

Informal Meeting of Burundi Configuration on 16 November 2012

Chair's Summary

Introduction

On Friday, 16 November 2012, from 10:00 am to 12:15 pm, an informal meeting of the Country - Specific Configuration on Burundi of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC Burundi Configuration) took place at UN Headquarters under the chairmanship of, H.E. Ambassador Paul Seger, Chair of the Burundi Configuration. The government of Burundi was represented by H.E. Dr. Gervais Rufyikiri, Second Vice-President, via video link¹ from Bujumbura, and H.E. Ambassador Herménégilde Niyonzima, Permanent Representative of Burundi to the United Nations in New York. The United Nations were represented by Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Burundi, and Assistant Secretary-General Judy Cheng-Hopkins, Head of the Peacebuilding Support Office.

The purpose of the meeting was to report on the Con

In his remarks, the *Chair of the PBC Burundi Configuration* stated that the Geneva Conference has been very positive and he congratulated the government of Burundi for this major achievement [Note: the draft Chair's report on the Geneva Conference has been circulated before this meeting; a finalized version is attached to this summary]. He reiterated the message conveyed by Burundi's international partners at the conference: the international community remains closely engaged with Burundi; the government of Burundi should take this unequivocal signal to its heart and double its efforts to push through much needed institutional and political reforms and thoroughly implement the second generation PRSP II. The Chair urged all partners to live up to their promises.

The *SRSR Parfait Onanga-Anyanga*, reiterated the positive assessment of the Geneva Conference. He recalled the main challenges Burundi faces for which international support was needed, including poverty, malnutrition, energy, productivity, equitable growth, a vibrant democracy and reconciliation. He mentioned the 2015 elections as the next hurdle in terms of peacebuilding, as well as related challenges, including political space [for political parties to exercise their activities] and the return of those parties who boycotted the 2010 elections, violence, freedom of speech and freedom of assembly. In terms of next steps, he highlighted coordination among partners, follow-up to commitments and pledges made in Geneva both by the Government of Burundi and its partners, and support to the implementation of the first pillar of the PRSP-II [note: this pillar focuses on governance and peacebuilding issues]. The S6434(-)-2.09359C18(Se)-277118(B)-13.37.0

Next Steps

The Chair informed the Burundi Configuration of his upcoming visit to Bujumbura in January 2013 to follow-up on the Geneva Conference and to discuss the next steps of the PBC's engagement with Burundi. The Chair will also share his summary report of the Conference of Geneva with the Security Council as a way to report on the work of the PBC.

Attachment

Intervention de Son Excellence Monsieur Gervais Ru

de la société civile, des partenaires bilatéraux

Stratégie de Croissance et de Lutte contre la Pauvreté, deuxième génération.

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