

Concept Note

HELD IN WASHINGTON, DC ON 8 JULY 2011

Economic Revitalization and Youth Employment for Peacebuilding

WITH A VIEW TO A MORE REPRESENTATIVE AND BALANCED CHAIR

NLB ECOSOC Chamber
8 July 2011, 10:00a.m. – 01:00p.m.

Although there had been efforts by the international community to improve its responses to support post-conflict economic recovery, it has been found that international responses to date in this regard have lacked coherence. The recent launch of the World Bank's *2011 World Development Report on Conflict, Security and Development* provides an excellent opportunity for the international community to improve its responses. One of the key messages of the report was the need to strengthen legitimate institutions and governance through scaled-up assistance in security, justice, and jobs in order to break cycles of violence.

Building on findings thus far which are explained in the separate background paper, the Chair of the PBC WGLL intends to hold its next meeting with the aim of bringing together the outcomes of previous meetings of the WGLL as well as subsequent reports issued.

The Chair of the WGLL is aware of a broad set of enabling circumstances required to revive a devastated economy. With a view to reflecting the findings of the WDR 2011, the Chair wishes to give special focus on identifying concrete actions to support youth employment and natural resource management. These are the some of the key areas to address in order to avoid a relapse into conflict. Yet international responses to date have lacked coherence, subsequently making these areas potential hot spots.

Jobs are one of the focal issues from the outset in the WDR 2011, while natural resource and job creation.

The conclusions of this meeting could contribute to elaborating practical measures the PBC can take in order to improve the way in which the international community supports these areas.

II. Key questions to be addressed

1. Youth Employment

(1) Policy development

developing employment creation/income generation initiatives especially for youth in fragile settings?

- What role could the PBC play in supporting national efforts to develop coherent and effective strategies for job creation initiatives that take into account the needs of women on employment so that the relevant stakeholders can work collectively on result-oriented interventions based on common indicators?
- How can the PBC facilitate the assessments that identify existing national capacities and capacity building investment needed? How can the PBC help implement the findings of the civilian capacity review in the field of youth employment that require closer linkage between short-term civilian deployment and longer-term planning for developing national capacities?
- What role can the PBC play in facilitating an environment conducive to the engagement of multinational enterprises and developing local private sector?

The relevant policies may include:

- Analysis of the sectors with the most employment potential, e.g. agriculture, minerals, infrastructure, etc.

- Systematic data collection and dissemination

- Coordination between those concerned with the technical side of development projects with those concerned with employment promotion

- Linking district economic development planning with planning for public works, value

chain analysis, human capital development and labour market analysis

- A detailed plan of how to develop the system of linkages at the national and district level

The development of a career counselling, Basic Skills Development Skills for Green Agriculture and Placement

(2) Donor alignment

- What sort of mechanism is needed to bring actors together and coordinate mechanisms and resources in order to overcome the current incoherent and fragmented approach by the international community, where job creation projects have often adopted a short-term outlook with limited linkages to long-term employment and income generation, or labour market analysis?

What role could the PBC play in developing a value chain approach for specific commodities?

- How can the donor community improve the quality of programming of job creation and private sector development initiatives?

eg.

- Development of criteria for new projects based on the best practices
- The training/orientation of NGOs to become skilled in employment creation interventions
- The training of specialized skills for the multinational companies so as to develop public

private partnerships

role to this effect?

- How can the PBC disseminate good practices and lessons learned regionally and globally to

resource management?

- How can the perspective of civil societies be brought into policy formulation, including the

transparency?

III. Format and Structure

This open meeting will be held as a panel discussion

Chair:

H.E. Mr. Tsuneo Nishida, Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations.

Panellists:

Mr. Stephen N. Ndegwa, Adviser Fragile & Conflict Affected Countries Group

Operations Policy and Country Services - The World Bank (PBC)

Affairs Officer

Mr. Owen Shumba, Team Leader, Livelihoods and Economic Recovery Group, UNDP/RCPR
