

# Nato allies vow not to rush for Afghan exit

AFP, Brussels  
Nato allies agreed yesterday new rules under which they can withdraw their troops from Afghanistan as US Defence Secretary Robert Gates slammed "too much talk about leaving."

Alliance Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen announced the deal looking ahead to a 2014 deadline to pass control to Afghan security forces after Gates warned that early withdrawal would jeopardise the war effort just as the Taliban has lost the upper hand.

"Frankly, there is too much talk about leaving and not enough talk about getting the job done right. Too much discussion of exit and not enough discussion about the fight," Gates said according to a text of his speech.

"Too much concern about when and how many troops might redeploy, and not enough about what needs to be done before they leave," he said.

"Ministers discussed and agreed principles by which we will (manage) transition," Rasmussen said after talks among the 28 Nato countries and International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) partners, not all of whom contribute soldiers.

He said that while the gradual "thinning out" of ISAF forces in particular provinces

would accelerate, "redeployment and reinvestment... remains a Nato responsibility."

Rasmussen said there had to be "coherence" so that "national decisions take into account overall force requirements."

That would mean "relocation" for some troops on active duty, although forces would remain in the line of fire "not a day longer" than needed, and "reconfiguration" for others, whereby "combat forces could be moved into training."

Afghan President Hamid Karzai said earlier this week that "five to six places" would be handed over initially.

"The final decision will be made by President Karzai," Rasmussen said of the formal announcement due on March 21, the first day of the Afghan New Year.

"I have seen a lot of speculation in the media but we fully respect the procedure laid out," Rasmussen added of areas that could include three cities -- Lashkar Gah, Herat and Mazar-i-Sharif -- and two provinces, Bamiyan and Panshir, plus the capital region of Kabul minus Surobi.

According to a Nato European military official, early withdrawal plans by Canada and the Netherlands gave "a very poor signal" and Germany has already made known it is likely to follow next year.



Ethnic minority delegates leave the Great Hall of the People following an ongoing session of the National People's Congress, China's annual parliament, in Beijing yesterday. China's parliament chief ruled out any shift to Western-style democracy in a speech that appeared to pour water on political reform hopes sparked by remarks from Premier Wen Jiabao last year.

# Russia bans Libya arms exports

AFP, Moscow

Russia, a key arms exporter to the Middle East, announced yesterday it was banning the sale of all weapons to Libya, in line with its support of UN sanctions against Muammar Gaddafi's regime.

President Dmitry Medvedev signed a decree banning the "export, sale and delivery to Libya... of all kinds of weapons and associated materials," the Kremlin said in a statement.

The decree also stipulates that all cargo bound for or from Libya will be carefully inspected if there is "information that gives reason to believe that the cargo carries material subject to the ban."

The move comes after Russia joined other UN Security Council permanent members in ordering an arms embargo against Libya and other sanctions against Gaddafi's family.

# Iran expels AFP journalist

AFP, Tehran

Iranian authorities expelled Agence France-Presse deputy bureau chief in Tehran Jay Deshmukh yesterday without giving any official explanation for their decision.

Deshmukh, a 40-year-old Indian national who had been in the country since January 2009, was stripped of his press card along with 10 other correspondents on February 15, a day after a major Tehran protest.

The demonstration was the most significant one in the Iranian capital in a year and was covered by AFP and most of the international media.

AFP chief executive Emmanuel Hoog lodged an official protest with the Iranian authorities, in Tehran and Paris.

# Iraq Kurds protest, man tries to set himself ablaze

REUTERS, Sulaimaniya

A protester tried to set himself on fire in Iraq's semi-autonomous northern Kurdish zone yesterday, where demonstrators have camped out on a square to call for the ouster of the powerful regional administration.

Protests were also held in several other Iraqi cities, although numbers were smaller than in previous weeks and there was no major violence.

Nasik Qadir, spokeswoman for protesters in the Kurdish city of Sulaimaniya, said one demonstrator had doused himself in kerosene and tried to set himself ablaze. He was rescued by other demonstrators and suffered no major injuries.

Such acts have taken on grave symbolism in North Africa and the Middle East since a Tunisian vegetable seller set himself on fire in December, triggering the uprising in that country which has spread to Egypt, Libya, Bahrain and other countries.

Several thousand people gathered in Sulaimaniya chanting for the ouster of regional President Masoud Barzani and carrying pictures of protesters killed in recent weeks.

"There has been no response from the government. We are here to change the despotic system, end the corruption in Kurdistan," said Qadir. "People feel the corruption and want jobs, justice and services."

Popular anger in the Kurdish region has been directed at a regional government which enjoys near-total autonomy, dominated for decades by two political parties whose former rebel guerrilla armies have been converted into security forces.

In the regional capital Erbil, supporters of Barzani drove through the capital honking horns and waving flags. Addressing a rally of the two ruling parties, Barzani said: "You cannot bring about change illegally... The opposition represents the minority and we as the authorities represent the majority of the people."

