

## **Afghanistan International Carpet Fair**

### ***A Handmade Carpet Exhibition***

Serena Hotel

Kabul, Afghanistan

August 26 – 28, 2007

On August 26-28, 2007, the Export Promotion Agency of Afghanistan will host the Afghanistan International Carpet Fair, a handmade carpet exhibition, at the 5-star Serena Hotel in Kabul, Afghanistan. Both contemporary and antique rugs (including unique collector's rugs) from all over Afghanistan will be displayed and available for immediate sale. The carpets will be marked with "Made in Afghanistan" logos. There will be 70 vendors showcasing their products including Afghan producers that have been in the business for centuries and others that are new to the market, including representatives from The Afghan Carpet Association and Afghan Women's Business Federation.

The Fair will open with a VIP invitation only reception that will include distinguished guests from the Afghan Government, Carpet Guild and the Kabul Carpet Association. This event will feature traditional Afghan music, dancers, and food, as well as a demonstration on carpet weaving and finishing. The show expects to attract premier rug importers, investors and equipment suppliers from all over the world.

The Afghanistan International Carpet Fair provides a unique opportunity for Afghanistan to take a leap forward in its efforts to rehabilitate its rug sector and promote its unique and exquisitely designed rugs to the rest of the world. This is also an opportunity for U.S. rug professionals to network with Afghan rug producers, visit their facilities and create long-lasting relationships. The Fair is only open to rug buyers, curators, and collectors. Facilitation of shipping rugs will be available.

The U.S. Department of Commerce is recruiting U.S. companies interested in participating in this event. To obtain a copy of the Trade Mission Statement and application please visit [export.gov/Afghanistan](http://export.gov/Afghanistan). For more information, contact Noor Alam; Phone: (202) 482 – 1812; E-mail: [afghaninfo@mail.doc.gov](mailto:afghaninfo@mail.doc.gov); Fax: (202) 482 – 0980.