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High-level Afghan Delegation in Germany

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"German Technology as Crucial Component for Afghanistan's Future"

by Linda Berger



Mazar-e Sharif, capital of the Balkh Province, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

From 3rd to 7th July 2012, a high-level business delegation from Northern Afghanistan visited Germany on initiative of the German Embassy Office in Mazar-e Sharif and on invitation of NUMOV, the German Near and Middle East Association.

The delegation was led by **Arash Younosi**, Chairman of the Balkh Chamber of Commerce and Industries, which represents the private sector economy in the province of Balkh with its capital Mazar-e Sharif. The members of the delegation represented many different sectors and branches including logistics and transport, construction, gas, production & industry as well as import & export. Of special interest to the Afghan business delegation was the initiation of partnerships with German companies as well as Afghan investments in Germany and the import of

German products to Afghanistan. The northern region of Afghanistan with its trade centre of Mazar-e Sharif has seen very positive political and economic developments over the last few years. The city is the economic and transportation hub of Northern Afghanistan and the second most important city after the capital Kabul. Although the Afghan economy is still dominated by agriculture and livestock-breeding, the country, in particular the North, is rich in natural resources. Investors are urgently needed and welcomed in a wide range of branches, including infrastructure, energy, mining, gas and oil.

German companies have a one-of-a kind opportunity to invest in a country with which Germany has enjoyed a century-old friendship. A main feature of the delegation trip was the Afghanistan conference on 4th July 2012 in Berlin that

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