**Security Council**

**Briefing on Peacebuilding**

**June 25, 2015**

**Statement**

We welcome and thank Ambassador Antonio Aguiar Patriota, former Chair of the Peace Building Commission for presenting his report.

We praise the work done by Brazil as Chair of the Guinea-Bissau specific configuration, during for quite some time, and for all efforts deployed to ensure a meaningful process of peace consolidation in that brother country.

We also welcome and thank Ambassador Olof Skoog, current Chair of the Peace Building Commission for briefing the Security Council on Peace Building challenges.

The Peace building Commission scored undeniable successes in countries in its Agenda. However, we recognize that much remains to be done and further efforts are needed to maintain the post-conflict gains in some of those countries.

The issue under consideration in this session is a critical one with a view to ensuring long-lasting and sustainable peace in countries emerging from conflict.

In the last years, the United Nations Peacebuilding framework deployed substantial resources in support of countries, to make them move forward to peace consolidation and strengthen the nexus between security and development.

The Peace Building Commission pursues its activities based on advocacy, resource mobilization, strengthening partnerships, forging coherence in policy development and ensure national ownership of the peace building processes. Additionally, the Commission must strengthen its advisory function with regard to the Security Council and the General Assembly, making its action more coordinated and incisive. Mr. President,

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The Peace building Commission plays a mediating role between the United Nations and the International Community, by assisting countries in post-conflict situation, to build their national institutions, strengthen social cohesion and carry out structural, social, and economic reforms.

The Commission also plays a crucial role in assisting post-conflict countries to overcome outstanding challenges. In this regard, we mention the outstanding intervention of the Peace Building Commission in assisting Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone, the three West African Countries most affected by the Ebola outbreak.

Regarding the mobilization of resources, the Commission plays a crucial role to assist countries in consolidating peace and stability. For instance, in the case of Guinea-Bissau it is assisting the Government in the implementation of its priority governance agenda.

It also contributed to the holding of the Donors Conference for Guinea Bissau, which took place in March this year in Brussels, with remarkable success.

The Donors Conference was an example on how the Peace building Commission can strengthen partnerships by playing a key role in bringing together the international community, regional organizations, financial institutions and Member States to address the needs and concerns of the countries in its agenda. .

Mr. President,

We welcome the Commission’s efforts to involve women in peace building processes, to empower and include them in all peace building efforts. Overlooking the contribution of women and the crucial role they can play in peace consolidation, in social and economic development is a great mistake and a receipt for failure: women, youth and civil society organizations are powerful driving forces in peace consolidation processes, and in social development in general.

The review of resolution 1325 is an opportunity to take stock of this reality.

As we already mentioned, the Peace building Commission must strengthen its advisory role with regard to the Security Council and the General Assembly on issues pertaining to post-conflict countries.

For instance, in countries with ongoing Demobilization, Disarmament, Reintegration and Security Sector Reform programs, the Peace building Commission must provide pertinent information to the Security Council on the implementation and the follow-up of DDR and SSR programs, in order to avoid the exclusion of ex-combatants and create the best possible conditions for their reintegration into civilian life, a crucial element in the peace consolidation processes.

In countries where the Security Council intends to terminate, drawdown, or reduce the personnel of a Peacekeeping Mission, the Peacebuilding Commission must draw the attention of the United Nations, and of the Security Council, on the appropriateness of such moves; the Peace Keeping operations review must take into account such fundamental element of the strengthening of the advisory role of the Commission.

Mr. President,

We now would like to share Angola’s experience as a post-conflict country, and express some views on aspects we consider essential in order to ensure a successful peace building process.

In political terms and taking into account the principle of national ownership, peace building requires trust and good faith by the main stakeholders and requires working toward the achievement of genuine national reconciliation.

In Angola, the peace and reconstruction process required, firstly, the extension of the State authority to the whole country, institution building, the respect for human rights and the rule of law.

Social and political inclusion is a fundamental feature of any peace building process. The efforts deployed by the Angolan authorities to reach out to former adversaries and to integrate them in society are well documented, as are the restoration of State institutions and economic life in general. This was a determinant factor in the success of our peace, national reconciliation and reconstruction process.

Furthermore, the full participation of political actors, women, youths, the civil society and the media in the national debate led to the adoption of constitutional and legal mechanisms associated to peace building.

In social and economic terms, peace building required the reconstruction of all infrastructures destroyed by the war, and especially the restoration of basic services to the population namely roads, bridges, railroads, airports, ports, schools and hospitals.

The success of the disarmament, demobilization and social reintegration of over hundred thousand military was a pivotal element for the consolidation of peace, which laid the foundations for a sound social and economic recovery.

Still a lot remains to be done, in social and economic development, in social democratization and inclusion, but we can say that in general the country is in the right track.

Mr. President,

To conclude, we full support the review of the Peace building Architecture, adapting peace building to the dynamics of the situation in each post-conflict country, and working more closely with the Security Council, the General Assembly, the United Nations system, Regional and Sub-Regional Organizations in preventing the relapse into conflict in a post-conflict country, and working in coordination with regional organizations to consolidate peace and stability.

The review of the Peace Building Architecture offers a unique opportunity for a clearer definition of the partnership to be established with the African Union and African sub-regional organizations. However, the debate which has been initiated with the African Union for quite some time did not yield tangible results - a shortcoming that we hope the present review of the Peace Building Architecture and of the Peace Building Operations will address.

In addition, we expect that this year’s review will enable to reach a better understanding on the challenges and reach recommendations rendering this cooperation more effective.

Finally, we are of the view that the Security Council, the PBC and Regional Organizations need to establish a more complementary and tangible partnership in securing peace and security in the world by strengthening the nexus between security and development.

I thank you, Mr. President.