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20 February 2007

Mr. Noorzai Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission Kandahar Office Afghanistan

JOINT TASK FORCE AFGHANISTAN -AGREEMENT TO NOTIFY THE AFGHAN INDEPENDENT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISION (AIHRC)

1. I have the honour to refer to the Arrangement for the Transfer of Detainees Between the Canadian Forces and the Ministry of Defence of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan concluded in December 2005, which recognizes the legitimate role of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) within the territory of Afghanistan, including with regard to the treatment of detainees.

2. In recognition of this role, the Canadian Forces in Afghanistan, known as "Joint Task Force Afghanistan", would like to notify the Kandahar Office of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission of the transfer of detainees by the Canadian Forces to Afghan authorities based upon the following principles:

- a. The AIHRC will not disclose the information provided to it by Joint Task Force Afghanistan to any person other than:
 - (1) the next of kin of the detainee in question; or
 - (2) the International Committee of the Red Cross.
- b. The AIHRC will not use the information provided to it by Joint Task Force Afghanistan for any purpose that is not consistent with its role and mandate under the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.
- c. The AIHRC undertakes to provide immediate notice to Joint Task Force Afghanistan or the Canadian Embassy, should it learn that a Detainee transferred by the Canadian Forces to Afghan authorities has been mistreated.

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3. The Task Force Provost Marshal will represent the Commander Joint Task Force Afghanistan for the purposes of detainee transfer notifications to the Kandahar Office of the AIHRC. Queries should be addresses to the office of the Provost Marshal.

4. I would be grateful if the AIHRC could confirm its agreement with the terms laid out above by acknowledging receipt of this letter.

T.J. Grant Brigadier-General Commander