



## **Statement of the Diplomatic Missions of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan on the Devastating Earthquake in Paktika and Khost Provinces of Afghanistan**

June 22, 2022

Since last night, several provinces in Afghanistan have been struck by a devastating earthquake and its strong tremors, mainly the Paktika and Khost provinces, which have already suffered from a series of natural disasters, severe droughts, and a severe lack of critical infrastructure. Paktika is one of the most remote provinces in Afghanistan, an area that saw much devastation in previous years.

Multiple sources are reporting, the earthquake killed over 800 people and injured scores. Most of the casualties reported were in the Barmal, Zirok, Gayan and Nika districts in Paktika, where some villages in Gayan had been destroyed.

As a mark of respect for the victims of this earthquake, the flags of the Diplomatic Missions of I.R. of Afghanistan are to be flown to half-staff until sunset on Thursday, June 23, 2022.

The diplomatic missions of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan call for the generous support of all countries, international organizations, individuals, and foundations to provide and deliver aid and critically needed supplies to thousands of survivors of earthquakes in Afghanistan.

We extend our deepest condolences to the victims' families and to all who have been affected by this devastating earthquake.

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