

08 May 2017

To: Members of the Peacebuilding Commission, Burundi Configuration

Informal meeting of the Burundi Configuration of the PBC

New York, 26 April 2017

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1. The Chair of the PBC Burundi Configuration, H.E. Mr. Jürg Lauber, briefed the Configuration



5. In his report, the Chair highlighted the working lunch of 30 March in Bujumbura which he had co-chaired with Burundi's Foreign Minister H.E. Mr. Alain-Aimé Nyamitwe and the UN Resident Coordinator a.i. Bo Viktor Nylund. The lunch brought a number of high-ranking government officials and representatives of various UN agencies together for an exchange on the socioeconomic situation. In this framework, the Government emphasized the need to address both humanitarian and development needs as well as macroeconomic stability. The Government had used this opportunity to express its gratitude for the continuous international support. During that working lunch, the Government and its UN partners mentioned encouraging examples of cooperation, but also noted certain challenges and gaps and the need to intensify discussions on the modalities of cooperation.
6. That meeting and other contacts in Bujumbura motivated the Chair to pursue the dialogue on socioeconomic questions. He informed the Configuration about his plans to hold a socioeconomic discussion with the Government and Burundi's main international partners, possibly in July in Bujumbura. This conversation will focus on the macroeconomic situation and the socioeconomic challenges, on the one hand, and on the modalities of cooperation, on the other hand.
7. The Chair also briefed the Configuration about the trip



- (c) By following the security and human rights situation in Burundi carefully and by encouraging the Government and OHCHR to agree on the conditions for the continuation of their cooperation;
 - (d) By considering support for the reconciliation process led by the CVR;
 - (e) By considering additional support to grass-roots efforts for peacebuilding, building on the PBF investment and with a view to strengthen resilience, in particular by engaging with youth and women.
9. Ms. Mari Yamashita, Director and Deputy Head of the Peacebuilding Support Office, welcomed the conclusions which the Chair had drawn from his trips to Burundi/Tanzania and Washington DC. She noted that the socioeconomic discussions, which the Chair had been leading, suggest that macro-economic reforms and socio-economic interventions can be intentionally designed to prevent the crisis from further escalating and to support core peacebuilding objectives. She emphasized that PBSO maintained its commitment to Burundi,



Envoy and Resident Coordinator in Burundi. According to Ambassador Shingiro, these decisions as well as the continuation of the negotiations with the OHCHR and the Office of the Special Advisor show that Burundi attaches great importance to good relations with the United Nations (*cf. Ambassador Shingiro's full statement for further details*).

11. Following the briefings, Representatives of France, Tanzania, Kenya, Norway, the African Union, the Netherlands, Uganda, the European Union, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Canada, the Republic of Korea and Sweden took the floor to make comments and ask questions. In their statements, they welcomed the visits of the Chair and his intention to continue the socioeconomic dialogue with the government of Burundi.