



2015/0302M(NLE)

18.10.2018

AMENDMENTS

1 - 30

Draft opinion

Frank Engel

(PE623.970v01-00)

Cooperation Agreement on Partnership and Development between the EU and
the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
(2015/0302M(NLE))

Amendment 1
Doru-Claudian Frunzulică, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Notes that Afghanistan is one of the world's largest recipients of development aid and that EU institutions committed EUR 3.6 billion in aid to the country between 2002 and 2016; regrets *the fact that, despite international assistance*, the proportion of Afghans living in poverty has risen from 38 % (2012) to 55 % (2017);

Amendment

1. Notes that Afghanistan is one of the world's largest recipients of development aid and that EU institutions committed EUR 3.6 billion in aid to the country between 2002 and 2016; regrets *that* the proportion of Afghans living in poverty has risen from 38 % (2012) to 55 % (2017) *and highlights that the country has registered slow growth since 2014 with the draw-down of international security forces, accompanying reductions in international grants as well as a worsening security situation*;

Or. en

Amendment 2
Sabine Lösing

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 – point 1 (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

(1) Stresses that there should be no conditionality between development assistance and cooperation from beneficiary countries on migration issues; opposes any attempts to link aid with management of migratory flows or readmission agreements; underlines the need for close parliamentary scrutiny and monitoring of agreements linked to migration management and of migration-linked use of development funds;

Or. en

Amendment 3
Doru-Claudian Frunzulică, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 a. *Recalls the EU commitment to support poverty reduction by focusing its efforts in areas in which it adds most value and by respecting the principles of aid efficiency and effectiveness, in line with “Policy Coherence for Development” (PCD);*

Or. en

Amendment 4
Judith Sargentini

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

Amendment

2. Recognises that this recent reversal in development progress is largely due to the intensification of violence and conflict, **and** that internal displacement, the arrival of returnees from the surrounding region and climatic factors, such as drought, have all led to a deterioration of the humanitarian situation;

2. Recognises that this recent reversal in development progress is largely due to the intensification of violence and conflict; **highlights that 2018 is on track to be the deadliest year for civilians on record; underlines** that internal displacement, the arrival of returnees from the surrounding region and **European Member States as well as** climatic factors, such as **an ongoing** drought, have all led to a deterioration of the humanitarian situation; **notes with concern that reintegration activities, funded from the EU’s development aid, are difficult to execute considering the current humanitarian and security situation of the country;**

Or. en

Amendment 5
Doru-Claudian Frunzulică, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge

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Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Recognises that this recent reversal in development progress is largely due to the intensification of violence and conflict, and that internal displacement, the arrival of returnees from the surrounding region and climatic factors, such as drought, have all led to a deterioration of the humanitarian situation;

Amendment

2. Recognises that this recent reversal in development progress is largely due to the intensification of ***long-lasting*** violence and conflict, and that internal displacement, the arrival of returnees from the surrounding region and climatic factors, such as drought, have all led to a deterioration of the humanitarian situation; ***urges therefore the EU and its Member States to enhance all their efforts to address key humanitarian challenges and human needs and to pay particular attention to vulnerable people, including people located in hard to reach areas;***

Or. en

Amendment 6
Jean-Luc Schaffhauser

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Recognises that this recent reversal in development progress is largely due to the intensification of violence and conflict, and that internal displacement, the arrival of returnees from the surrounding region and climatic factors, such as drought, have all led to a deterioration of the humanitarian situation;

Amendment

2. Recognises that this recent reversal in development progress is largely due to the intensification of violence and conflict, and that internal displacement, the arrival of returnees from the surrounding region and climatic factors, such as drought, have all led to a deterioration of the humanitarian situation; ***maintains that NATO intervention, which has continued for more than 20 years, has not helped to resolve Afghanistan's problems, whether as regards democracy, the rule of law, or social and economic development;***

Or. fr

Amendment 7
Mireille D'Ornano

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Recognises that this recent reversal in development progress is largely due to the intensification of violence and conflict, and that internal displacement, the arrival of returnees from the surrounding region and climatic factors, such as drought, have all led to a deterioration of the humanitarian situation;

Amendment

2. Recognises that this recent reversal in development progress is largely due to the intensification of violence and conflict ***brought about by foreign intervention, which in one form after another since 1979 has disrupted the fragile balance of Afghan society***, and that internal displacement, the arrival of returnees from the surrounding region and climatic factors, such as drought, have all led to a deterioration of the humanitarian situation;

