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AFGHANISTAN
PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANCE
PROJECT

Legislative Session Summary

January - June 2009

A summary of the first half of the National Assembly's fourth year

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Summary

The first half of the Afghan National Assembly's 2009 calendar year began on 20 January and ended on 5 June. Legislative activities included:

- The Lower House conducted 54 legislative sessions and the Upper House 38;
- The Assembly passed 19 bills, including the National Budget, and 11 conventions;
- The Assembly refused to accept three conventions;
- Consideration of three draft laws was postponed for clarification of relevant articles of the Constitution;
- 27 draft laws were active in the Assembly but not yet passed, and;
- 41 pending bills and decrees were inactive.

Legislative Session January – June 2009	
Bills approved by the National Assembly	19
Active bills not yet passed	27
Inactive bills and decrees	41
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Major Events

Legislators Debate Security Issues

Security and the means for maintaining it remained at the top of the Assembly agenda throughout much of the session. Plenary discussion saw frequent and strong condemnation of civilian casualties and calls for “legalization” of foreign troops in the country. A number of lawmakers urged a rethink of the planned deployment of up to 30 thousand additional US soldiers, arguing that the strategy may actually exacerbate Afghanistan’s security problems. Afghan troops would be more effective in combating terrorism while additional US troops will increase civilian casualties, which will widen the gap between the people and government and could end in revolt, according to MPs. Some legislators argued that enhanced aid and development assistance may be the better path forward.

Assembly Approves National Budget

On 18 March, after 15 days of debate in the Upper House and 30 in the Lower, the Wolesi Jirga approved the 1388 National Budget with 73 votes of 127 present lawmakers. MPs during extensive committee and plenary debate took issue with several aspects of the budget, including the perceived lack of equitable distribution among provinces, that the value of new 1388 development projects was less than those of 1387, and that the budget does not do enough to stimulate jobs creation.

MPs Debate President Karzai’s Tenure

At several points during the session, Assembly members debated the issue of President Karzai’s proposed term extension. On 29 March, the Supreme Court supported the government’s position by stating that the president and vice presidents should remain in office until a new president is sworn in after the 20 August election. Lower House members debated the Supreme Court’s decision in several sessions, presenting arguments for and against extension of the president’s term. One group cited prevention of a power vacuum, internal stability, and security in supporting the decision. Others argued that the Court overstepped its authority in making the decision and requested a meeting between Assembly, Supreme Court, IEC, and government representatives to take a collective decision on the issue. In the end, about two thirds for Lower House members supported the government and Supreme Court.

Article 61 of the Constitution specifies that the presidential term end on 21 May and that elections be conducted one to two months before that, but the Independent Election Commission (IEC) proposed delay of the election for logistical (including inaccessibility due to snow and mud at higher altitudes) and security concerns.

Assembly Considers Shia Family Law

In an apparent gesture to the bill's Shia sponsors, both houses of the National Assembly sidestepped direct consideration of the draft Shia Family Law by issuing a statement in support of the draft rather than processing it through normal channels. The Lower House approved the statement, but Upper House leadership signed the statement without open debate or a vote. General comments from MPs indicate that Assembly membership intended to issue tacit approval of the document as an "advisory" piece to the Supreme Court in deciding issues specific to Shias within the current judicial system. Many MPs opposed to establishing a separate court system for the religious group and took issue with certain provisions within the draft seen as oppressive to women.

The Assembly statement reads:

On Saturday, 30 January 2009, the Lower House approved the Law on Personal Affairs of Shiites with the following:

With the agreement of a committee of Sunni and Shia scholars on the omission of some issues, and in accordance with Article 131 of the Constitution, the Supreme Court shall pave the way for implementation of the Law on Personal Affairs of Shiites consisting of 249 articles. The implementation of the law does not require separate courts and judges.

Article 131 of the Constitution says:

The courts shall apply the Shia jurisprudence in cases involving personal matters of followers of the Shia sect in accordance with the provisions of the law. In other cases, if no clarification in this Constitution and other laws exist, the courts shall rule according to laws of this sect.

The status of the "laws of this sect" may be open to debate, but some think the document will at least serve to inform decisions of the Court.

After President Karzai's signing of the document stirred controversy domestically and internationally, many, including members of the Wolesi Jirga Women's Committee, are insisting on the bill's return to the Assembly for an open debate and vote. Others call for endorsement of the bill as it stands. Karzai has stated that he intends to return an amended draft to the Assembly.

