humanitarian and development challenges facing the Sahel with Government Officials from the region, including the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Defence of Mali, the Ministers of Security of Burkina Faso and Chad, representatives of the UN, AU, EU, ECOWAS, and women and civil society organizations. He reported that participants underscored the importance of a multi-dimensional approach going beyond the military and security responses, focusing on affected communities particularly in border areas. The Conference also called for enhanced cooperation between the various actors national, regional and international actors and provided an opportunity to present a coherent UN approach to sustaining peace in the region. Mr. Fernandez-Taranco also reported on the positive reactions, from senior government officials and from representative

region, he called for continued UN and the international community support to help address the remaining peacebuilding priorities.

9. On Mali, Mr. Wane welcomed the significant progress made in implementing the Peace Agreement, noting the need to accelerate the implementation to respect the timeline of 18 to 24 months agreed by the parties. He expressed concerns about the deterioration of the security situation, in spite of the cease fire. He noted the need for minimum security to ensure peace dividend. He also mentioned the need to ensure inclusivity in the implementation of the peace agreement, particularly with women and youth. He added that armed groups are not always representatives of affected communities.

10. Ms. Sandhu-Rojon welcomed the participation of Mr. Fernandez-