

United Nations Nations Unies

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

STATEMENT ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE UNITED NATIONS UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY RELIEF COORDINATOR

(New York, 3 November 2009): John Holmes, the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, strongly condemns the abduction today of an aid worker in Kabul, Afghanistan, who serves as a consultant for Amitié Franco-Afghane (AFRANE), a non-governmental organization active in education and development. The Emergency Relief Coordinator calls for the immediate and unconditional release of the staff member.

In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator deplores the killing of an Afghan citizen, who was shot while trying to prevent the incident.

The Emergency Relief Coordinator is deeply concerned about the worsening trend of killings and abductions of both civilians and aid workers in Afghanistan, and reminds the Government of Afghanistan and all parties to the conflict of their obligation to protect civilians, including all aid workers.

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