The draft law regulates the personal affairs of Shia citizens including marriage, divorce, remarriage (due to death of one of the partners), maintenance of orphan property, patrimony, and bankruptcy.

Lower House Approves Four Ministers, Rejects Two Nominees

The Wolesi Jirga approved President Karzai's nominees for Minister of Finance, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Minister for Transport and Civil Aviation, and Minister of Refugees and Repatriation. The House approved Hazrat Omar Zakhelwal as Minister of Finance with 144 votes of 198 MPs present, Wahidullah Shahrani received 110 votes of 192 cast to be confirmed to the commerce post, Abdul Karim Barahawi won 104 votes to be approved as Minister of Refugees, and Hamidullah Farooqi, with 128 votes of 168 present MPs, won the position of Minister for Transport and Civil Aviation.

Two nominees, Asadullah Khaled failed to win approval as Minister of Frontiers and Tribes with 91 yes votes, and Sadiq Chakari failed to win approval as Minister of Hajj and Religious Affairs with 109 no votes of 174 voting MPs.

Roadside Bomb Kills MP in Helmand Province

A roadside bomb killed Honorable Daad Mohammad Khan and three of his bodyguards in Nahr-e-Seraj District in southern Helmand on 19 March. The MP was traveling to provincial capital Lashkar Gah. The Afghan Parliament has lost eleven members to date, including six killed in Baghlan in 2007.

MPs Criticize Ministers' Lack of Responsiveness

The Wolesi Jirga convened the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Mohammad Anwar Jegdalek, on 27 May to raise the issue of ministers and other officials' lack of responsiveness to the National Assembly, and allege unethical relations between the government and certain MPs. Heated debate ensued over the issue.

During the questioning, Sediq Ahmad Osmani (Parwan) complained that, "In the last month we have had serious problems with some of the ministers. We planned an oversight meeting on budget implementation, but the ministers did not appear to share the information." The MP added, "The ministers do not honor their commitments. They do not share requested documents with the Budget and Finance Committee on time."

Other MPs criticized what they see as a lack of access to ministers and the officials' differential treatment of MPs. The MPs also accused the Ministry of Parliamentarian Affairs of arbitrarily forwarding certain Assembly-approved bills to the government quickly while delaying others.

Bills Approved by the National Assembly

Law on Salaries of High Ranking Government Officials

The law determines the salaries of all high ranking government officials. According to National Assembly amendments, the President's monthly salary is approved at 32,000*3 Afs (USD 1,920) or 3 times the salary of the top civil servant officials. The salary of vice presidents, speakers of the National Assembly, head of the Supreme Court, and Attorney General will be equal to 32,000*2.5. Ministers, 32,000*2.25; and MPs and senators 32,000*2.

Mining Materials Law

The law will regulate mine ownership and control, security, management, private investment, and other affairs related to mining.

Law on Water

The law regulates protection of water sources, their effective and sustainable use, and the rights of users according to Afghan tradition.

The National Assembly approved the law, but some MPs raised concerns about Afghanistan's water flow to neighboring countries and called for review of a 1963 agreement between Afghanistan and Iran on use of the Helmand River.

Income Tax Law

The bill outlines tax rates and procedures in accordance with Article 42 of the Constitution. The approved draft stipulates that government employees with salaries of 5,000-12,500 Afghanis will pay 2% tax. Those who receive between 12,500 and 100,000 Afs will pay 10% and higher salaried persons will pay 20%. Landlords who receive rent between 10,000-100,000 Afs will pay 10%. Higher rent earners will pay 15%.

Police Law

The law regulates the structure, responsibilities, duties, activities, and authorities of the police forces. Assembly amendments give the Minister of Interior responsibility for supervision of police forces in the capital and the border as well as highway and traffic police forces nationally. The regular MoI police forces in the provinces and districts would be supervised by provincial governors and district administrators.

Law on Foreign Citizens' Travel, Work and Stay

The law regulates issues related to foreign citizens' entry, work, and stay in Afghanistan. The draft sets the following rates for multiple entry visas: 90 USD for three months; 180 USD for six months; and 360 USD for one year. The Meshrano added a new paragraph to

Article 19: “The price should be adjusted accordingly for citizens of those counties which charge Afghans more than said amount.”

