Virtual High-level Panel Discussion on The private sector's contribution to peacebuilding 23 November 2021

Remarks by the Chair of the PBC

Excellencies,

At the outset I wish to thank South Africa for organizing this initiative.

This event is not only very relevant for the work of the Peacebuilding Commission but it is also extremely timely.

Throughout its country-specific, regional and cross-cutting engagements, the Commission has always underscored the need to address the multifaceted challenges that conflict-affected countries are facing in an holistic and coordinated way.

Through its convening role, the Commission has provided a platform for national governments and Member States to build stronger partnerships with relevant peacebuilding actors. In 2020, 7% of the non-UN briefers at PBC meetings came from the private sector.

70% of them were women ŒOs.

Those voices shared powerful testimonies, for example of how local businesses can play a critical role in empowering women and youth and can contribute to lay the foundations for lasting peace and sustainable development.