



28 September 2010

To : Members of the PBC – Burundi Configuration

Working Lunch - Peacebuilding Commission, Burundi Configuration

Co-hosted by Ambassador Paul Seger, Chair of the PBC-Burundi Configuration and Ambassador Zacharie Gahutu, PR of Burundi in New York

24 September 2010, Restaurant DeGrezia, New York

Purpose of the lunch: For the Government of Burundi to pursue its engagement with the Peacebuilding Commission, with a particular focus on the post electoral opportunities and challenges and the long-term engagement of the PBC with Burundi.

The attendance was excellent and at high level (about 40 participants).

In his opening remarks, the Chair of the Country Configuration underscored the peacebuilding progress achieved by Burundi, including the 2010 elections that went well. He suggested two avenues for the PBC future engagement with Burundi: 1) Supporting economic and social progress and 2) Strengthening institutions. He went on to say that the two avenues were inter-related. There could be, from his perspective, no lasting stability without economic and social development. On the other hand, sustainable economic progress required a stable democratic and rule-based framework.

The PBC should thus help attracting investment and at the same time assist Burundi in building an institutional and legal environment conducive to investment.

Burundi Minister of External Relations and International Cooperation, Augustin Nsanze took the floor to share the latest developments in Burundi. He described the long electoral process and the key outcomes,

despite contestations of certain political parties. Among key outcomes, the president was sworn in and the new government was formed end August - beginning September 2010. He acknowledged the role played by the international community, in particular the East African Community that sent a delegation of foreign ministers in an effort to bring back into the electoral process political parties that have decided to boycott the elections after the communal in J