Or. fr

Amendment 8
Jean-Luc Schaffhauser

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2a. Notes that, according to the UNODC, the production of opium, the raw material for heroin, almost trebled between 2002 (3 400 tonnes) and 2017 (9 000 tonnes), that it accounts for 52% of Afghanistan's GDP, and that the number of child heroin addicts in Afghanistan is estimated at 300 000; maintains that, far from curbing it, the EU-backed NATO intervention has boosted drug production on Afghan soil;

Or. fr

Amendment 9
Doru-Claudian Frunzulică, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 a. *Highlights that an estimated 10 million people have limited or no access to essential health services; emphasizes in this regard the need to remain committed to supporting the government to strengthen basic health provisions, with a focus on ensuring health care to vulnerable people including women, girls and children, as well as addressing disability and mental health care;*

Or. en

Amendment 10
Judith Sargentini

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 a. *Underlines that according to UN OCHA, 5.5 million people are in need of humanitarian aid in Afghanistan, including people being internally displaced due to conflict or drought, while the Humanitarian Response Plan is only 33.5% funded;*

Or. en

Amendment 11
Cécile Kashetu Kyenge

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2a. *Deplores the spate of attacks and killings in the run-up to the October 2018 parliamentary elections, which claimed*

the lives of many civilians and ten of the candidates standing for election;

Or. it

Amendment 12
Cécile Kashetu Kyenge

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2b. Points out that drought, which has beset Afghanistan for years, has led to the forced displacement of more than 250 000 people from northern and western parts of the country; maintains in addition that the EU's commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and in particular to eradicating poverty, bringing about zero hunger, and managing water, should also find expression in development aid and that Afghanistan is a key partner in achieving those goals;

Or. it

Amendment 13
Doru-Claudian Frunzulică, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 b. Notes that rural economies and agriculture constitute the current main source of employment generation and calls on the EU to scale up its interventions in this area in order to improve food and nutrition security, rural livelihoods and employment, including the sustainable management of natural resources; underlines that particular attention should be given to the impact of natural hazards and climate change on

small subsistence farmers;

Or. en

Amendment 14
Judith Sargentini

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 b. Highlights that due to a crackdown on Afghans in Iran, 500.000 undocumented Afghans have returned from Iran since the start of the year;

Or. en

Amendment 15
Judith Sargentini

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 c. Regrets the strong focus in the Agreement on the prevention of irregular migration; furthermore regrets that EU aid has indirectly been made conditional on Afghanistan's cooperation on returns; deplores that returns from the EU Member States are continuing despite a highly unstable security situation, ongoing drought and serious reintegration challenges due to extremely high number of people returning from the region; calls on EU Member States to refrain from returns to Afghanistan;

Or. en

Amendment 16
Judith Sargentini

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 d. *Notes that Article 28.4 of the cooperation agreement on partnership and development which states the aim to conclude a readmission agreement, has resulted in the Joint Way Forward; regrets that the Joint Way Forward is an informal agreement rather than a formal readmission agreement; considers it important that any agreements regarding readmission should be formalized to ensure democratic accountability;*

Or. en

Amendment 17
Judith Sargentini

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 d (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2 d. *Welcomes the very prominent place reserved in the Agreement for gender equality and related policies and the strong focus on civil society development;*

Or. en

Amendment 18
Doru-Claudian Frunzulică, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

Amendment

3. Stresses the need to comprehensively address humanitarian, development and security challenges and

3. ***Recalls that 8.7 million people have chronic needs which require longer-term systemic actions;*** stresses the need to

the nexuses between them; insists that pacifying the country and normalising the functioning of the state and its institutions are indispensable prerequisites for development in Afghanistan;

comprehensively address humanitarian, development and security challenges and **to better operationalise** the nexuses between them; insists that pacifying the country and normalising the functioning of the state and its institutions are indispensable prerequisites for development in Afghanistan;

Or. en

Amendment 19 **Judith Sargentini**

Draft opinion **Paragraph 3**

Draft opinion

3. Stresses the need to comprehensively address humanitarian, development and security challenges and the nexuses between them; insists that pacifying the country **and** normalising the functioning of the state and its institutions are indispensable prerequisites for development in Afghanistan;

Amendment

3. Stresses the need to comprehensively address humanitarian, development and security challenges and the nexuses between them; insists that pacifying the country, normalising the functioning of the state and its institutions **and expanding basic social services such as health care and education** are indispensable prerequisites for development in Afghanistan;

