

Report of the visit of the Chair of the PBC Guinea Configuration to Conakry
(31 May - 2 June 2015)

I. Objectives and content of the visit

The Chair of the Guinea Configuration of the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) visited Guinea from 31 May to 2nd of June 2015, with the following objectives:

1. To sustain the attention of the international community on the recovery efforts and peacebuilding needs of Guinea following the outbreak of the Ebola virus disease (EVD) and to ensure that peacebuilding priorities receive adequate support and attention in the national Ebola recovery strategy and in international support mechanisms, including the IFIs and the UN, in particular in view of the UN Secretary-General's High-level Meeting on Ebola on July 10, 2015.
2. To discuss with the various actors in Guinea the opportunities for the PBC to support efforts under way to create a conducive environment for the holding of free, peaceful, inclusive and credible elections.
3. To examine the priorities for the Guinea Configuration in 2015 in the three mutually agreed areas of engagement: national unity and reconciliation, security sector reform and youth and women's employment.

The Permanent Representative of Guinea, Ambassador Touré, took part in the visit.

The Chair was granted an audience by the President of the Republic, H.E. Professor Alpha Condé. She moreover met with the Minister for Human Rights and Public Liberties, who is also the political focal point for the PBC, the Delegate Minister for Defense, the Minister for Security and Civil Protection, the Minister for Territorial Administration and Decentralization, the President of the National Assembly and members of the Bureau of the Assembly, the President of the Independent Electoral Commission (CENI),

suspended its participation in the National Assembly (which prevented the adoption of certain laws that require a two-third majority, such as the organic law amending the Electoral Code).

The two sides mutually accuse each other: the Opposition considers in particular that the holding of local and community elections after the presidential elections contradicts the annex to the agreement

It should also be recalled that the visit of the Chair of the Guinea Configuration coincided with that of the SRSG Chambas, allowing for a coordination of their messages. In a press statement dated 1st of June, the Special Representative called on all parties in Guinea to redouble their efforts to ensure the organization of elections that will safeguard peace and consolidate the democratic process in Guinea.

While stressing that both sides should make concessions, the President of the Republic was optimistic that an agreement will be reached soon in order to move towards the preparation of free and inclusive elections. He was of the opinion that all parties agreed that the presidential elections should be held on October 11, 2015.

The technical and financial support for the elections

The Chair of the Configuration also discussed issues related to the organization of the elections

that *momentum* has to be maintained and the full implementation of the normative framework to be ensured. A major challenge in this regard is the mobilization of resources.

The Delegate Minister for Defense underlined the need for well preparing the retirement of the military, stressing that a well-planned retirement is an important factor of stability. This is especially true in the current context of transition to a "normal" system of retirement where it is important to manage the expectations of the military. Proper guidance and proper information of the military are necessary to ensure a peaceful process. In this context, the post of Minister for Veterans, who is not

underlined that there can be no successful reconciliation without clear political will and without

