



US-Afghan Business Matchmaking Conference 2008 & Trade & Informational Fair 2008

October 20-22, 2008

Washington, D.C.

Conference Agenda

**MONDAY EVENING, October 20, 2008 – *Four Seasons Hotel*
2800 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20007**

Master of Ceremonies: AACC Chairman Ajmal Ghani A.

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Welcoming Briefing & Networking

Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres

Four Seasons Hotel

Introduction of Afghan American Chamber of Commerce (AACC)
Board Members and Staff

Welcoming Remarks & Acknowledgement of Government and
Private Sector Delegation

- *AACC & CEO Mr. Atiq Panjshiri*
- *AACC Executive Vice President, Ms. Virginia Sheffield*
- *Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) Chairperson, Mr. Sherkhan Farnood*
- *Afghan Business Council (ABC) Dubai Chairperson, Haji Obaidullah Sader Khail*

Remarks on SME Program – *Mr. Bryan Rhodes, COP SME Development, USAID/DAI*

**TUESDAY, October 21, 2008 – *Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center*
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004**

Master of Ceremonies: AACC Chairman Ajmal Ghani A.

8:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m.

**Registration & Networking & Informational Fair Exhibit
Viewing**

Continental Breakfast

Atrium Ballroom

Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center





- 8:30 a.m.-8:35 a.m.** **Plenary Welcome**
Mr. Jeremy Downs, Acting Director of the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center
- 8:35 a.m.-9:00 a.m.** **Welcoming Remarks**
- *Afghan American Chamber of Commerce (AACC) President Atiq Panjshiri, President*
 - *Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) Chairperson, Mr. Sherkhan Farnood*
 - *Afghan Business Council (ABC) Dubai Chairperson, Haji Obaidullah Sader Khail*
- 9:00 a.m.-9:20 a.m.** **Opening Keynote Speech**
U.S. Commitment to Afghanistan Development
Hon. James R. Kunder (invited)
Acting Deputy Administrator
U.S. Agency for International Development
- 9:20 a.m.-9:30 a.m.** Q & A with Deputy Administrator Kunder
- 9:30a.m.-9:45 a.m.** **Utilizing Our Latent Assets: Transforming Money into Capital**
Dr. Ashraf Ghani
Chairman, Institute for State Effectiveness,
Co-author of "Fixing Failed States"
- 9:45 a.m.-9:55 a.m.** Q & A with Dr. Ghani
- 9:55 a.m.-10:55 a.m.** **Private Sector Role in Economic Development in Afghanistan - Implications & Opportunities for Investors**
Opening Remarks - *H.E. Dr. Mohammad Jalil Shams, Minister of Economy and Manpower*
Session Speakers:
- *Mr. Bryan Rhodes, COP Small & Medium Enterprise Development, USAID/DAI*
 - *Mr. Sherkhan Farnood, Chairman, Kabul Bank*
 - *Mr. Hubertus van der Vaart, CEO, Small Enterprise Assistance Funds (SEAF)/Afghan Growth Finance LLC (AGF)*
 - *Mr. Kabir Haqjo, Chief Executive Officer of Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries*
- Session Moderator: *Mr. Shafeek Seddiq, Esq., AACC Secretary and President Seddiq Law*
- 10:55 a.m. -11:10 a.m.** **Coffee/Tea Break**
Networking and Exhibit Viewing
- 11:10 a.m.-12:00 noon** **Opportunities in Key Sectors: Session 1 Energy, Power, Mining and Minerals**
Opening Remarks - *H.E. Mohammad Ismail Khan Minister of Energy and Water*



Session Speakers:

- *Mr. Paul Heuper, Senior Energy Analyst, Office of Energy and Environmental Industries, US Department of Commerce*
- *Eng. Mir Sediq, Executive Director, ICE, Ministry of Energy and Water, Afghanistan; former Minister of Mines and Industry*
- *TBD: Black and Veatch, Afghanistan Infrastructure & Rehabilitation*

Session Moderator: TBD AACC

12:00 noon -12:20 p.m.

Financing and Insuring Private Sector Investment

Hon. Robert Mosbacher, President, U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC)

12:20 p.m.-12:30 p.m.

Q & A with President Mosbacher

12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.

Luncheon & Keynote

1:15 p.m. -1:30 p.m.

