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From: Finestone, Josh M. <JMFinestone@Venable.com>
Date: Wednesday, Apr 27, 2022, 10:09 AM
To: Josh M Finestone (JMFinestone@Venable.com) <JMFinestone@Venable.com>
Subject: Update from the Embassy of Qatar in relation to evacuation of Afghanistan

Good Morning,

Please see the attached document that outlines the efforts of the nation of Qatar in relation to Afghanistan. If you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to reach out.

Best

Josh

This communication is distributed by an agent of the State of Qatar. Additional information is on file with the Department of Justice, Washington, District of Columbia.

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Qatar Efforts in Afghanistan - Overview

August 18, 2021 – February 6, 2022

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Evacuation

Qatar evacuated over 75,000 Afghan refugees in the weeks immediately prior to the US withdrawal.

- As of mid-August 2021, the State of Qatar evacuated more than 75,000 Afghan refugees, including students, teachers, activists, lawyers, medical professionals, artists and others.
- After the US evacuation, Qatar flights to Doha were just about the only the avenue available for refugees to leave Afghanistan.

Evacuees included citizens of more than twenty foreign nations, and those connected to multiple media outlets and NG0s.

Qatar received and processed thousands of evacuation requests from multiple international entities, including: Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Walt Disney Group, National Geographic, CBS, CNN, ABC, BBC, France 24, Fox News, Duetsche Welle, EuroNews, the Clinton Foundation, the US Institute of Peace (USIP), Malala Foundation, the Committee to Protect of Journalists (CPJ), the German Press Agency (DPA), the American University in Afghanistan, the School of Leadership (SOLA), Afghanistan National Institute of Music, the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), FIFA, the National Endowment for Democracy, Google, YouTube, the UN and numerous other groups.

Since the withdrawal, Qatar has evacuated and helped repatriate nationals and foreign residents from more than twenty allied countries (as of February 7th):

- Evacuees have included nationals from the U.S. (2599), Australia, Germany (1071), Japan, the U.K., France, Canada, the Netherlands, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Austria, Iceland), Latvia , Croatia , Ukraine , and the Dominican Republican several other countries.
- Upon a guarantee from the State of Qatar, numerous governments rented Qatar Airways aircraft to transfer their nationals. As of February 19, 2022, thirteen flights were rented by the US, Germany, France and Australia.

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Afghan Refugee Compound

Temporary Residence Complex for Afghan Refugees in Qatar provides health care, supplies, supportive services, and recreational opportunities to refugees.

- Afghan evacuees reside now in furnished residential units that were built for FIFA World Cup 2022 accommodation.
- All refugees are provided with residence according to their needs, in addition to free daily meals and high quality 24/7 general practice and pediatric health care.
- They are provided with all basic necessities, including hygiene supplies, clothing, a mental health clinic, and helpline, prescription medications for mental and physical ailments, and special needs supplies such as wheelchairs, glasses and other accommodations. .
- Residents are also provided internet service, interpreting support, sports courts, playground, music room, nursery, photo studio and an art exhibition.
- Several entertainment and educational activities are held daily for children and adults, in coordination with local partners, including The Qatar Foundation, Qatar Museums, the Qatari Olympics Committee, the Ministry of Culture, Qatar Charity, the Qatari Red Crescent, Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra and the Generation Amazing Initiative under the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy.

Unaccompanied Minors received special accommodations.

- 208 minor unaccompanied children were evacuated to Qatar. They received specialized care provided by Qatar Charity, in coordination with Generation Amazing, Qatar Foundation, UNICEF and several other entities.
- Professional volunteers from Qatar Charity accompanied the children during their stay in Doha in child-conducive housing. Generation Amazing and the Museum of Islamic Art offered programs for the minors focused on sports, arts, English and Arabic language and math classes.
- The children were provided with electronic devices to enable them to be in constant communication with their families.
- Qatar is working diligently on identifying the families of the unaccompanied minors to reunite their families. Numerous families were reunited to date as efforts continue in coordination with the UNICEF, IMO and UNHCR.

The international community has been welcomed to the compound resulting in numerous high-level visits and international commendation.

- Almost two dozen senior officials from several countries, the United Nations, and leading NGOs have visited the Afghan Refugee Compound in Qatar including the US Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, the British Foreign Secretary, Dominic Raab, the Italian Minister of

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Foreign Affairs, Luigi Di Maio, the French Foreign Minister, Jean-Yves Le Drianthe Executive Director of the World Food Programme, David Beasely, the Director General of the International Migration Organization, Antonio Vitorino, the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, and Martin Griffiths, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

- Several sports and entertainment celebrities have also visited the compound, including: David Beckham, Tracy McGrady, Jalen Rose and Trevor Noah.

Technical Assistance

Qatar repaired and reopened Kabul Airport.

