

## Kabul Municipality inaugurated Shir Darwaza Bridge

Kabul, 29 Nov 2011

The Shir Darwaza Bridge, which will ease traffic congestion in the heart of Kabul, was officially opened today by the Mayor of Kabul, H.E. Mohammad Yonus Nawandish and H.E. Dr. Sayed Makhdoom Raheen, The Minister of Information and Culture of Afghanistan.

Shir Darwaza Bridge is located 40 meters upstream from the Harten Bridge which will be heavily affected shortly by rehabilitation work. The Harten Bridge is currently the only major traffic bridge over the Kabul River.

In order to limit disruption to traffic during the rehabilitation work, Kabul Municipality asked UNOPS to construct the Shir Darwaza Bridge. UNOPS started construction works on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2011 and the bridge was opened to traffic on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2011.

Work has already started with the construction of another new bridge, downstream from the Harten Bridge, as well as road works on both sides of the river.

In his opening remarks, H.E. Mohammad Yonus Nawandish commended and thanked the Government and people of Japan, who have funded all aspects of this major bridges and roads construction project in the heart of Kabul city. His Excellency also paid tribute to UNOPS for the timely and successful completion of this challenging project. He said that “the management and the supervision of this project was done by UNOPS, on behalf of the people of Afghanistan, and I would like to thank UNOPS for the timely and successful completion of this project. “



Emphasizing the need for the continuation of international community support H.E. Dr. Sayed Makhdoom Raheen the Minister of Information and Culture, added “Harten Bridge is a good example of the European souvenir to the people of Afghanistan. We hope to see more development and building of new bridges in Kabul city.”

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