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Peacebuilding Commission
Organizational Committee Meeting

18 December 2017

Chairperson’s Summary of the Discussion

Background

On 18 December 2017, the Peacebuilding Commission convened an informal meeting.
The meeting was chaired by the H.E. Mr. Juan Jose Ignacio Gómez Camacho, Vice-Chair of
the PBC, and addressed the following agenda items: (1) Informal adoption of the PBC
report on its eleventh session; 2) Report by the Chairs of the PBC Country configurations,
PBC focal points, and coordinator of the periodic stock-taking exercises on the PBC’s
advisory function to the Security Council; 3) Briefing on activities of the Peacebuilding
Fund.

 Informal adoption of the PBC report on its eleventh session
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Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan (RCPCA) was delayed because of a number of
reasons, including the limited amount of funding disbursed after the Brussels
conference, the security situation, and the limited capacities in some areas of the
government. The Chair informed that the work of the Commission would continue to
focus on the implementation of Pillar I of the RCPCA, which focused on peace,
security, and reconciliation, and will convene dedicated discussions on each these
areas.

4. The Chair of the Guinea-Bissau Configuration (Brazil) informed that, following an
ECOWAS Ministerial Mission to Bissau, ECOWAS issued a final communiqué on 3
December noting that the additional period of three months for progress in the
implementation of the Conakry Agreement, established at the 51st ECOWAS Summit,
had ended on 3 September with no results. The Chair recalled that the PBC convened
a meeting on Guinea-Bissau on 6 December. On that occasion, the SRSG for Guinea-Bissau reported that there had been no tangible progress in the implementation of
the Conakry Agreement and that tensions continued to rise. The Commission also
discussed the upcoming legislative elections and was informed that the National
Electoral Commission (CNE) presented to the President of the Republic a calendar
according to which legislative elections were to be held in May 2018. In line with this
proposal, preparations were underway, including those related to the electoral
cartography and the electoral budget. However, the Chair noted that there were still

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in at least 40 countries. Investments would remain focused on the PBF’s priority areas
as mandated in the Fund’s Terms of Reference across the continuum, investing in
prevention, in the midst of violent conflict to prevent escalation and in post conflict
settings. It was noted that the Fund would also emphasize investments streams
which proved to be key enablers of peacebuilding and sustaining peace, such as i)
cross border and regional investments; ii) facilitating transitions from one UN
configuration to another, such as in Cote d’Ivoire, Liberia and Haiti; iii) youth and
women empowerment, and; iv) private sector engagement as a new and growing
areas of focus for our country teams in conflict situations, such as in Colombia and
Liberia. PBSO also informed that about $280m in commitments or pledges for the 3
years cycle were secured. This year marked the highest level of contributions since
2006 and a 90% increase from 2016. It was noted that the PBF remained the most
widely subscribed fund of the UN system.

15. PBSO underscored that this level of commitment from donors allowed the Office to
significantly raise its level of support to meet the growing demand around the world.
PBSO reported that it expected to approve this year up to $154m, which represented
the highest level ever of approvals since the Fund’s inception, a 102% increase from
last year. The fund invested in 31 countries approving 81 projects and providing
funding to 15 agencies of the development system and 7 CSOs. More than 82% of
those projects were joint programs, always integrated with SPM or Peacekeeping
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