



**Dear AACC Colleagues and Friends:**

We are pleased to announce our **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Matchmaking Conference (BMC 2019)**, which will be held in **Washington, D.C. the week of April 30 to May 2, 2019**. This annual 3 day event is the largest and longest running business conference on Afghanistan.

In preparation for this conference, AACC will hold **“Pre-BMC and Investment Summit Event” in Dubai, Kabul, and Mazar-e-Sharif**. In Dubai the event will be held on **February 21, 2019** and will be followed by two **Pre-BMC events in Afghanistan**:

- **February 26** - AACC Pre-BMC 2019 and Investment Summit **Kabul**;
- **February 28** - AACC Pre-BMC and Investment Summit at **Mazar-e-Sharif**

The purpose of these three events is to share major business and investment opportunities, familiarize our Afghanistan AACC members, new businesses, and event sponsors with current BMC 2019 planning, and provide advice on U.S. visa processing applications. If you wish to attend the “Pre-BMC Dubai or Kabul Event” please send an email immediately to [info@a-acc.org](mailto:info@a-acc.org) with your name (first, middle, and last name), business organization name, title, direct email, direct mobile phone and business organization address in Afghanistan or Dubai as soon as possible.

As we expect **“AACC BMC 2019”** to quickly sell out its sponsorships, please become a sponsor and send us your company profile as soon as feasible to [info@a-acc.org](mailto:info@a-acc.org). With the program momentum we described above, the AACC is working hard to engage more U.S. companies for this year’s conference especially for the matchmaking “One-on-One” sessions. We need your early registration in order to identify key areas of interest for your business. *Your early registration and/or sponsorship provide us the opportunity to seek out potential matches-U.S. companies with similar interests.*

- **Attending from the U.S., Afghanistan and International side:** Leaders typically attend from Afghan Government Ministries; U.S. Dept. of State, USAID; DoD; USACE; Department of Commerce; JICA (Japan Aid Agency); GIZ (German Aid Agency); Asian Development Bank (ADB); World Bank/IFC; OPIC; and other organizations... plus, representatives of U.S., Afghan and other international companies.
- **What does your BMC registration and/or sponsorship include?** Event attendance, *One-on-One* Networking, possible panel speaking role, trade-fair space, business relationship building, potential memorandum of understanding (MoUs) joint ventures (JVs), sales, marketing, etc...

<b>BUSINESS MATCHMAKING CONFERENCE</b>	<b>PANEL DISCUSSIONS</b>	<b>ONE-ON-ONE NETWORKING MEETINGS</b>	<b>INFORMATIONAL TRADE FAIR</b>
--	------------------------------	---	-------------------------------------

Over the last 12 months, the AACC has intensified its support to the U.S. Government to realize priorities for U.S. policy toward Afghanistan that affect business and private sector development. The AACC has helped educate and maintain U.S. public and Congressional support for U.S. economic assistance to Afghanistan and is providing thought leadership for critical business and economic reform activities in support of a market-led economy as promised under the Afghanistan Constitution. AACC has organized major events, met with international investors and U.S multinational corporations with a presence in the Central Asia region, spoken at global fora and think tank events on Afghanistan and written important research and opinion pieces on key private sector development achievements and challenges inside Afghanistan.

*AACC leaders including Chairman, Sulaiman Lutfi and President and CEO, Jeffrey Grieco attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual India-Afghanistan “Passage to Prosperity Trade and Investment Conference” in Mumbai and have worked to help promote regional business through the “Afghanistan as HUB” concept by participating in regionally-focused events concerning Central Asia and activities supporting an export-led economic growth model for Afghanistan. AACC Board Members (including *President Emeritus and former U.S. Congressman Don Ritter and former Afghanistan Central Bank Governor, H. E. Noorullah Delawari*) have helped further develop the **AACC Investors Advisory Council (IAC)** bringing major Afghan and international investors and business organizations together to promote large-scale investments inside Afghanistan. AACC leaders have also established working groups to chart Afghanistan-USA and international investments in the agriculture, ICT, energy and mining and extractives sectors. Lastly, the AACC liaison office in Kabul has been working closely with our Afghanistan membership and keeps the U.S. headquarters fully informed of significant developments as they occur on the ground.*

We hope to see you either in Dubai on February 21<sup>st</sup>, Kabul on February 26<sup>th</sup>, or Mazar-e-Sharif on February 28<sup>th</sup> and then in Washington, D.C. on April 30<sup>th</sup> to May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019. Please let us know if you have any question.

Sincerely,

*Sulaiman Lutfi*

**Sulaiman Lutfi**  
*Chairman*

*Jeffery Grieco*

**Jeffery Grieco**  
*President & CEO*

**URGENT U.S. VISA NOTICE:** Afghan citizens are encouraged to register or sponsor and submit their names to AACC as soon as possible. *AACC will coordinate its list of potential attendees with the U.S. Consulates in Kabul and Dubai. Partnering business organizations should be submitting their names to AACC prior to applying on-line for a U.S. business visa interview.*