



For Immediate Release

August 26, 2021

Statement from the International Council of Police Representative Associations

OTTAWA – The following statement was issued by Tom Stamatakis, President of the International Council of Police Representative Associations (ICPRA), regarding the ongoing humanitarian crisis unfolding in Afghanistan:

“Front-line police personnel, as with everyone else around the world, are horrified to see the rapid advance of the Taliban throughout Afghanistan, undoing years of work done by the international community, particularly with respect to human rights within the country. While the effects of a renewed Taliban regime will be felt across Afghan society, our association expresses our particular concern for the over 4,000 women who have bravely accepted the challenge of joining the Afghan National Police (ANP).”

“ICPRA, as a collective, are calling on governments and international organizations to work tirelessly to take every step possible to protect these courageous women from reprisal. While we certainly understand the challenges international efforts are currently facing, any failure to protect these officers represents shame and dishonour on the global community.”

“There are no adequate words to use to describe the fortitude and heroism these women have displayed just by accepting the challenge of joining the ANP, and it is incumbent on our global institutions to make every effort to honour that courage by making their protection a priority.”

ICPRA is an international network of police unions was founded in 1996 and has approximately 1.5 million members affiliated through national police associations and federations. ICPRA membership includes police unions from four continents, speaking over 30 languages, connected through ICPRA.

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