Law on Certified Documents Issued in Embassies and Consulates of Afghanistan

The law regulates fees for certification of legal documents (power of attorney, birth certificates, etc.) issued in Afghan embassies and consulates. The approved draft increases the fee for business document certification from 100 to 120 USD.

Law on Movable Assets in Banking Transactions

This draft law outlines the rights and responsibilities of the parties to a transaction, and establishes parameters for management of mortgage affairs in banking deals involving movable estates. The National Assembly brought amendments to 33 articles of the bill, many of which involve clarifications of legal terms.

Private Investment Law

The draft law regulates issues related to encouraging and protecting private investment in a free market economy. After lengthy discussions the National Assembly amended the maximum lease period for foreign investors from 50 to 90 years.

Law on Mortgage of Immovable Assets in Banking Transactions

The draft law regulates business and banking transactions that use immovable property as security and specifies the rights and obligations of the parties involved. The law aims to: secure debt and contracts using immovable property; facilitate access to negotiable credit by securing immovable property; provide mutual agreement between parties to a banking transaction; and facilitate expansion of commerce, credit, investment, and economic growth.

Wolesi Jirga amendments provide for long-term government loans for property owners to start businesses and construct facilities/houses. The law will also modernize the property registration system which will help prevent the usurpation of private property by powerful interests.

Civil Servants Law

The draft law addresses the salaries and ranks of civil service employees and outlines measures to: make administrative corrections to Government systems; clarify job descriptions for Government employees; improve education levels of Government employees; improve employee qualifications and work ethic; and provide employee housing and other benefits.

The National Assembly passed the bill but is still in the process of sending the draft to the president. Changes include reinstatement of the Superscale mechanism – intended to

promote staff retention – with a six step pay scale ranging from 300 to 1,500 USD per month. The Wolesi made level of education one factor in determining salary levels and the ability to speak both Dari and Pashto a criterion to qualify for Superscale salaries.

Chamber of Commerce and Industry Law

The bill, drafted pursuant to Articles 10, 11 and 13 of the Constitution, aims to defend the rights of private sector enterprises; develop commercial, industrial, agricultural, husbandry and other economic services in the private sector; coordinate the handicraft, trade union, and service industries; and pave the way for economic development of private sector enterprises, nationally and internationally.

The National Assembly has passed the bill which will now move to the president. Proposed amendments would require that the Chamber of Commerce and Industry should be independent but “supervised” by a Cabinet committee.

Law on Transit

The bill is drafted to regulate transport affairs including provision of facilities for the transit of goods and their protection. The National Assembly passed the bill on 7 June with minor grammatical amendments, now it is set to move to the president.

Law on Custom Duties in State Courts

The National Assembly has passed the legislative decree.

Passport Law

The law regulates Afghan citizens’ travel abroad and foreigners’ entry and stay in Afghanistan.

Law on Stamp Duties of Courts

The law regulates stamp duty rates and administrative expenses of Afghan courts. The National Assembly approved the draft with amendments, which include a 3.5 percent tax on immovable assets.

Law on Rights and Privileges of the Relatives of Martyrs and Missing

The law regulates the special rights and privileges of families of the martyred and missing. The draft addresses the social, economic, and political needs of the families, including housing and employment benefits.

The National Assembly lowered the amount of compensation to the families of martyrs and missing in Articles 4 and 5 from one month’s salary as follows: survivors of martyred and missing military and higher level civilian authorities are entitled to 35

percent of the martyred or missing last monthly salary and other benefits. Other government workers are entitled of 30 percent of the same. Families of those missing since 1997 but remaining unregistered due to security restrictions will be able to register the relative's name and receive benefits. The president has rejected the bill reportedly due to grammatical mistakes.

Law on Rights and Privileges of the Disabled

The law will integrate and support the disabled economically. According to the Lower House amendments, disabled government employees injured while on the job will receive 20% of the highest government salary. All non-government disabled will receive 15% of the lowest rank government salary, or approximately 750 Afghani. Unregistered disabled would be able to obtain identity cards which will provide access to the benefit. The government returned the bill to the Assembly to correct legal and grammatical errors.