# Portugal vows to tighten austerity measures

AFP, Lisbon

Finance Minister Fernando Teixeira dos Santos announced yesterday that Portugal will tighten its austerity measures to ensure it meet its deficit reduction targets, hours ahead of a summit on the eurozone debt crisis.

"We are going to reinforce the measures to reduce planned expenditures in 2011 in order to open up a supplementary margin which will guarantee in an even stronger manner attaining the target of a public sector deficit of 4.6 percent" of gross domestic product, he said.

# Bahrain police fire tear gas at protesters

AFP, Manama

Bahraini police fired tear gas at anti-government protesters yesterday as they tried to prevent clashes with armed loyalists and as tensions soared in the tiny Gulf kingdom.

Thousands of demonstrators chanted slogans against the king as they marched toward a square near the royal palace in Manama where a group of pro-regime loyalists waited with clubs, swords and metal pipes.

The mainly Shiite anti-regime demonstrators hurled stones at riot police who responded with tear gas, according to an AFP reporter at the scene.

Some of the protesters had earlier offered flowers to the police and chanted "Peacefully, peacefully!" to ensure the demonstration did not descend into violence.

In the nearby Refaa area, the pro-government group chanted "The people want Khalifa bin Salman," referring to the long-time prime minister whose ouster the opposition demands.

"Long live the Bahraini monarchy," they yelled.

Many carried weapons including golf clubs and sticks with knives and nails embedded in them, in an ominous show of intent toward the mainly Shiite activists who

# Biden backs pro-Western reform in Moldova

AFP, Chisinau

Vice President Joe Biden yesterday made the highest-ranking US visit ever to the ex-Soviet state of Moldova, signalling Washington's support for pro-Western reforms in Europe's poorest country.

Wrapping up a three-nation Europe tour, Biden told Moldova's liberal leaders its future lay with Europe and showed support for their efforts to end a protracted political and economic crisis.

"We are grateful to the United States for its support for being with us during our 20 years of independence."

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Bangladesh

**UNFPA Bangladesh** invites applications from eligible candidates to join UNFPA's dynamic working environment for the following positions:

**National Programme Associate – Gender**  
**Vacancy No.:** Job ID 001-11  
**Contract Type:** Fixed Term (1 year Initial Contract)  
**Level:** ICS 7 (G-7)  
**Duty Station:** Dhaka  
**Organizational Unit:** P & D and Gender

**Overview:**  
 This position is based in Dhaka country office and reports to the Assistant Representative (P&D/Gender), who provides overall guidance to the incumbent. S/he is part of the Gender team, providing overall programme and technical support. The National Programme Associate contributes to generating substantive knowledge on gender issues by compiling, synthesizing and analyzing relevant information. S/he is instrumental in facilitating programme/project implementation by ensuring compliance with established procedures. The incumbent will also assist in coordination and maintains communication with relevant project/offices on issues and activities related to gender. The incumbent will also prepare background papers/briefing documents at the request of Assistant Representative (P&D/Gender), Deputy Representative or Representative; Facilitate conducting research on thematic areas and other issues, as requested.

**Qualifications and Competencies:**  
 Candidate must have a Masters degree in Sociology, Gender or Women Studies or any other relevant Social Science field. A minimum of 5 to 7 years of relevant experience in public or development sector is required. Fluency in oral and written skills, both in Bangla and English, is essential. Familiarity with MS Word, Excel, Power Point and internet/e-mail is a must.

**Finance and Admin Associate**  
**Vacancy No.:** Job ID 002-11  
**Contract Type:** Service Contract  
**Level:** SB 3  
**Duty Station:** Dhaka  
**Organizational Unit:** Operations

**Overview:**  
 Under the Overall Guidance of the Operations Manager and reporting direct to the UNFPA Country Office Finance Officer, the incumbent will be responsible to coordinate the flow of financial and management information and administrative activities between HQ and field and to liaise with UN organizations. He/She will be responsible to ensure smooth and timely operations of the financial and project support functions, including administrative issues. The successful candidate will be responsible for preparing project budget and reports on expenditures/allocation of project budget. The incumbent will also be responsible for preparing budget revisions and undertake other related tasks.

**Qualifications and Competencies:**  
 Candidate must have a university degree in Finance/Accounting/Business Administration. A minimum of 5 to 7 years of relevant experience in public or development sector is required. Fluency in oral and written skills, both in Bangla and English, is essential. Familiarity with MS Word, Excel, Power Point and internet/e-mail is a must.

*This is a summarized version, Detailed TOR can be downloaded from [www.unfpa-bangladesh.org](http://www.unfpa-bangladesh.org)*

**How to Apply:**  
 To apply please download the **Terms of Reference (TOR)** and **P11** from our website at: [www.unfpa-bangladesh.org/php/vacancy.php](http://www.unfpa-bangladesh.org/php/vacancy.php). Please forward the application with a cover letter along with the P11 & a passport size photograph to: **The Representative, UNFPA Bangladesh, IDB Bhaban (15th Floor), E/8-A Rokeya Sharani, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207**. Also, please write the **position name** you are applying for and **Job ID** on the envelop.