- Upon the request of the interim government in Afghanistan, the State of Qatar sent a technical team to help re-open and operate Karzai Airport in Kabul, facilitating the delivering of the urgently needed assistance to the country. The technical team repaired the damaged runway and equipment rendering the airport safe for large commercial operations within 9 days

Diplomatic Efforts

Qatar continuing to keep lines of diplomacy with Afghanistan open.

Qatar hosted Afghan National Olympic Committee (NOC) Visit

- On November 18th, Qatar hosted a meeting between the International and Afghan Olympic committees
- Both parties agreeing to adhere to protect the right to practice sports for all, including boys and girls and persons with disabilities and agreed on an initial roadmap with a follow-up meeting scheduled for early 2022.
- The International Olympic Committee noted that this is an unprecedented achievement for former and current members to meet to work together, setting their differences aside, towards a common goal.
- On November 20th, NOC met with a delegation from FIFA to discuss the future of soccer in Afghanistan. The meeting was positive, especially in terms of the promotion of sports and soccer among the youth.

Female Sports Players

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- Qatar evacuated more than 150 female basketball and soccer female players together with their families, in coordination with FIFA. The players were offered various trainings and activities offered by several entities, including Qatar Football Association, Qatar Basketball Federation and Generation Amazing. These activities included sports tournaments, trainings and practice games.
- A practice game was held between the female Afghan Youth Soccer team and their Qatari counterpart.

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Student Support

Afghan Dreamers – Digital Citizen Fund

- Qatar Fund for Development (QFD) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) have been supporting the Digital Citizen Fund (DCF) and its affiliate organization, Roya Mahboob since 2019. In August 2021, MOFA helped evacuate a female DCF group specialized in robotics.
- Qatar evacuated and relocated the group for resettlement in Doha. The group received international media attention, with requests for meetings from senior officials, including from US Secretary of State, Blinken and Countess Sophie of Sussex.
- Resettlement in Qatar for the group includes providing full scholarships funded by QFD and Qatar Foundation.

School of Leadership in Afghanistan – SOLA

- Qatar evacuated 251 SOLA female students and their families together with school staff and teachers. SOLA is the first boarding school for girls in Afghanistan.
- The group was evacuated to Qatar then resettled in Rwanda, where they received by a Rwandan school.

The American University in Afghanistan (AUA)

- Qatar evacuated 196 AUA students and their families from Afghanistan. Additionally, QFD and Qatar Foundation agreed to host the students in the Education City in Qatar.
- AUA has partnerships with major prestigious US universities, including: Stanford, the Pearson Institute, University of Maryland, Georgetown and the University of California.
- As per the agreement between AUA, QFD and Qatar Foundation, the Afghan students will be allowed to resume their education in Qatar as part of the international education groups in Doha.
- The efforts aim at providing AUA students with the opportunity to resume their academic studies.

Artist Support

Turquoise Mountain

- Qatar evacuated 46 Turquoise Mountain artists and their families. The artist group features calligraphy, painting, carpentry, jewelry and other craftsmanship.

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- The Qatari Ministry of Culture and Sports provided the artists with the art supplies and studios necessary to practice their professions during their residence in Qatar. Prior to their departure to the US, an auction was organized in cooperation with Qatar Foundation to sell the artifacts completed during their stay in Qatar.
- Qatar Museums and the Museum of Islamic Arts are currently in consultations with Turquoise Mountain to cooperate on several initiatives and projects.

The Afghan National Institute of Music (ANIM)

Qatar evacuated a group of ANIM young artists, students and staff. ANIM Students are part of several musical troops, primarily, the Afghan Youth Orchestra, the National Orchestral Symphony and the all-female Zohra Orchestra. Qatar has evacuated 272 ANIM members.

- During their stay, Qatar provided the musical professionals and students with instruments and studios to practice.
- They performed in Qatar Creates – a musical event in Qatar National Museum, attended by a crowd of world and regional figures. They also performed joint productions with the Musical Troop of the Qatari Ministry of Defense, the Qatari Musician, Dana Al-Fardaan and other local talents.
- The founder of ANIM, Dr. Ahmad Sarmast, delivered a message to the Afghan Ministry of Culture through the State of Qatar, urging them to allow the group to return to their headquarters in Afghanistan and re-open the school. The Afghan Ministry of Culture responded that it will consider the request.

Diplomatic Missions

Diplomatic Missions in Afghanistan

- Several of the allied countries temporarily transferred their chanceries from Kabul to Doha, including the US, the UK, the Netherlands, Japan and others. Efforts are still underway.

Protecting Power Agreement

Qatar – US Protecting Power in Afghanistan

- On November 12, 2021, the State of Qatar and the United States signed an agreement whereby Qatar is the US "protecting power" in Afghanistan and represents US diplomatic and consular interests in Afghanistan.

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