

**Peacebuilding Commission**  
**Informal Meeting on the Situation in The Gambia**  
**(19 April 2017)**

**Chairperson's Summary of the Discussion**

1. On 19 April, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) convened an informal meeting on the situation in The Gambia. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Cho Tae-yul, Chair of the PBC. The meeting was convened, upon the request of the Government of The Gambia, to discuss ways to provide strategic and coherent support to the country's peacebuilding priorities. The meeting also provided the opportunity to brief the Commission on the joint visit of the Permanent Representative (PR) of The Gambia to the United Nations, Ambassador Mamadou Tangara, with the Chair of the PBC and the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, Mr. Oscar Fernandez-Taranco to Banjul from 20 to 21 March 2017 (hereinafter referred to as joint visit). UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa, Mr. Abdoulaye Mar Dieye and DPA Africa 2 Division Director, Mr. Abdel-Fatau Musah also attended the meeting and briefed the Commission.
  
2. PR of The Gambia expressed gratitude to the international community, in particular the UN, AU and ECOWAS, as well as the African leaders whose engagements and coordination resulted in a peaceful transfer of power to President Adama Barrow following the December 2017 election. He noted that the Gambian people had reaffirmed their commitment to peace and democracy with the successful legislative elections held on 6 April 2017. He stressed the importance of coordinated international support to The Gambia's serious peacebuilding challenges, including: i) setting up a transitional justice mechanism; ii) ensuring respect for fundamental human rights through access to justice; iii) depoliticizing state institutions and civil service; iv) restoring confidence in the judicial system; v) reforming the security sector; vi) reducing poverty with a particular focus on youth unemployment and women empowerment; vii) improving access to basic services; viii) improving infrastructure and connectivity; and ix) reforming the civil service and building capacity. He added that another priority of the country was cooperation for regional peace and stability, in particular with the sister nations of Senegal and Guinea-Bissau. He assured the PBC of his Government's commitment to place emphasis on national unity and inclusive governance, as well as a national development plan, taking into account the peacebuilding priorities to be presented at the donor roundtable in the coming months. He requested the PBC's support in sustaining international attention and coordinating UN, regional and international actors in support of The Gambia.
  
3. ASG of PBSO briefed on the joint visit, a coordinated UN effort in support of the



