



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
1010 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1010

APR 27 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Support for Civilian Capacity Requirements in Afghanistan

This memorandum reaffirms previous guidance to Department of Defense (DoD) Components to place a high priority on sustaining civilian positions in Afghanistan even as you work to identify the savings required by sequestration. The Department's policy is to exempt operations in Afghanistan from sequestration-related reductions to the maximum extent possible, and it is consistent with this policy to continue to support the Civilian Expeditionary Workforce serving in Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. As you make decisions on staffing levels in light of fiscal constraints, you should allow DoD employees who volunteer to serve in Afghanistan to complete their assignments whenever possible and to extend their assignment if critically needed. Further, you should encourage qualified individuals to volunteer for open positions.

Our efforts in Afghanistan have reached a crucial point as Afghan forces take the lead for security across the country. I remain personally engaged with our theater Commanders, who rely on the critical skills DoD of civilians to ensure our military operations and those of the Afghan security forces can meet the challenges of security transition in December 2014.

Thank you for supporting the volunteers from your organizations. For information on civilian capacity requirements in Afghanistan, please contact Ms. Julie Blanks, Civilian Expeditionary Workforce Director, at 571-372-2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Curtis Scut", is centered on the page. The signature is written in a cursive style.



OSD004455-13

DISTRIBUTION:

SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS  
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE  
DEPUTY CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER  
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS  
DIRECTOR, COST ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM EVALUATION  
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION  
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER  
ASSISTANTS TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT  
DIRECTOR, NET ASSESSMENT  
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES  
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES