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Press Statement on the Death of Pakistani ACYPL Alumnus Asfandiyar Amirzeb

Washington, D.C., January 2, 2008 – Linda Rotunno, Chief Executive Officer of the American Council of Young Political Leaders, issued the following statement today mourning the tragic death of Asfandiyar Amirzeb. A former provincial minister of education in Pakistan's Northwest Frontier Province and an alumnus of ACYPL's 2004 Election Study Program, Mr. Amirzeb was killed in a roadside blast on December 28, 2007 while campaigning for a seat in the Northwest Frontier Provincial Assembly in the village of Manglawar, Pakistan.

"On behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff of the American Council of Young Political Leaders, I would like to express our sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of Asfandiyar Amirzeb. Mr. Amirzeb's brutal and senseless killing last Friday was a shock to all of us and we regret that those who killed him chose to pursue their aims by violent means.

The ACYPL staff had the opportunity to meet Mr. Amirzeb during the election study tour of the United States that we organized in 2004 for young political leaders from around the world. We mourn the loss of such a promising politician so early in his career and remember his warm, engaging personality and his natural leadership ability. His death is a loss to Pakistan and to the entire ACYPL family."

Recognized by the U.S. Congress as a pre-eminent catalyst for introducing rising political leaders and policy makers to international affairs and to each other, **The American Council of Young Political Leaders** is a bi-partisan, not-for-profit international exchange organization based in Washington, DC. Since its founding in 1966, ACYPL has conducted programs and exchanges with more than 90 nations, producing a global network of several thousand alumni. Former ACYPL participants include 38 sitting members of the U.S. Congress, 6 sitting U.S. governors and ambassadors, cabinet ministers and parliamentarians around the globe. For more information on ACYPL, please visit <http://www.acypl.org>.

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