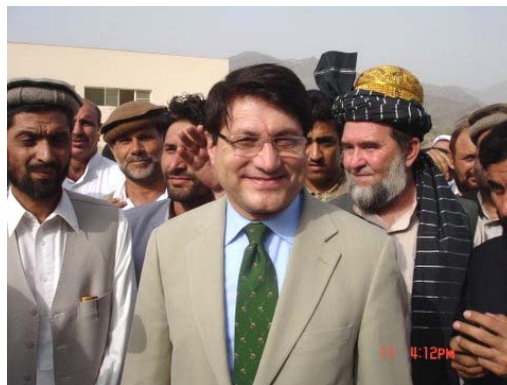


OFFICIAL INAUGURATION OF THE TORKHAM CUSTOMS OFFICE

(11 July 2006)

On 11 July 2006, Mr. A. Ahadi, the Afghan Minister of Finance, has participated in the official ceremony of the inauguration of the new Customs building in the Torkham Customs Office (border with Pakistan) and of the finalisation of the implementation of the ASYCUDA Transit System in the 1st transit axis: Torkham - Jalalabad - Kabul.

The construction of the new Customs building was financed by the European Commission and the IT and telecommunication equipment and software for the operation of the ASYCUDA Transit System was financed through a World Bank loan.



The Director General of the Customs Department, the Governor of the Nangarhar province, the Customs Directors of the Jalalabad Customs House and the Torkham Customs Office, representatives of the customs brokers and the trade community, mass-media and general public have attended this official ceremony.

The notable results of the joint work of the Afghan Government and trade community, and of the international organisations have been highly appreciated by all parties.

IMAGES FROM THE OFFICIAL CEREMONY



Distinguished guests



Mr A. Ahadi, Minister of Finance



Mr. G. Sirzai, Governor of the Nangarhar Province



Mr A. Jalil, Dir. General of the Customs Depart.



Representative of the Trade Community



From right to left: Pakistan Gen. Counsellor in Afghanistan and the Chief Representative of the Central Government of Pakistan in the region



Mr S. Momand, Torkham Customs Director



Mr Kammavi, Jalalabad Customs Director



Mr M. Jabarkheil, ASYCUDA Project Manager



Mr Abed, ASYCUDA Functional Team Leader



Mr E.Baigy, UNCTAD IT Expert (2nd left) and Mr R.Mohammadi, UNCTAD Customs Expert (3rd left)



Afghan Customs Department/ ASYCUDA Poster



Participants in the official ceremony (more than 800 participants)

