

**Informal meeting of the Guinea Bissau configuration of
the Peacebuilding Commission – 17 August 2015**
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On 17 August 2015, the Guinea-Bissau Configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) held an informal meeting Chaired by H.E. Mr. Antonio de Aguiar Patriota. The purpose of the meeting was to receive an update on the situation in Guinea-Bissau, and to discuss ways for the PBC to respond to the escalation of the tension between President Vaz and former Prime Minister Simões Pereira.

In his introductory remarks, the Chair reiterated the PBC belief that Guinea-Bissau had been making good progress towards stabilisation and development since the elections of 2014 and the round table held in Brussels in March 2015.

He reported on the telephone conversation he had with SRSG Trovoada on Friday 14 August. President Vaz had indicated that his decision to destitute the Prime Minister and the Government was an act of sovereignty in line with the provisions of the Constitution of the country. He noted the flow of statements that followed the announcement of the destitution of the Government. He further observed that over the week end, the ruling party PAIGC had reiterated its support to Mr. Simoes Pereira, recommending that he should be reappointed as Prime Minister. The SRSG indicated that President Vaz did not intend to dissolve the Parliament, that so far there have been no confrontation and that the military had shown restraint, staying out of the on-going political crisis. He also noted that the evaluation of public resources management, which was one of the justifications given by President Vaz in demoting the Prime Minister, did not fall under the competency of the President, but under the competency Auditor. He suggested that the international community should avoid