Conventions, Treaties, and Agreements Passed

- ILO Convention No. 182. Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999.
- Convention concerning the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment of Disabled Persons (No. 159)
- Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 144)
- Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (UNESCO)
- Accord on the Cooperation Relationships between the Republic of Kazakhstan and Transitional Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
- Agreement between Qatar and Islamic Republic of Afghanistan on the Conduct and Recruitment of Afghan Workers in Qatar
- Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage 2003
- Added Protocols on Geneva 1949, belonging to the International Red Cross Committee (ICRC)
- Land Transportation Agreement between Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and Turkish Republic
- Amendment to Article 19 of the International Labor Organization Statute
- Four million Euro loan of the German Development Bank

Conventions Returned to the Government

On 20 May, the Wolesi Jirga rejected the following international charters and treaties signed by Dr. Rangeen Dadfar Spanta, Foreign Minister of Afghanistan, declaring the documents invalid. Last year the Wolesi Jirga gave the foreign minister a vote of no confidence over his handling of the expulsion of Afghan refugees from Iran. The Lower House has not recognized the official's authority, including that to sign international agreements, since then.

- Charter of Development Fund of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)
- Treaty between the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and United Arab Emirates on Mutual Legal Cooperation in the Criminal Issues
- Criminals Extradition Treaty between the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the United Arab Emirates

Bills Active during the Session - Not Passed

Electoral Law

The Electoral Law establishes the electoral system and will regulate electoral issues, including voting centers/polling stations, observers, election campaigns, candidacy, candidate lists, voting eligibility, counting, and inter-agency cooperation on elections. The draft law addresses presidential, parliamentary, provincial, district, and mayoral elections.

Status: The bill remains frozen due to the contentious issue of ten designated Lower House seats and a national constituency for Afghanistan's nomads, the Kuchis.

Counternarcotics Law

The draft law will prevent cultivation, trafficking, production, transaction, export and import of narcotics. The bill also addresses punishment of narcotics traffickers and promotes assistance from national and international organizations on countering narcotics processing, production, and facilities.

Status: The Lower House has renamed the draft the Law on Counter and Control of Narcotics and Intoxicants and added two articles. Article 45 specifies detention periods from one month to twenty years for trafficking of intoxicating substances and harsh punishments for alcohol drinkers in accordance with Sharia law. Article 46 allows confiscation of the property of narcotic or intoxicant dealers by judgment of the courts.

Procurement Law

This bill addresses procurement of materials and services of the government and private entities. The draft law aims to promote transparency and equal opportunity in competitive procurement processes, control of financial and public expenditures, and supply of high quality goods and services.

Customs Law

This bill is drafted in accordance with Article 42 of the Constitution to legislate customs affairs, including government collection of customs revenue, establishing customs duties, specifying the authority conferred on customs personnel, outlining export policies and procedures, and preventing customs violations.

Law on Cooperatives and Limited Liability Companies

The bill is drafted to govern the affairs and activities of cooperatives and limited liability companies.

Law on Child Correction and Education Centers

The bill is drafted in accordance with the values embodied in Article 54 of the Afghan Constitution and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The draft law addresses issues of re-education and protection of suspected, accused, and convicted children in child correction and education centers.

Local Governance Law

This law is drafted pursuant to Article 136 of the Constitution to provide for the management of issues relating to the numbers, areas, and structures of local administrations. The local administration acts to achieve objectives such as securing the needs of local peoples in different areas of social, cultural and economic life; maintaining order and protecting public interests; implementing state-proposed programs in related areas; and attracting people's cooperation in securing government's development objectives. The draft law also addresses affairs related to provincial governors, district governors and sub-district governors.

Status: After lengthy debates, further Wolesi consideration is pending clarification of Article 137 of the Constitution by the yet to be established Independent Commission for Overseeing Implementation of the Constitution.

Education law

The draft law guarantees equal and balanced access to free primary education for all Afghan citizens. The bill aims to eliminate illiteracy and improve the quality of education nationwide through instituting modern methodology and parental involvement in schools. In addition, the bill calls for improved professional qualifications of teachers, school principals, and Ministry of Education employees. The draft sets a minimum education level of grade eight for all Afghans and mandates design of age-appropriate curricula by the Ministry of Education.

Law on Medals and Badges

The Law on Medals and Badges regulates affairs related to the class, value, size, and production of official government medals and badges. The draft explains the types and purposes of various medals and badges and defines award conditions and processes.

Law on the Structure, Duties, and Authorities of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission

Pursuant to United Nations General Assembly Resolution 48/134 dated 20 December 1993 and provisions of Article 58 of the Afghan Constitution, the law, passed by decree, promotes respect for and monitoring of human rights, and governs the structure, functions, authorities, and activities of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission. It now requires ratification by the National Assembly.

