



# BELGIUM

**SECURITY COUNCIL  
6575th Meeting**

**The situation in the Central African Republic (S/2011/311)**

**STATEMENT  
OF  
H.E. MR. JAN GRAULS  
AMBASSADOR  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BELGIUM  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**IN HIS CAPACITY OF CHAIR OF THE COUNTRY-SPECIFIC CONFIGURATION FOR CAR  
OF THE PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION**

**7 July 2011**

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**



Mr. President,

I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to address the Security Council in my capacity of Chairman of the Peacebuilding Commission's Country-Specific Configuration on the Central African Republic.

Before all, allow me to pay tribute to Ms. Sahle-Work Zewde, former Special Representative of the Secretary-General, for her action in support of consolidating peace in the Central African Republic and welcome the appointment of Ms. Margaret Vogt as new Special Representative of the Secretary General in the Central African Republic and head of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic (BINUCA).

Mr. President,

Over the past six months, the attention of the Peacebuilding Commission has been mainly focused on the country's electoral process and on the preparation of a subsequent Partners' Round Table

As far as the elections are concerned, the Peacebuilding Commission played an important role in mobilizing resources to bridge the 7.5 million USD gap in the electoral budget by actively reaching out to donors. In addition, the Peacebuilding Commission and its Chair used appropriate channels to convey some advice through BINUCA to some of the actors active in preparing the elections, such as the Independent Electoral Commission, the

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I would also like to stress the importance the Peacebuilding Commission gives to incorporating gender and particular attention to the situation of children in its work. During my last visit to Bangui in April, I stressed the urgent need to establish a Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism for children and armed conflict and understand that this has happened in the mean time. Upon my return, I briefed the Working Group of the Security Council on Children and Armed Conflict. I encouraged the Special Representatives of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict and for Sexual Violence and Conflict to visit the Central African Republic this year to take stock of the situation on the ground.

Mr. President,

I would like to conclude by indicating that the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in the Central African Republic, jointly elaborated between the Peacebuilding Commission and the Government of the Central African Republic, is expiring – so to say – at the end of 2011. The Peacebuilding Commission will therefore use the ongoing second review of the Strategic Framework, to identify options for the continued engagement of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Central African Republic, bearing in mind existing national strategies and frameworks. I will brief the Council on the result of our deliberations in due course.

Thank you, Mr. President.