

Ambassadorial-level meeting of the Peacebuilding Commission Guinea-Bissau Configuration, 12 February 2018

Chair's Summary

Background

The Guinea-Bissau Configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) held an Ambassadorial-level meeting on 12 February 2018 under the chairmanship of Ambassador Mauro Vieira of Brazil to discuss the recent developments in Guinea-Bissau. Senior officials attending included Mr. Jeffrey Feltman, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs; H.E. Mr. Fernando Delfim Da Silva, Permanent Representative of Guinea-Bissau; Mr. Tanou Koné, Permanent Observer of ECOWAS to the United Nations; H.E. Mr. Job Obiang Esono Mbengono, First Deputy Permanent Representative of Equatorial Guinea, Chair of the Security Council Committee Established pursuant to resolution 2048 (2012) concerning Guinea-Bissau; and Ms. Barrie Freeman, Director and Deputy Head of PBSO..

Report of the Chair of the Configuration

1. The Chair informed that the main objectives of the meeting was an update on the latest political developments in Guinea-Bissau followed by a discussion that would inform his statement to be delivered at the Security Council on 14 February.
2. The Chair provided an update of the rapidly evolving political development in Guinea-Bissau since the last meeting of the Guinea-Bissau Configuration on 6 December 2017, highlighting the lack of implementation of the Conakry Agreement, the role of ECOWAS and the coordinated support from the United Nations (UN), African Union (AU), the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP) and the European Union (EU).
3. The Chair mentioned the support of the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) to Guinea-Bissau through the approval of six new projects for Guinea-Bissau, totaling \$ 7.3 million, to be implemented between January 2018-June 2019. The Chair stated his opinion that support to Guinea-Bissau should go beyond PBF-funding and include consultations with different partners, including the World Bank and other international financial institutions. In this context, he announced his plan to visit Washington in the next weeks in order to discuss with representatives of the Bank about possibilities of cooperation with Guinea-Bissau.
4. Finally, the Chair informed Member States about his intention to visit Guinea-Bissau in the coming months to consult with a broad range of stakeholders on how the PBC could support peacebuilding efforts in the country and help the political actors to find a solution for the current impasse.

Briefing by Under

13. Participants discussed the situation in Guinea-Bissau, with many underlining the