

Statement by

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United Nations

**Presentation of the Report of the Peacebuilding Commission
on its Seventh Session**

**General Assembly
Sixty Eighth Session**

Item 30: Report of the Peacebuilding Commission

Mr. President,

On behalf of the members of the Peacebuilding Commission, I am pleased to present the report of the Commission on its seventh session as contained in document (A/68/729-S/2014/67).

This report presents the progress made in taking forward the recommendations of the

pleased to note that the reporting period witnessed significant progress in clarifying the scope and in identifying practical modalities in respect to the Commission's advisory role to the Security Council. At the same time, efforts aimed at achieving similar progress in relation to the General Assembly and to ECOSOC need to be further intensified.

Third, the Commission has embarked on an ambitious work programme focused on delivering on its three core functions through its engagement with Burundi, the Central African Republic, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Sierra Leone. Through its country-specific engagement, the Commission is constantly reminded that peacebuilding is not a linear process. It is rather a process fraught with challenges that are typically context-specific and that take various forms at different stages of the peacebuilding efforts. I would like to highlight the following points in relation to the three functions of the Commission:

- 1) The Commission's country-specific engagement over the past year confirmed that the advocacy and accompaniment function of the PBC depends first and foremost on the level of commitment demonstrated by national interlocutors and on the quality of the international response in support of such commitment. The Commission, therefore, promotes an approach of mutual accountability and commitments in its support for the peacebuilding processes in the countries on the agenda. Examples in this regard from Burundi and Liberia are presented in greater detail in the report that is before the Assembly.
- 2) The PBC is undertaking its resource mobilization function against the backdrop of realizing that it is not a fundraising mechanism. This is a statement based on lessons learned over eight years in operation. Instead and as an intergovernmental body, the PBC is best suited to help the countries develop and roll out national resource mobilization strategies for peacebuilding-related activities and programmes. The Commission has also projected itself as a platform to advocate for the timely deployment of targeted resources, especially in crises situations such as in the Central African Republic and Guinea-Bissau, or as countries approach critical milestones such as the elections which took

Mr. President,

Recognizing the important contribution of women to peacebuilding, the Commission approached its thematic focus on economic revitalization and national reconciliation during the reporting period by examining the gender dimension of both themes. A partnership with UN-Women has enabled the Commission to explore, raise awareness of and draw lessons from the transformative role of women in post-conflict societies. A high-level event on women's economic empowerment for peacebuilding was convened last September and was chaired by the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia. The event resulted in a political declaration which affirmed the commitment of the Commission members to women's economic empowerment for peacebuilding. A meeting of the Working Group on Lessons Learned in December also reaffirmed the importance of gender mainstreaming in planning, priority setting, design and delivery of national reconciliation processes.

Mr. President,

The Commission will convene its first ever annual substantive session on 23 June 2014 in order to enable closer interaction and engagement among the relevant stakeholders in New York, and on the ground, as well as from the capitals of Member States. The holding of the annual session can potentially strengthen the Commission's contribution to the implementation of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document.

that can be readily put into practice through its country-specific engagement ahead of the 2015 review.

Finally, Mr. President, I wish to acknowledge the role of the Peacebuilding Support Office, and that of Assistant Secretary-G