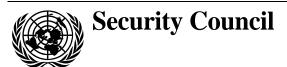
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## Official communiqué of the 5496th (closed) meeting of the Security Council

Held in private at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 26 July 2006, at 3 p.m.

In accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the following communiqué was issued through the Secretary-General in place of a verbatim record:

"At its 5496th meeting, held in private on 26 July 2006, the Security Council considered the item entitled 'The situation in Afghanistan'.

"The President, with the consent of the Council, extended invitations under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure to the representatives of Afghanistan, Finland and Germany.

"The President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitations under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure to Mr. Tom Koenigs, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan.

"Members of the Council, Mr. Koenigs and the representative of Afghanistan had an exchange of views."

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