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Briefing Notes

Group 62 – Information Centre for Asylum and Migration

24 July 2023

Afghanistan

Security situation: Taliban fighting with resistance groups

The National Resistance Front (NRF) informed that it killed two Taliban fighters and wounded two others in Baghlan province on 18.07.23. The NRF also said that fighters were killed and wounded when it attacked a Taliban base in Kabul on 15.07.23. The Afghanistan Islamic and National Freedom Movement reported killing four Taliban fighters in Nangarhar province on 15.07.23.

Persecution situation

On 17.07.23, the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) published a report on the current human rights situation. The report emphasises the violent implementation of the Taliban's decrees, especially the restrictions on women's rights that have been introduced. It also mentions the ongoing extra-judicial killings of former security forces and the severe restrictions on the media. On 19.07.23, women protested against the closure of beauty salons in Kabul (cf. BN of 10.07.23). The Taliban allegedly ended the demonstration by firing in the air and using water cannons, they took away several women. On 19.07.23, three women and one man were arrested for "moral offences" in Takhar province, two men were publicly flogged in Loghar province for the same reason. On the same day, the arrest of a journalist by the Taliban in Nangarhar province was reported. An increasing number of arrests of women wearing headscarves and cloaks instead of full body veils (burqa or chador) were reported from Herat on 16.07.23.

Governance: Ministry of Virtue burns musical instruments

According to the Taliban Ministry of Virtue, the Taliban burnt musical instruments confiscated across the country in recent months on 19.07.23. The Ministry of Virtue showed photos of the burning on its Twitter account and stated that these instruments were used to promote "corruption" and "evil" in society.

Humanitarian situation

According to reports on 23.07.23, at least 31 people were killed and 74 injured across the country in floods following heavy rain; 41 others are missing. The flash floods particularly affected the capital Kabul and the provinces of Maidan Wardak (Jalrez district) and Ghazni.

Cameroon

Attack on civilians in Anglophone Northwest Region

According to media reports, unknown armed men opened fire on civilians at a busy intersection in the Nacho district of Bamenda city (Northwest Region) late in the evening of 16.07.23. Ten people died and two people were injured