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**3rd Roundtable on Afghanistan:  
Supporting Afghan Nationals on the Ground and in Exile  
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**AWPLN**

Let me take the opportunity to thank you for considering this important Roundtable at this crucial phase of Afghanistan's humanitarian crises. Unfortunately, this crisis has another dimension, which is the suppression of all the rights and capacities of activists in various fields. Therefore, I speak in two parts: the humanitarian aid sector and the protection of activists' rights.

### **1. Humanitarian Part:**

The fact is that we learn very little from the dire situation of the people in Afghanistan. The situation in the cities is deplorable. This situation is especially tragic in the villages.

Emphasizing the importance of supporting humanitarian aid in Afghanistan and preventing an imminent crisis in the near future. I would like to remind you of two major challenges so that human support for these channels is not managed, which does not benefit the people.

These two channels are the government without the Taliban administration and the corrupt non-governmental organizations in Afghanistan. Both institutions have used international support to their advantage in the past. Reports over the past 20 years of the lack of humanitarian support through NGOs and the Taliban's recent use of aid have been both a threat and a barrier to access to aid.

My suggestion is the third way is convenient, logical and safe. It is the channelling of humanitarian aid through the village council. On the one hand, the village council is an existing institution from the city to the village, and as a ready mechanism, it can deliver aid to the people.

Secondly, the village council consists of God-fearing and honest people, such as the mosque cleric, the school principal, the local elder and other prominent people. This group can be effective in distributing aid.

The equitable distribution of aid to people across the country, in different areas and to different ethnic groups is a constant concern in Afghanistan. Therefore, the village council represents each village and its heads in the country, and each village has its own representative. Thus, justice is still evident in the distribution of aid.

Another issue in this regard is determining the indicators of people's needs in different regions of the country. People sometimes have different basic needs in different areas, which can be identified through them and help can be provided. Because Afghanistan is mountainous on one side and agricultural and desert on the other. Therefore, the basic needs differ to each region.

## **2. Activists' Rights & Protections**

In terms of supporting civil and legal activists in Afghanistan, the situation is even worse than it seems to us. I hear daily through my clients and my husband what conditions people face.

My suggestion is that the united voice of support for the activists not to be pressured on the one hand, and on the other hand, the precise mechanism for their withdrawal from Afghanistan to Pakistan and Iran in the first place and then their support for a safe land is a great help to them.