

**Peacebuilding Commission
Steering Group of the Liberian Country Specific Configuration**

Chairperson's Summary

Background

At the end of January, 2011, the Chairperson invited Members of the Configuration to consider undertaking a more concrete role in the context of their membership in the Configuration. Nine (9) Members have agreed to work with the Chair to help ensure that the PBC realizes the commitments agreed upon in the Statement of Mutual Commitment (SMC). Members of this open ended "steering group" meet on an informal basis. China, European Union, Ghana, Ireland, Japan, Liberia, Sweden, United Kingdom and the United States have accepted to join the steering group which is open to any Member of the Configuration.

Discussions

On April 12, the fourth meeting of the steering group was held with the participation of the Minister of Justice. This meeting met in advance of the Informal Country Specific Configuration meeting to enable Members of the steering group to examine in greater detail three issues that had been discussed in previous steering group meetings: the first Justice and Security Regional Hub project, the implications of the Côte d'Ivoire crisis for Liberia and transnational crime.

The briefing by the Minister enabled PBC members to gained greater clarity on the debate over the location of the courts in relation to the Regional Hub premise and on the status of