



**Independent Joint Anti-Corruption  
Monitoring & Evaluation Committee**

**PRESS RELEASE: Transitioning Control of Afghanistan's Air Space to the  
Afghanistan Civil Aviation Authority**

**KABUL, Afghanistan, June 14, 2016** – Today, the Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring & Evaluation Committee (MEC) released the findings of a review on the transition of Afghanistan Air Space management responsibility to the government of Afghanistan.

The Afghanistan Civil Aviation Authority (ACAA) was re-established as independent authority in 2013. However, despite significant improvements and the huge amounts invested (in total, US agencies have spent \$562.2 million since 2002) the ACAA still lacks adequate technical staff and financial resources. The continued challenges have resulted in the ACAA's continuing dependence on International Community, and hindered the transition of control of Afghanistan airspace to the Afghan authority.

MEC identified the following factors as the most obstructive to a successful transition of control of Afghanistan airspace to the government of Afghanistan:

- Lack of adequate technical capacity
- Widespread corruption
- Influence in the recruitment process by high-ranking GIRoA officials, political leaders and MPs
- Abuse of contracting processes, particularly when contracting with outside service providers
- Lack of adequate anti-corruption arrangements
- Lack of a strong and well-equipped safety oversight department

MEC recommends the following measures:

- Prepare and implement a comprehensive capacity building plan
- Apply standard IARCSC recruitment procedures
- Establish a bidding process based on the National Procurement Law
- Strengthen the existing safety oversight department
- Strengthen anti-corruption arrangements

MEC is hopeful that after implementation of these recommendations, the transfer of authority can occur and Afghans can have confidence in the future operations of the ACAA.

**For more information contact the Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and  
Evaluation Committee +93 (0) 797515871 [contact@mec.af](mailto:contact@mec.af) [www.mec.af](http://www.mec.af)**