**Applications Close:**  
 Applications should be submitted no later than **Thursday, 24 March, 2011 (4:30 pm Dhaka time)**

**"ONLY SHORT- LISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE CONTACTED"**  
**UNFPA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER**

**Social Development Foundation (SDF)**  
**Flood Restoration and Recovery Assistance Program**  
 HOUSE - 4, ROAD -21, SECTOR - 4, UTTARA MODEL TOWN, DHAKA-1230  
 Tel-880-02-8963946, 8959581, 8959368, Fax-880-02-8961096, E-mail: [md@sdfbd.org](mailto:md@sdfbd.org)

IFT No.: SDF/ PD/ Flood/PS (3)/2011/133 Date: 10/03/2011

### Invitation for Tenders

(Goods-Single Lot)

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH			
Ministry/Division		Ministry of Finance	
1		Ministry/Division	
2		Agency	
3		Procuring Entity Name	
4		Procuring Entity Code	
5		Procuring Entity District	
6		Invitation for	
		Supply and Installation of different Goods of 2 nos. of individual packages: i) Supply of Cross Country Vehicles (4WD)-2 Nos. with all accessories for Flood Project under Social Development Foundation (SDF), Dhaka during the year of 2010-2011 [ Package No. G1.0 (F) ] ii) Supply and Installation of Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver with all accessories for Flood Project under Social Development Foundation (SDF), Dhaka, during the year of 2010- 2011 [ Package No. G.10.0 (F) ]	
7		Invitation Ref No	
8		Date	
9		Procurement Method	
10		Budget and Source of Funds	
11		Development Partners	
12		Tender Packages Nos.	
13		Tender Packages Name	
		i) Supply of Cross Country Vehicles (4WD)-2 Nos. with all accessories for Flood Project. ii) Supply and Installation of Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver with all accessories for Flood Project.	
14		Tender Publication Date	
15		Tender Last Selling Date	
		Date	
16		Tender Closing Date and Time	
17		Tender Opening Date and Time	
		Date	
		Time	
18		Name & Address of the office(s)	
		Address	
		- Selling Tender Document	
		Flood Project, Dhaka office, Social Development Foundation (SDF), House # 4, Road # 21, Sector # 4, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230.	
		- Receiving Tender Document	
		Flood Project, Dhaka office, Social Development Foundation (SDF), House # 4, Road # 21, Sector # 4, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230.	
		- Opening Tender Document	
		Flood Project, Dhaka office, Social Development Foundation (SDF), House # 4, Road # 21, Sector # 4, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230.	
19		Place/Date/Time for Pre-Tender meeting	
		Conference Room, SDF, 28/03/2011, 11:00 AM.	
20		Eligibility of Tenderer	
		All Countries except Israel and IDA non-eligible countries	
20		Brief Description of Goods or Works	
		i) Supply of Cross Country Vehicles (4WD)-2 Nos. with all accessories for Flood Project, Social Development Foundation (SDF). ii) Supply and Installation of Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver with all accessories for Flood Project	
21		Brief Description of Related Services	
		Needs after sales services with genuine spare parts including limited warranty	
22		Price of Tender Document (Tk)	
		Tk. 2000.00 (Taka two thousands only) Non-refundable.	
23		Lot No	
		Identification of Lot	
		Tender Security Amount (Tk)	
		Completion Time in Weeks / Months	
1		i) Supply of Cross Country Vehicles (4WD)-2 Nos. with all accessories for Flood Project under Social Development Foundation (SDF), Dhaka during the year of 2010-2011 [ Package No. G1.0 (F) ]	
		4,00,000.00	
		4 Weeks	
1		ii) Supply and Installation of Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver with all accessories for Flood Project under Social Development Foundation (SDF), Dhaka, during the year of 2010- 2011 [ Package No. G.10.0 (F) ]	
		12,000.00	
		4 Weeks	
24		Name of Official Inviting Tender	
		Md. Nurul Islam Sardar	
25		Designation of Official Inviting Tender	
		Managing Director	
26		Address of Official Inviting Tender	
		Social Development Foundation (SDF), Dhaka House # 4, Road # 21, Sector # 4, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230.	
27		Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	
		Ph.: 880-02-8963946, 8959581, 8959368, Ext.-207   FAX: 880-02-8961096	
28		Special Instructions:	
		Tender Security money must be submitted along with the tender through Pay Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee in favor of the Project Director, Flood Project, SDF. Manufacturer's Authorization must be submitted along with the tender. The Tenderer shall have a minimum of 5 years of overall experience in the supply of goods and related services. The Tenderer shall have a minimum of 3 years of specific experience in the supply of similar goods and related services. The satisfactory completion of supply of similar goods of value stated in the TDS (Tender data sheet) under a single contract in the last five years; and Availability of minimum liquid assets or working capital or credit facilities from a Bank, as specified in the TDS (Tender data sheet). The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without any reason there of prior to acceptance.	

(Md. Nurul Islam Sardar)  
 Managing Director  
 Social Development Foundation (SDF), Dhaka