, but acknowledges this re-designation and extension only provides temporary stability for Afghans and is not a permanent solution. We still advocate for a permanent solution that will ensure Afghan nationals fleeing the armed conflict and violence in Afghanistan with permanent protection in the United States. We believe this can only be achieved through the Afghan Adjustment Act (AAA). This will ensure that Afghan evacuees receive a pathway to securing permanent legal residence in the United States.

For press related inquiries contact: Sabena Chaudhry

Women for Afghan Women Communications & Advocacy Manager

158-24 73rd Ave., Fresh Meadows, New York 11366

Tel: 718.591.2434 | E-mail sabena@womenforafghanwomen.org

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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