



## **BRAZIL**

### **Statement by the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations**

**H.E. Ambassador Antonio de Aguiar Patriota**

**on the occasion of Brazil's election as Chair of the  
Peacebuilding Commission**

**United Nations  
29 January 2014**

*(check against delivery)*

Ambassador Vladimir Drobnyak, outgoing Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC),  
Ms. Judy Cheng-Hopkins, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support,  
Distinguished Ambassadors and delegations of the members of the Organizational Committee,  
Distinguished colleagues representing the countries on the PBC agenda and those serving in the  
capacities as Vice-Chair, chairs of the PBC country configurations and the Working Group on Lessons  
Learned,

I thank the members of the Organizational Committee of the PBC for the trust placed in Brazil to assume this responsibility. I count on your help and support to steer the work of the Peacebuilding Commission in the year ahead. I am privileged to follow in the footsteps of my predecessors, whose efforts will continue to guide us as we collectively contribute to national peacebuilding efforts in the countries that sought the advice and support of the PBC. A special word of gratitude to Ambassador Drobnyak, whose leadership, experience and commitment guided the Commission during the last 12 months.

This Commission was given the mandate of accompanying countries as they tackle the complex challenges associated with rebuilding critical national institutions, while also delivering peace dividends and sustainable livelihoods to their populations. In over 8 years since its establishment, the Commission has undoubtedly demonstrated added value in certain contexts and in specific areas of its core functions. However, the process of fine-tuning and sharpening the PBC's approach and tools is very much a work in progress.

As a diplomatic platform that brings together key regional and global actors, the PBC is uniquely placed to catalyze the potentials within the international system to further improve our collective response to post-conflict challenges and to sustain our commitment to the countries emerging from or affected by conflict. After all, we should know by now that peacebuilding is not a linear process and is, indeed, a



countries on the agenda. The great potential of the PBC resides in its composition and intergovernmental character. It is ultimately up to us to make the most of it, in terms of providing strategic guidance, forging greater coherence, and strengthening national and regional ownership. Here, I turn in particular to our African colleagues, in highlighting the importance of their engagement and vision.

Africa today experiences major political evolutions, economic growth, and the rapidly changing features of dynamic societies. African regional and