Or. en

Amendment 20 **Mireille D'Ornano**

Draft opinion **Paragraph 3**

Draft opinion

3. Stresses the need to comprehensively address humanitarian, development and security challenges and the nexuses between them; insists that pacifying the country **and** normalising the functioning of the state and its institutions are indispensable prerequisites for

Amendment

3. Stresses the need to comprehensively address humanitarian, development and security challenges and the nexuses between them; insists that pacifying the country, normalising the functioning of the state and its institutions, **and supporting the fight against the**

development in Afghanistan;

Taliban are indispensable prerequisites for development in Afghanistan;

Or. fr

Amendment 21
Sabine Lösing

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Stresses the need to comprehensively address humanitarian, development and security challenges and the nexuses between them; insists that pacifying the country *and* normalising the functioning of the state and its institutions are indispensable prerequisites for development in Afghanistan;

Amendment

3. Stresses the need to comprehensively address humanitarian, development and security challenges and the nexuses between them; insists that pacifying the country, *eradicating poverty*, normalising the functioning of the state and its institutions are indispensable prerequisites for *social and economic* development in Afghanistan;

Or. en

Amendment 22
Jean-Luc Schaffhauser

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Calls on the Member States to work as closely as possible with the Collective Security Treaty Organisation and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, as well as with China, Russia, and Iran, in order to fight drug trafficking and terrorism in Afghanistan and Central Asia;

Or. fr

Amendment 23

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Mireille D'Ornano

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Maintains that supporting Pakistan in its fight against the Taliban based in the North-West, in the Pakistani border region, is a sine qua non for bringing about lasting stabilisation of the situation in Afghanistan, since the armed conflicts in these two countries are very closely linked;

Or. fr

Amendment 24
Judith Sargentini

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4 a. Stresses the need to continue funding needs-based development aid for Afghanistan and to focus in particular on eradicating poverty, addressing vulnerabilities such as widespread food insecurity and chronic malnutrition and access for all to basic services, such as healthcare and education;

Or. en

Amendment 25
Doru-Claudian Frunzulică, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

Amendment

5. Welcomes the EU-Afghanistan State Building Contract (SBC) (budget

5. Welcomes the EU-Afghanistan State Building Contract (SBC) (budget

support), signed in 2016, as it can strengthen government institutions and their ownership of development policies; stresses that resources must be used effectively and monitored to prevent misuses; calls on the Commission to keep Parliament regularly informed of the SBC's implementation.

support), signed in 2016, as it can strengthen government institutions and their ownership of development policies; ***notes that the SBC draws on an overall positive review of the progress made by Afghanistan on key reform areas***; stresses that resources must be used effectively and ***systematically*** monitored to prevent misuses; calls on the Commission to keep Parliament regularly informed of the SBC's implementation ***and underlines that the findings related to the latter should be used to prepare the continuation of the budget support operation for the period 2018-2021***;

Or. en

Amendment 26
Cécile Kashetu Kyenge

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Welcomes the Afghan national return management strategy, but points to the need for continuous monitoring for the purpose of implementing safe routes for the reintegration of Afghan citizens, especially children, who must be guaranteed access to primary and secondary education.

Or. it

Amendment 27
Judith Sargentini

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 a. Regrets the support foreseen in the Agreement for agricultural biotechnology

in context where GMOs are strongly contested in Europe; welcomes on the other hand the reference to the development of a sustainable and environment-friendly agriculture.

Or. en

Amendment 28

Doru-Claudian Frunzulică, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge

Draft opinion

Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 a. Emphasizes the importance of ensuring that civil society organisations (CSOs) will continue to play an essential role in exercising social control necessary to verify the good provision of public services;

Or. en

Amendment 29

Doru-Claudian Frunzulică, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge

Draft opinion

Paragraph 5 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 b. Calls on the EU to further promote equality between women and men and women's empowerment through its development efforts, bearing in mind that changing societal attitudes towards women's socio-economic role calls for accompanying measures in awareness raising, education and reform of the regulatory framework;

Or. en

Amendment 30
Doru-Claudian Frunzulică, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 c (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5 c. Regrets the lack of parliamentary oversight and democratic control on the conclusion of the Joint Way Forward informal readmission agreement between the EU and Afghanistan and stresses the importance of conducting continuous dialogue with the relevant actors in order to find a sustainable solution on the issue of Afghan refugees in its regional dimension; emphasizes that the EU development assistance to Afghanistan should not be seen through the prism of purely migration and border management purposes and considers that development aid should address effectively the root causes of migration, in line with its primary objective of poverty eradication;

Or. en