29 January 2015

Security Council Session on the Implementation of

Note S/2010/507 (Wrap-Up Session)

Mr. President,

May I start by conveying our appreciation for your efficient and productive Presidency of the Security Council for the month of January and I wish to commend you for your poise in presiding over our work.

In 2015, we continue facing significant challenges with persistent conflicts that are provoking untold human suffering and an increasing number of victims: deaths, refugees and displace people; new and more diverse terrorist threats configure a contradictory world indeed, where remarkable scientific and technological progress contrasts sharply with the most heinous human behavior.

It is this dual reality that we have been facing in the Security Council, while trying to find solutions to the grim realities of our contemporary world. Quite often it appears that the forces of war and disintegration might take the upper hand. But we can’t fall in despair because the international community entrusted upon us the inalienable task of upholing the principles of peace, the rule of law and development.

Mr. President,

I would like to share my views on some areas where the Council has not performed how it should, given its inability to unite and, in other instances, to find common ground to address very complex issues related to war and the search for peace.

The continuing crisis in Syria, the rising tensions in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, the deteriorating situation in Yemen, and the growing threat of ISIL; the mounting threats related to the situations in Mali, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and in the Central African Republic constitute heavy burdens, for which we must remain steadfast, as effectively as possible, with a view of reducing the growing threat of conflicts and the humanitarian disasters associated with them.

We remain deeply concerned by the lack of unity within the Council to foster an effective political solution to the conflict in Syria. Even though there has been significant progress in the destruction of Syria’s chemical weapons program, no real progress has been made to find a political solution which remains the best way forward. We continue to urge Council members to unite and promote a diplomatic and peaceful solution to the Syrian crisis through dialogue and negotiations.

We are also concerned with the insignificant progress for the resumption of peace talks between Israel and Palestine, also due to lack of a consensual position within the Council, and its inability to move forward in supporting the two state solution for Israel and Palestine.

Yemen, which was on the right path to democratic reform, is slowing spiraling out of control. Here again, the Security Council should be more assertive due to the risk of Al Qaeda terrorists advances in the Arabic Peninsula.

Fortunately, the Security Council has been able to keep its unity in the fight against terrorism. The proliferation of terrorist groups such as ISIL, Al-Qaida and Boko Haram, among others, and the alarming growth and reach of their operations is a grave threat to the world and we have to keep this essential unity in a fight that concerns us all.

Mr. President,

Even though there has been some significant progress in the peacekeeping missions in Africa, we are concerned by the fragile nature of many situations.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the FDLR, despite being under an ultimatum to disarm, and surrender continues to defy the Security Council.

Another case where the international community and the Security Council are striving to broker a peace agreement, the Central African Republic, has so far achieved meager results.

Burundi also continues to experience political turmoil ahead of the legislative and presidential elections currently scheduled in May and August 2015, respectively, requiring a commitment of the Security Council to assist in the electoral process.

Regarding Mali, we witness a grim situation, with terrorist acts, attacks to peacekeepers, and great difficulties in engaging a meaningful political process. We applaud the efforts of Algeria in leading efforts to bring about a peaceful solution.

The Boko Haran Threat has finally met a response by the Security Council. Now, we must step up efforts to assist the countries of the region to face this terrorist group that has provoked so much suffering and destruction.

In Central and West Africa, the near future is full of peril with a number of countries expected to hold elections, requiring strong support and commitment by the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and political missions in those regions with good offices missions to prevent eventual conflicts associated with these electoral processes.

Mr. President,

Before concluding, I would like to mention the important debates on Inclusive Development for the Maintenance of International Peace and Security, and Post Conflict Peacebuilding.

We agree that inclusive development is key for preventing conflict and enabling long term stability and peace.

With regard to post conflict peacebuilding, the successful implementation of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programs for ex-combatants, the incorporation of gender issues and the promotion of dialogue and pluralism are essential elements for the consolidation of peace.

In conclusion, we are fully dedicated to the work of the Security Council to promote its unity as a pre-requisite for its efficiency in resolving fundamental issues related to international peace and security.

We will continue to cooperate with our partners in the Council in dealing with ongoing as well as emerging situations in the most effective manner.

Thank you.