

Security Council

Briefing on the PBC annual report

29 June 2018

Statement of the current Chair of the PBC

Mr. President,

At the outset, I wish to congratulate the Republic of Korea, and Ambassador Cho in particular, for the excellent work done as Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission in 2017. As we have just heard, under the leadership of the Republic of Korea, the Commission made good progress in making the PBC more effective and in improving its advisory role to the Security Council.

I wish to focus my intervention on what the Commission has been doing this year to continue on that positive track.

A clear priority for our work is the Sahel region. As just mentioned by my predecessor, last year the Security Council emphasized the importance of the convening role of the PBC in mobilizing deeper commitment and partnership between the UN, the countries of Sahel and other international and regional partners with a view to advancing the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS), in collaboration with the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS). In March, I attended the 6th

key partners. With regards to the PBC advisory role to the Council, most importantly, and I wish to support a point raised earlier by my predecessor, the Commission needs to better time its calendar of work based on the activities of the Security Council. Early preparation is key if we want to provide strategic advice to the Council, if requested, when possible a couple of weeks ahead of the SC meetings on specific issues. In the same time, the PBC needs to submit the advice to the SC which would complement what the Council receives from other sources.

The Commission is also working towards further strengthening its relationship with the African Union. On 18 July, on the margins of the Security Council meeting with the AU Peace and Security Council, the PBC will convene a joint event with the PSC to explore opportunities for collaboration.

Another important area of work for the Commission is its engagement with the Gambia. Upon request of the Government of the Gambia, the PBC is continuing to provide a forum for the country to engage with the international community. A few months ago, we convened a High-level meeting, chaired by the State Secretary of Romania, as Chair of the PBC, attended by the Pr