

Thank you very much Mrs. Manano,

It is a delight for me to attend this virtual workshop. I also thank the remarks by my previous speakers from OSAA, UNECA and UN-ORLLS.

Dear colleagues and friends,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa on the success of the first session of the workshop, for the Southern and Eastern African subregions. I believe this session for the Central, Northern and Western subregions will be equally fruitful.

Facing the COVID-19 pandemic, African countries have taken proactive measures and achieved commendable results. Meanwhile, the pandemic aggravated existing socioeconomic and humanitarian challenges, and thus complicated the political and security situation in Africa. It is clear more than ever that peace, development and human rights are closely-linked.

For countries with weak social-economic foundation, peace efforts and peace-building achievements will not sustain the impacts of one or two crises. The nexus between peace, humanitarian and development should be integrated into the global and national efforts in addressing major challenges.

