

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION



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PRESS RELEASE

**Participation of Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Sergey Lavrov
in International Conference on Afghanistan**

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A ministerial-level International Conference on Afghanistan was held in London on January 31-February 1, in which a Russian delegation led by Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Sergey Lavrov took an active part.

In the course of this event there was adopted by consensus the Afghanistan Compact, a framework document broadly determining the guidelines for engagement between the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the international community. Along with this, President of the IRA Hamid Karzai presented the Afghanistan National Development Strategy, a comprehensive program of measures in the key areas of activity of the Government of the IRA.

During the conference, the Russian side declared its readiness to continue assisting Afghanistan in postwar development and reconstruction, as well as to accelerate the solution of the problem of Afghanistan's debt so as to take Russian-Afghan relations to a qualitatively new level.

January 31, 2006