Local EU statement on the release of the final certified results for Ghazni province and the conclusion of Afghanistan’s 2010 parliamentary elections

Kabul, 1 December 2010

The European Union Heads of Missions welcome the Independent Election Commission’s announcement of the final certified results for Ghazni. The certification marks the conclusion of Afghanistan’s 2010 parliamentary elections.

We now look forward to the timely convening and inauguration of the newly elected Lower House (Wolesi Jirga) of Afghanistan’s National Assembly, and to the resumption of the National Assembly’s important legislative functions.

We commend Afghanistan’s independent electoral authorities, the IEC and the Electoral Complaints Commission (ECC), for their committed work in conducting the Wolesi Jirga elections and completing the process in challenging circumstances. We welcome the intensive audit and investigation process that the IEC and the Electoral Complaints Commission (ECC) have undertaken to address the irregularities and fraud that did occur on Election Day.

The EU acknowledges the Government of Afghanistan’s pledge made at the Kabul Conference to strengthen Afghanistan’s electoral framework. The EU looks forward to working with the Afghan government, the newly elected Wolesi Jirga, civil society and other stakeholders as Afghanistan takes forward electoral reform.