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## Ghani calls for unanimous approval of US, NATO security pacts by senate

November 23, 2014

President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani welcomed the unanimous approval of the bilateral security agreement between Kabul and Washington and the NATO Status of Force Agreement by Lower House of the Parliament – Wolesi Jirga.

President Ghani's spokesman Nazifullah Salarzai said President Ghani has called on Afghan Senate House – Upper House of the Parliament to take same good step.

Lawmakers in the Lower House of Parliament – Wolesi Jirga unanimously approved the security agreements with Washington and NATO during a special session this morning.

The session was attended by 175 lawmakers, out of which only 5 lawmakers rejected the agreement with US and NATO, while the remaining lawmakers unanimously approved the agreements.

The Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) for the NATO forces was also inked during the signing ceremony on the same day.

The agreements will pave the way for the presence of US and NATO troops to Afghanistan beyond 2014 to implement the new non-combat mission to train, advise and support Afghan national security forces.

NATO is expected to launch the new non-combat mission – Resolute Support Mission at the beginning of 2015. The NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) mission will formally conclude at the end of this year.