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## Abdul Rahim Wardak quits Afghan presidential race

3/16/2014

Former defense minister and presidential hopeful Abdul Rahim Wardak withdrew from the ongoing Afghan presidential race on Sunday, leaving nine presidential hopefuls to contest.

"I am announcing my withdrawal from the presidential race and the next month presidential elections," Wardak said at a press conference here.

Without giving any reason for quitting the contest, Wardak said that he is thankful to anyone who supported him so far in the campaign.

Wardak who didn't show support to any candidates added, "I want the country to have a fair and transparent election."

Rahim Wardak is the second candidate quitting the April presidential contest in Afghanistan.

Previously, President Hamid Karzai's elder brother Abdul Qayum Karzai quitted the presidential contest and threw his weight behind the former foreign minister Zalmay Rassoul.