Law on Private Security Companies

The bill regulates foreign and domestic private security companies (PSC) in Afghanistan and places licensing and oversight authority with the Ministry of Interior. The draft law establishes a board chaired by the Minister of Interior to oversee security companies' affairs. The board will review and approve applications before forwarding them to the Cabinet and revoke licenses or impose restrictions as deemed necessary.

Status: Further consideration of the bill has been postponed until clarification of Article 5 of the Constitution by the not yet established Independent Commission for Overseeing Implementation of the Constitution.

Government Structure Law

The law regulates affairs related to government structure in accordance with the Afghan Constitution.

Higher Education Law

The law will regulate the activities of public and private higher education institutions in Afghanistan.

Status: Due to the controversial issue of academic terminology, the Lower House has referred the draft to the not yet established Independent Commission for Overseeing Implementation of the Constitution for clarification of what constitutes academic and national terminology in the Article 16 phrase, "Academic and national administrative terminology and usage in the country shall be preserved."

Organization and Jurisdiction of Courts Law

The law will regulate the structure, staffing, and rights and responsibilities of the courts. Under the law, the Supreme Court, as the highest judicial authority, has the right to overturn or amend decisions of the lower courts. The courts review disputes, monitor implementation of the law, and protect citizens' rights in accordance with the law.

Law on Regulating Ethical Relations of the Three Pillars of State

The draft law establishes expectations for behavior and communication between representatives of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government.

Status: The Lower House passed the draft with amendments but the Upper House rejected the bill on 7 June and proposed changing the “law” to “procedure” with the rationale that the document contains more ethical recommendations than mandates. The document will be return to the Wolesi Jirga with a letter clarifying that it is “advisory” and that the draft, if approved, would limit Parliament’s authorities.

Planting Seeds Law

This bill is drafted to regulate planting, production, purchase, quality control, and trade of seeds and related issues. Objectives of the bill include improving and developing planting and root seeds, protection of genetic resources and materials, and promoting scientific research on seeds.

Communication Services Regulatory Law

The law is drafted in accordance with provisions of Articles 10 and 37 of the Afghan Constitution to enhance and develop telecommunications services, organize and monitor telecommunication markets, and govern business relationships between the Ministry of Communications, service providers, and customers.

Law on Registration of Commercial Trademarks

This law is established to organize the registration and use of trademarks for industrial, commercial, communications, and agricultural goods, products and services. According to the law, a name, word, signature, written piece, map, title, stamp, picture, etc. can be registered. The law also regulates registration, change, and transfer of trademarks and restricts the use by two or more individuals, companies, offices, organizations or institutions of the same trademark.

Law on Personnel Affairs of ANA Sergeants

The law regulates personnel issues including conditions for appointment, compensation for death and injury, rank, transfer, benefits, vacation, discipline, rewards, resignation, retirement, and reserve status of ANA sergeants and officers.

Extradition Law

The bill governs the transfer of suspects, accused, and convicts to and from Afghanistan and addresses requests for judicial cooperation on criminal matters between Afghanistan and other countries. In line with Articles 7 and 28 of the Constitution, the bill seeks to implement Afghanistan’s obligations under bilateral extradition treaties as well as

consolidate procedures in existing laws which address Afghanistan's obligations under multilateral conventions, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism.

The proposed law generally follows the principles of the UN Model Law on Extradition and of most extradition laws, including those on covered offences, dual criminality requirement, prohibition against double jeopardy, and grounds for refusal of extradition requests. In addition, the bill conditions Afghanistan's approval of extradition requests on the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Prohibition of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, and Degrading Treatment.

Status: Further discussion is pending formation of a joint committee of the houses to reconcile their differences. See the 18 May Newsletter for a summary of Wolesi Jirga amendments.

Criminal Procedure Code for Military Courts and Law on Military Crimes (one document)

The draft law addresses issues of crimes committed by Afghan National Army officers and soldiers. Procedures involving criminal investigation and reporting, arrest of the accused, collection of evidence, access to witnesses and evidence, rights of the convicted, court verdicts, punishment, etc. are covered.

Law on Health

The law regulates private health services and health centers, implementation of health projects in different areas of the country, prevention of disease, and protection of mothers and newborns.

Status: The joint committee debating the bill remains undecided on the issue of charging for "advanced" medical services. Opponents of the charges argue that they are unconstitutional and that complex services, like standard services, should be provided free of charge as the government is able.