Ms. Pamela Constable, Staff Writer and former Kabul Bureau Chief, Washington Post

1:30 p.m.-2:20 p.m.

Opportunities in Key Sectors: Session 2 Agriculture and Food Processing

Opening Remarks - *H.E. Obaidullah Ramin Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation & Livestock*

Session Speakers:

- *Mr. Abdul Rahman Alokozai, Chairman, Alokozai Tea*
- *Ms. Heidi Kuhn, Chairperson, Roots of Peace*
- *Mr. Doug Tinsler, Vice President-Asia Region, Chemonics Int'l*
- *Mr. Michael Yost, Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), Asst. Secretary., U.S. Department of Commerce*

Session Moderator: *Mr. Bill Joern, AACC Board of Directors*

2:20 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

Opportunities in Key Sectors: Session 3 Construction and Infrastructure

Opening Remarks - *H.E. Eng Mohammad Pashtun, Minister of Urban Development*

Session Speakers:

- *Mr. Hadi. Rakin, P.E., Director, Transport Sector, Louis Berger Group – Afghanistan*
- *Col. (Ret'd) Christopher Toomey, former Afghan Engineering District Cmdr., US Army Corps of Engineers, Director - Willbros Government Services*
- *Mr. Steve Rossi, President, S.C. Rossi & Company*
- *Mr. John Gastright, Vice President, Dyncorp International, Former DAS State Dept. Central & So. Asia*

Session Moderator: *Mr. Yama Azami, AACC Treasurer & President of Washington Mortgage*



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**RONALD REAGAN BUILDING AND
INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER**



3:15 p.m. -3:25 p.m.

Coffee & Tea Break

Networking and Exhibit Viewing

3:25 p.m.-3:45 p.m.

Afternoon Key Note – U.S.-Afghanistan Relations

Dr. Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State, United States of America (invited); Secretary Rice will speak at the precise time given to AACC by her office

3:45 p.m.-3:55 p.m.

Q & A with Secretary Rice

3:55 p.m.-4:55 p.m.

Respective Roles of Business and Government in Engaging the Private Sector in Stabilization

Opening Remarks and Session Chair – *Major General Merdith (“Bo”) Temple USACE*

- *Mr. Francis Skrobiszewski, Coordinator, AACC Working Group on Finance and Investment*
- *Mr. Mahmood Karzai, CEO Afghan Investment Company*
- *Mr. George Dunlop, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Army, Civil Works*
- *Mr. Aziz Azimi, President Technologists, Inc.*

Session Moderator: *Hon. Don Ritter, Executive Committee AACC and Investor/Business Developer in Afghanistan*

4:55 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Closing Remarks and Announcements

*Ajmal Ghani A., Chairperson AACC
Atiq Panjshiri, President & CEO AACC*

TUESDAY EVENING

7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

**Gala Networking Dinner Reception & Award Presentation
*Willard InterContinental Washington Hotel***

*1401 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington DC 20004*

Hosts:

***Chairperson Ajmal Ghani A. & President & CEO Atiq Panjshiri
On Behalf of the Afghan American Chamber of Commerce***

Special after Dinner Speaker

TBA

***Presentation of AACC Businessperson of the Year Award
By AACC Board of Directors***

*Proclamation Read by Hon. Don Ritter, Executive Committee & Board of Directors
Afghan-American Chamber of Commerce*



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WEDNESDAY, October 22

Bonus Day II: Afghanistan Networking and Outreach Day
Four Seasons Hotel
2800 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20007

**Inviting all Conference Attendees and the Community of Organizations
Working with and in Afghanistan**

Free registration

Program:

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| 8:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. | Registration & Networking Continental Breakfast |
| 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. | Short Course: U.S. Business Practices <i>Key aspects of U.S. Commercial Contracts and Generally Accepted Accounting Practices (GAAP) and Significance in Working with U.S. Businesses</i> |
| 10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. | Coffee & Tea Break and Networking |
| 10:30 a.m.-12:30 a.m. | Networking and Community Outreach with Afghan Ministers and Business Delegation <i>Informal Dialog with Ministers and Business and NGO Leaders</i> |
| 12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m. | Luncheon & Networking |
| 2:00 p.m. | Close of formal program |
| 2:00 p.m. 5:00 pm | One-to-One Meetings: <i>at participants' discretion</i> |