

Statement of Solidarity for the People of Afghanistan

This Statement of Solidarity is being endorsed by **Halley Movement Coalition** from Mauritius, NGO which is the **Regional Council Member of Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP)**.

We are appealing to the members of the **United Nations Security Council** and the **UN Secretary-General** to ensure that the safety of Citizens, Human Rights, and particularly Gender Rights are fully protected in Afghanistan.

The statement of Solidarity for the People of Afghanistan

We, the members of civil society, are shocked at the pace at which the Taliban took over all the provinces of Afghanistan and finally the national capital Kabul. We condemn the way the government in Afghanistan was overthrown by Taliban forces and are extremely concerned about the safety of the people.

We also do not approve of the military occupation by the NATO forces led by the US, which failed to bring peace and security in the region. Especially the way the forces left the country without foreseeing the fall out.

We condemn the religious fundamentalism which the Taliban preaches and practices that affects the human rights of especially women, children and the most vulnerable groups like the 'Hazaras', religious minorities and others.

We are also worried about the unfolding humanitarian crisis, safety of young girls and women who are allegedly being harassed by Taliban fighters after the capture of Kabul and reported hunting down of people who cooperated with the allied forces.

We therefore express our solidarity with the people of Afghanistan, and due to the new developments, we appeal for the following:

- We appeal to the members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) and the UN Secretary General to ensure that the safety of citizens, human rights, and particularly gender rights are fully protected in Afghanistan;
- We appeal for safe passage for foreign nationals, embassy officials and staff and their families to return to their respective countries if their governments so decide;
- Steps should be taken for the evacuation of the families of Afghans who worked with allied forces, embassies and international organisations etc., if that is needed;
- We appeal to neighbouring countries to provide adequate protection for refugees and displaced peoples from Afghanistan;
- We appeal all forces in Afghanistan to respect universal human rights;
- Ensure peace and safety for everyone in the country, respect the rights of woman and girls and LGBTQI communities, especially their rights to education, health care and decent work;
- There should be no violence or detentions directed towards civil society activists, NGOs, humanitarian aid workers and the media;
- Attention should be given that peace and stability is maintained to resume humanitarian and development work and all humanitarian organisations must be allowed to continue their work unfettered; and
- In view of spread of Coronavirus, the health infrastructure should be protected in the country and process of vaccination should be resumed.

Mahendranath Busgopaul,
Secretary General – Halley Movement Coalition, &
Regional Council member of GCAP,
Mauritius.

Saturday 21 August, 2021.

Halley Movement is the elected member of the 3rd [African Union GA- ECOSOCC](#); Is in consultative status with the [African Committee of Experts on the Rights & Welfare of the Child \(ACERWC\)](#) & is also in consultative status with [United Nations ECOSOC](#)