Statistics Law

The law addresses the duties, authorities, and organization of the Independent Central Statistics Department and establishes coordination and integration of all statistical activities at the country level.

The Wolesi Jirga approved the bill in September 2009 with an amendment calling for use of national ID cards in conducting the census with the objective of excluding foreigners, especially in the borders regions. The government returned the draft this during this session arguing that many people lack ID cards, which will make completion of the census impossible.

Political Parties Law

The law will regulate political parties' creation, activities, rights and responsibilities.

The Assembly had amended the draft in May 2008 to specify that political parties have the right to establish offices outside the country and that the government is responsible for ensuring their security. The government rejected the amendment arguing that parties do not have the right to establish offices abroad and that ensuring security inside the country is its only responsibility (as specified in the original text). The Lower House accepted the government's position but stated that, while not establishing offices abroad, parties are allowed to be active outside the country. The Assembly had also amended the bill such that, "Dissolution of political parties shall take place by proposal of the Ministry of Justice." The government insists that dissolution authority lies with the Supreme Court, as specified in the original draft. The Lower House modified its amendment to specify that dissolution shall take place by proposal of the Ministry of Justice and through an authorized organ. If approved by both houses, the new amendments will be sent back to the President for endorsement.

Law on Children's Violations

The bill is drafted based on Article 54 of the Constitution and human rights conventions to protect the rights and privileges of accused children.

The president returned the bill during over an Assembly amendment which includes "signs of maturity" (per Sharia Law) as well as age as criteria for classification of subjects as minors or adults.

Independent Election Commission Structure Law

The law will outline the funding mechanism, structure, duties, authorities, procedures, and staffing of the body.

The President rejected the bill (passed by the Assembly last year) over Assembly amendments that call for Lower House approval of IEC presidential appointees. The government argues that Wolesi Jirga approval of the IEC commissioners and chair would be unconstitutional as the requirement is not mentioned in the Constitution. IEC officials argue that Assembly approval of IEC commissioners would jeopardize their independence. Proponents of Assembly approval argue that exclusive presidential appointment of IEC members would promote bias and contradicts international best practice.

Law on Combating Abduction and Trafficking in Persons

The bill became active late in the session.

Inactive Bills and Decrees

- Anti-Bribery and Corruption Law
- Money Laundering Law
- NGO Law
- Currency and Banking Law
- Da Afghanistan Bank Law
- Law on Civil Aviation
- Law on Properties
- Law on Municipal Elections
- Some articles of the Land Expropriation Law
- Law on Countering Illegal Substance and Immoral Activities
- Social Organizations Law
- Law on Combating the Financing of Terrorism
- Law on Firearms, Ammunition, and Explosives
- Historical and Cultural Monuments Maintenance Law
- Law on Commercial Arbitration
- Law on Establishment of a Special Court for Property Dispute Resolution
- Archive Law
- Law on Commercial Negotiable Instruments
- Law on Finance Affairs and Public Expenditure
- Law on Foreign and Private Investment in Afghanistan
- Law on Business Partnerships
- Commercial Mediation Law
- Amendment of Article 5 of the Law on Defense Lawyers
- Bill on Establishment of Independent Civil Services Commission
- Annulment of the Decree (67) 8/12/1420 (Apr-23-1999)
- Law on Inventor and Explorer Rights
- Copyright Law
- Insurance Law
- Interim Criminal Procedures Code
- Decree on Merging and Determining the Predestination of Higher Education Institutions Overseas
- Decree on Lands to deserved Refugee Families Who are Returning Either from Abroad or Internally Displaced Families
- Decree on Banning Further Distribution of Farm Lands or Arid Lands Owned by the Government
- Decree on the Banning of Distribution of Lands Owned by the Government Contrary to the Master Plan of the City
- Decree on Prohibition of Poppies, Hashish and its production, import, process, sales, purchase, keeping, transportation and use
- Decree on Annulment of Decrees enacted before the Dec-22-2001
- Addition to Decree No. 256
- Decree on Reception and Confirmation of the Rights of Dismissed Civil and Military Employee

- Amendment of Article 2 of Decree # 136 related to the establishment of special court for property dispute resolution
- Decree Appending the Provincial and Capital Prisons and Detention Centers to the Ministry of Justice
- Convention on the Suppression of Acts of International Atomic Terrorism
- Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS)