

29 December 2014

To: Members of the Peacebuilding Commission, Burundi Configuration

Subject: **Chair's visit to Burundi and to other stakeholders, 8 – 12 December 2014**

Dear colleagues,

In my capacity as Chair of the Burundi Configuration of the UN Peacebuilding Commission, I visited Burundi from 8-12 December 2014 to continue my regular exchanges with the Government and other national and international stakeholders, to participate in the roundtable meeting of 11-12 December between the Government and its international partners, and to assist at the closing ceremony of the UN Mission in Burundi (BNUB). The ASG for Peacebuilding Support, Mr. Oscar Fernandez-Taranco, as well as my designated successor as Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations, Ambassador Jürg Lauber, joined me for this trip.

Prior to the two-day roundtable, I met with the President of the Republic, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the President of the Independent National Human Rights Commission (CNIDH), the President of the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI), the Director of the National Committee for the Coordination of Aid, representatives of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the African Development Bank, representatives of the international community, including the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence, Mr. Pablo de Greiff, as well as with USG Jeffrey Feltman and SRSG Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, together with his senior staff and the UNCT as well as with various political leaders, representatives of civil society organizations, [see detailed program in the annex].

*Political situation*

My visit to Burundi took place against the background of an early key moment of the electoral process that will lead to general elections between May and August next year. The political situation in the country was dominated by two processes that ran parallel to each other and that are of central importance since they will determine who is eligible to vo652(a)2(s)-1.60485 [(i)10.744(n)-3.67459(c)2(1)0.464892











