



United Nations - Nations Unies

PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION

Presentation by the

Chairman of the Peacebuilding Commission

H.E. Mr. Abulkalam Abdul Momen

Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations

To the

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2012

Agenda item 7 (f) - African countries emerging from conflict

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Mr. Vice President and distinguished colleagues,

On behalf of the Peacebuilding Commission, I am pleased to follow the footsteps of my predecessors who briefed the Economic and Social Council's substantive sessions over the past three years. This annual occasion for the PBC Chairperson to brief the ECOSOC testifies to the linkage between peacebuilding and socio-economic development. ECOSOC can play an important role in ensuring that socio-economic development remains at the centre of the international community's support to and engagement with countries emerging from conflict. I believe that a strong partnership between ECOSOC and PBC represents a crucial step to ensure a coherent and coordinated support to post-conflict countries.

On 4 June 2012, ECOSOC and PBC organized their 4th joint event to address critical challenges faced by countries emerging from conflict. The theme of this year's joint event was *Partnerships for job creation for young people in countries emerging from conflict*. The discussions which took place at the event affirmed the need for a common approach to job creation in countries emerging from conflict. The role of youth and job creation in post-conflict situations have been identified in many countries on the PBC agenda as a key priority which needs to be addressed, if peace is to be sustainable and if foundations for sound economic growth and development is to be achieved. I trust that this will continue to be an area where the partnership between the PBC and ECOSOC will continue to be highly needed and appreciated.

Mr. Vice President and distinguished colleagues,

Since the conclusion of the 2010 Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture, and through the adoption of roadmaps for actions in 2011 and in 2012, the PBC has taken important steps to implement key recommendations of the Review. In particular, it has focused on improving its relations with the UN principle organs, enhancing coordination, and improving its working methods. Such focus was conceived with a view to enhancing the Commission's impact in the field. To this end, the Commission is working towards improving its role in resource mobilization, building partnerships, and in supporting national ownership and capacity-building.

Earlier this month, the Organizational Committee of the Commission had a very useful interaction with Ms. Susana Malcorra, Chef de Cabinet and Chair of the Steering Committee on Civilian Capacities, on the role that the PBC can play in preparation for and implementation of the upcoming progress report of the Secretary-General on the Civilian Capacity.

Mr. President and distinguished colleagues,

The success of the Commission will continue to be measured by its contribution to the success of national peacebuilding processes. In this regard, the Commission's engagement with the six countries on its agenda, Burundi, Central African Republic, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, will continue to define all our efforts. In this regard, I must recognize the work undertaken by the Chairs and the members of the six country configurations.

achieved. All these efforts were eventually stalled following the 12 April coup d'état. Since then the PBC has been striving to facilitate dialogue and coordination among the main international partners of Guinea-Bissau, with a view to support the restoration of constitutional order in the country.

Liberia:

In its first year of engagement with Liberia, the Commission drew on a range of expertise to become conversant with the conflict, history and culture of the country as well as the technical aspects of the three peacebuilding priorities: rule of law, security sector reform and national reconciliation.

On the 20 April 2012, H.E. Mr. Staffan Tillander of Sweden was elected as the new chair for the

financial and the top troop and police contributors to the UN. Therefore, we count on the members of ECOSOC that are members of the PBC to guide us towards deepening our partnership with the Council. One such area will naturally be the Council's role in guiding better coherence and integration of efforts by all UN operational and development actors on the ground. We should also draw on our common interest of involving non-traditional actors, most importantly philanthropic organizations, foundations and private sector.

I hope that the year ahead could mark concrete steps in this direction.

Thank you, Mr. President.
