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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
ON DECEMBER 19, 2016**

PRESS RELEASE

International NGO Japan Platform (JPF) Signs an MoU with Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) on Disaster Management Collaboration Building smooth collaborations and excellent working relations among Japanese and Afghan NGOs in response to disasters

On November 25, at the International House of Japan (Minato-ku, Tokyo), Specified Nonprofit Corporation Japan Platform (hereafter referred to as JPF; Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (hereafter referred to as MoU) with the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Office of State Minister for Disaster Management (formerly Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority, hereafter referred to as ANDMA) on disaster management collaboration.

Between November 21 and 25, 2016, JPF invited a delegation from Afghanistan headed by [REDACTED] ANDMA and consisting of eleven disaster management experts, along with five national staffs of JPF member NGOs working in Afghanistan in the areas of disaster risk reduction (DRR), for a discussion on building a working relationship and enhancing their capacities among DRR specialists, NGOs both in Afghanistan and Japan. The specialists engaged in deep discussion on DRR in Tokyo and shared knowledge on disaster response through listening to the experiences of experts while visiting the International Research Institute of Disaster Science at the Tohoku University and the Disaster-Resilient and Environmentally-Friendly City Promotion Office of the Sendai City Planning Policy Bureau in Sendai and Ishinomaki, Miyagi Prefecture.

On the final day of November 25, JPF and ANDMA signed an MoU in order to promote mutual understanding among JPF, JPF member NGOs, and Afghan who are involved in DRR and emergency assistance, and to enable smooth collaborations when necessary. The contents of this MoU are outlined below.

Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as MoU) of Afghanistan-Japan Disaster Management Collaboration Visit

Japan Platform (hereinafter referred to as JPF) and Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (hereinafter referred to as ANDMA) hereby sign a collaborative MoU on the future cooperation regarding Disaster Risk Deduction following the Afghanistan-Japan Disaster Management Collaboration Visit from 20 to 25 November 2016. The MoU shall not be legally binding, however both parties are encouraged to materialize the commitments stated in the MoU with true collaborative spirit.

JPF commits to:

1. Share the lessons and experience from the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011 and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 with Afghanistan stakeholders through technical assistance.
2. Cooperate with ANDMA and Afghan NGOs for further disaster response as well as joint efforts on DRR related activities and projects in humanitarian operations in Afghanistan through JPF member NGOs.
3. JPF member NGOs are responsible for regular communication with ANDMA and reporting of all DRR activities.
4. Appoint a personnel as a focal point for implementing collaborative initiatives outlined in this MoU.

