

**AFGHANISTAN DAY**  
**Conference by the European Commission**  
**on “Media development, civil society and cultural perspectives**  
**in Afghanistan”**

**3 DECEMBER 2008 (9:00 -17:00)**  
**at Hotel *SILKEN BERLAYMONT***  
*11-19 Blvd Charlemagne, 1000 Brussels, Tel 02/231 09 09*

**Draft Final Programme**

8:15 – 8:50    **Registration and refreshments**

9:00 – 9:15    **Opening session by the moderator for the day Lyse DOUCET,**  
BBC World News Presenter and Correspondent

**Welcome address by Eneko LANDABURU**  
Director General for External Relations, European Commission

9:15 – 11:00    **SESSION 1:    Media development**

- **Daoud Sultanzoy**, Member of Parliament, Head of Economic Committee:  
*Afghanistan’s new media law - a view from Parliament*
- **Najib Manalai**, Senior Advisor to the Minister of Culture and Information:  
*Afghanistan’s political and regulatory context for media development*
- **Shirazuddin Siddiqi**, Head of BBC TRUST, Afghanistan:  
*Reconstruction, media law and media development priorities*
- **Abasin Nasimi**, Journalist, Institute for War and Peace (IWPR):  
*Developing professional journalism in Afghanistan*
- **Najiba Ayoobi**, Director, The Killid Group:  
*Directing media in Afghanistan – insights by a media professional*

11.00 - 11.20    **BREAK**

11.20 - 13.00	<b>SESSION 2: Civil society</b>
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- **Rahela Hashim**<sup>1</sup>, Senior Advisor to Chairman of Independent Administrative Reform Civil Service Commission (IARCSC), presently acting Chairperson:  
*Role of Civil Society in the Process of Establishing Good Governance*
- **Ihsan Zahine**, Director, Tribal Liaison Office  
*Traditional civil society and its contribution to rebuilding Afghanistan*
- **Parwana Waffa**, Director, Afghan Women Entrepreneurs Printing Services (AWEPS):  
*Female entrepreneurship in Afghanistan – opportunities and challenges: contributing to civil society development*
- **Suraia Sobhrang**, Commissioner, Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) :  
*Civil society organisations in Afghanistan: a contribution to strengthening human rights*

13:00 – 15:00	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>
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13:10 – 14:00 Lunch served at Silken Hotel (adjacent to conference room)

14:00 - ca 14:20 Musical performance by  
- Dr John Baily (Head of Afghanistan Music Unit at Goldsmiths College, University of London), Rubab  
- Yusuf Mahmoud, Tabla

14:20 – 15:00 Coffee served

15:00 –16:45	<b>SESSION 3: Afghanistan: cultural perspectives</b>
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- **Mir Ahmad Joyenda**, Member of Parliament:  
*The Wolesi Jirga and Afghanistan's cultural perspectives: creating the framework*
- **Atiq Rahimi**, Author, Laureate of Prix Goncourt 2008:  
*Producing and creating art in and on Afghanistan*
- **Zaid Mohseni**, Moby Media Group:  
*The role of media in promoting modern culture: opportunities and challenges*
- **Dr Abdul Wasay Najimi**, Architect; Aga Khan Trust for Culture:  
*Preserving Afghanistan's traditional culture and developing it – 2008 and beyond*

16:45-17:00	<b>Closing remarks – MEP André Brie</b>
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<sup>1</sup> participates in personal capacity