PRESS RELEASE

VOTER REGISTRATION FOR RETURNEES

July 17, 2005

The Joint Electoral Management Body on Sunday launched a seven week Voter Registration for Afghan refugees who are returning with UNHCR assistance from neighbouring countries between July 17 and September 8, 2005.

Afghans over the age of 18, who do not yet have registration cards, must register if they wish to vote in the September 18 Wolesi Jirga and Provincial Council elections. Voters must have a registration card which states the province where they live and will vote.

Returnees who participated in IOM Out-of-Country Voting for Afghanistan’s 2004 Presidential Elections in Pakistan or Iran will not be able to use their IOM Out-of-Country voter registration cards to vote in the 2005 Wolesi Jirga and Provincial Council elections.

Voters may only cast ballots in the province listed on their registration cards.

Returnees who do not have a registration card, or who used an IOM Out of Country Voter Registration card to vote in Pakistan or Iran during the 2004 Presidential Election, should visit a registration centre.

For more information please consult www.jemb.org or contact:

JEMB National Spokesperson:
Sultan Ahmad Baheen
Mob: + 93 (0) 70 29 89 92
baheensultana@unops.org.af

JEMB International Spokesperson:
Bronwyn Curran
Mob: + 93 (0) 70 16 44 94
bronwyn@unops.org.af