

Ambassadorial-Level Meeting of the Peacebuilding Commission Liberia Configuration

14 November 2022

1. On 14 November 2022, H.E. Ms. Anna Karin Eneström, Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations permanent Representative of Swedenf1 (C 792hn)10ir11(is1 0 1 629.5 Tm0 g0 G(H.E)3

technical and logistical support and assistance to the NEC. Regarding the furtherance of the participation of women in the elections, he noted that provisions for a 30per cent quota for senior party leadership and candidate listings had been included in the revised New Elections Bill and that the bill had been passed by the House and the Senate. Regarding the strengthening of democratic institutions, including the Judiciary and the media

process for various goods, works and service in preparation of the voter registration exercise. She indicated that the NEC had also compiled and reviewed the legal framework for the voter registration and elections, including regulations and guidelines, and the Board of Commissioners was reviewing the final draft for approval. In addition to taking steps to decentralize its civic and voter education program, the NEC was involved in field verification

system; 2) the lack of clarity as to whether the long- delayed census would be conducted ahead of voter registration and whether the electoral constituencies will be reapportioned in time; 3) the use of youth as instruments of violence (or militants) by political leaders against their opponents; 4) the electoral legal framework, in particular the amended code of conduct and electoral law still to be signed by the President less than a year before the elections; 5) limited political will in dealing corruption and related issues. In conclusion, his recommendations included the following: 1) BVR must be procured soonest; 2) the Joint Security Task Force should be supported with resources and training to develop a feasible electoral security framework; 3) NEC should engage LISGIS to develop a framework on who census data will be used for the reapportioning of constituencies; 4) International development partners should regularly meet with political parties, the NEC and CSOs on formulating scenarios that have the potential to undermine the electoral process and how they can be mitigated; 5) provide political leadership and campaign management training for young people; 6) support political parties to train and deploy their agents during crucial stages of the electoral process such as voter registration, voting, counting and tallying; 7) increase protection for civil society activists.

Following the briefings, member states spoke and made the following observations:

The Commission commended Liberia on the remarkable progress the country had made in the last two decades and indicated that the 2023 elections represent a crucial , reconciliation, and national development. Speakers underscored the importance of ensuring peaceful, free, fair, transparent, credible, and inclusive elections and noted that inclusive dialogue between and among political parties, and adherence to a joint Code of Conduct and declaration of non-violence, would be key to ensuring peaceful elections.

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politics, including through the proposed 30 per cent gender quota. They underscored the need to fully implement the NEC Protocol and Action Plan to address violence against women in elections and politics and expressed the hope that

women , including at the grass roots level, and had been impressed by their dynamism and engagement. She indicated hopes that the that the 30 per cent quota on senior political party leadership and candidate listing in elections would be signed into law in time for it to be implemented for the 2023 elections, and that the NEC Protocol and Action Plan to address violence against women in elections and politics would be fully implemented in the lead up to the elections. She stressed that the PBF remained committed to support the process for what would be a milestone election. In terms of the challenges, she underscored the importance of making sure that communication and dialogue on the electoral process remain