

ANA and ANP COMMANDERS GUIDE TO THE 'AFGHANISTAN PEACE AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAM' (APRP) (version 6) (12 Feb 2011)

1. **Purpose.** This card provides guidance to ANA and ANP personnel who encounter Afghan insurgents or their representatives wanting to enter the official program for reintegration and to join the peace process.

2. **General. The Afghanistan Peace and Reintegration Program (APRP)** is an Afghan program. It is led by the GIROA and it is implemented through the Provincial Governors and the District Administrators who are establishing dedicated Peace and Reintegration Councils (PPRC). Reintegration occurs when insurgents agree to leave the fight, agree to resume a peaceful life and return to their communities, families and to the Afghan nation with honour and dignity.

3. Insurgents who agree to leave the fight can ask to be placed in a program that provides assistance with their security and life support needs and also longer term support to them and their community.

4. **First Contact.** Insurgents may contact the ANSF directly or they may ask a trusted representative such as family member, friend, elder or mullah to do it for them. When the first contact is made with ANSF, the following should be done:

- (a). Notify your commander immediately of a possible reintegration candidate.
- (b). The senior ranking ANSF commander should conduct a 'first contact interview' with the person and collect the following information from them:

- Name of the contact and the reintegrating insurgent, father's name, community, Taskira information (if they have one), and how they can be contacted in the future.
- If the person is a representative, what is his relationship with the insurgent?
- How does the person want to be contacted in the future? (He may ask that the contact be done secretly.)
- Is this the first time that this person has contacted the ANA or the ANP, the government or ISAF? If not, who and when did he have contact before?
- Reasons why the insurgent wants to reintegrate.
- The concerns and grievances the insurgent has.
- What are his immediate needs in order to return to his community?
- His immediate concerns about security and what he needs to ensure his security.
- If the insurgent is a commander, how many other fighters may wish to reintegrate?

(c). At the end of this first interview:

- Agree on the time and way for the next contact.
- Explain that there will need to be more discussions where the program is explained and also what will be the insurgent's rights, responsibilities and obligations if he enters the program.
- Reassure the insurgent / representative that ANSF and ISAF will help him in reintegrating for as long as needed.
- Tell the insurgent / representative that the decision for him to enter into the official reintegration program lies with the Afghan Government, his community and himself.

5. **Follow Up Action.**

- (a). At the end of the first interview, the meeting and information collected must be reported IMMEDIATELY as an incident to your higher Headquarters.
- (b). Your Headquarters will arrange through your Kandak, Brigade or Division HQ the next contact with the insurgent or representative.

6. **Do:**

- Do - Follow the instructions and orders you are given for the APRP.
- Do – Remember that most insurgents are fighting because they are angry and upset and have grievances.
- Do – Remember that insurgents leave the fight through The Peace Process but that the anger and disputes that they and others have must be addressed for there to be peace.
- Do – Remember that the Peace Process usually starts with a period of dialogue between Insurgents intermediaries and GIROA or the Provincial Governors.
- Do – Remember that The Provincial and District Governors have a dedicated Council responsible for the Peace Process (PPRC) and that your ANA and ANP Senior Commanders work with the Governors.
- Do – Remember and inform your Afghan brothers that communities have a big, important role in reintegration. The communities will decide if they want those insurgents asking to reintegrate to come back to their community. Communities will have to be responsible. But those communities that agree to take back fighters will be able to receive assistance that will be available in this program.
- Do – Remember that insurgents officially accepted into the APRP will be given some assistance while they are going through the program.
- Do – Inform people that the Afghan Peace Process calls for all Afghans to be treated with honour, dignity and respect. This includes the ex-fighters. Those persons who officially enter the Peace Process will be allowed to keep a personal weapon for their protection once it has been officially registered.
- Do – Report all activity concerning reintegration to your higher ANSF Headquarters. This includes all discussions where people ask about the possibility of reintegration for themselves or people they know.
- Do – Senior officers should make sure that information on reintegration activity and opportunities is shared with your ISAF colleagues. This is important so that the persons who have expressed a genuine wish to reintegrate are not targeted. Also, ISAF may be able to support the process.
- Do – Ask for help and guidance from your Headquarters if you do not understand how to proceed when approached by a possible reintegration candidate or a representative.

7. **Do Not:**

- Do Not - Offer a guarantee of amnesty or immunity from Afghan government prosecution.- only GIROA can do that.
- NEVER - Use the term 'surrender' or 'lay down weapons' when talking about the peace process or reintegration. Fighters who are reintegrating are not 'surrendering'. It is important that these terms are NEVER used and that it is clearly understood that these fighters are not 'surrendering'.
- Do Not - Tell a reintegration candidate or his representative whether they are on a targeting list.
- Do Not - Make any promises of money or other assistance to the reintegration candidates or their representatives.
- Do Not – Do anything that goes against Islam or Afghanistan's laws.
- Do Not – Do anything that does not follow the APRP or that involves corruption. If you see this, report it to your Headquarters.

8. **Insurgents Who Choose not to Join the Peace Process:**

Those who join the 'Peace Process' will be welcomed as our Afghan brothers. But those who chose not to join the 'Peace Process' will be tracked, found and defeated.