

United Nations

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General Assembly
Security Council

Focus on national capacity development

Review of civilian capacity in the aftermath of conflict

8. As part of the focus on supporting national capacity development, the Committee continued to engage in review of civilian capacity in the aftermath of conflict. Building on the contributions it made to the work of the Senior Advisory Group during the previous reporting period (see A/65/701-S/2011/41), the Committee initiated the fifth session by interacting with a member of the Advisory Group and the Director of the review team in the Secretariat. During that interaction, the Committee was apprised of the recommendations contained in the independent report of the Senior Advisory Group (A/65/747-S/2011/85, annex II). Several members reiterated the importance of the recommendations, which would help to improve the United Nations contribution to strengthening national capacities for peacebuilding. The member of the Advisory Group emphasized that the Commission would be a particularly appropriate forum for taking forward a number of recommendations in view of its mandate to work across organizational boundaries and address the entire continuum of peacebuilding activities.

9. The Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Field Support briefed the Committee on 22 July on the process of taking forward the recommendations made by the Secretary-General in his report on civilian capacity in the aftermath of conflict (A/66/311-S/2011/527). She pointed out that preliminary United Nations efforts in South Sudan were already highlighting the mismatch between high popular expectations of delivering results and the weak absorption capacity of the Government. South Sudan was also an example in which building capacity could benefit from joint projects and partnerships between the United Nations and regional organizations. Some members of the Committee expressed interest in at least one of the countries on the agenda becoming a pilot for the implementation of partnership arrangements that draw on the capacities from the global South, and in the United Nations exploring agile and predictable funding for those arrangements.

System-wide developments

10. On 22 June, the Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), was invited to brief the Committee on an evolving process led by UNDP aimed at strengthening the United Nations system-wide approach to capacity development for peacebuilding. The Director underlined the growing consensus that capacity development for peacebuilding should encompass a national vision and inclusive ownership of the peacebuilding processes, clarity of priorities and realistic sequencing of activities. Members of the Committee stressed the need for a United Nations system-wide approach to capacity development for peacebuilding. Such an approach would give balanced attention to strengthening security and economic capacities in countries emerging from conflict, and to the capacity of the State to deliver quick dividends while building longer-term institutional capacity.

Partnership, outreach and experience-sharing

11. Building on the recommendations made and the momentum generated by the 2010 review, the Chairperson and the Chairs of the configurations undertook a number of activities on behalf of the members of the Organizational Committee and the wider membership of the Commission. Those activities were aimed either at

broadening the base of support of Member States and regional groupings for the country-specific work of the Commission, or at strengthening partnerships with key actors at Headquarters and in the field. Some of the activities described below could also be viewed in the context of the Commission's key functions, such as resource mobilization and promoting coherence.

Interaction with the World Bank

12. On 29 April, the Committee hosted the launching of the World Bank's *World Development Report 2011: Conflict, Security and Development*,¹ bringing together members of the World Bank Board of Directors and of the Commission, as well as senior officials from the main operational United Nations entities. The event offered an opportunity to exchange views on the following: the overarching challenges identified in the *Report*; substantive areas requiring greater attention by the World Bank and other United Nations entities; opportunities for the organizations to improve their institutional response in post-conflict settings; and the support that is required from the international donor community. Concrete suggestions to take forward the recommendations of the *Report*, with support from the United Nations system, included: (a) the need to jointly address country-specific implications in the Commission's country configurations; (b) combined or closely coordinated programming between the World Bank and other entities of the United Nations system, and other national and international actors, especially where issues of security, justice and development intersect; (c) linking the operationalization of relevant recommendations contained in the 2011 *Report* to that of relevant recommendations from the review of civilian capacity (A/65/747-S/2011/85); and (d) the need to develop impact measurement tools and indicators that can inform the workplans of the World Bank and other United Nations entities.

Interaction with political and regional groupings

13. The Chairperson interacted with the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the Group of African States (S/2012/54) (see paras. 10-11 of the report).

other high-level officials from the countries on the Commission's agenda. Representatives from Haiti and Timor-Leste, senior officials from the African Union and the World Bank, and Chairs of the Commission's configurations also participated in the meeting.

15. The event represented an innovative effort by the Commission to serve as a platform for promoting experience-sharing between countries that have undergone peacebuilding and State-building processes and those who are engaged in or embarking on similar processes. Frank and focused discussion took place on critical peacebuilding challenges, such as inclusive ownership and leadership; innovative approaches to nation-building and socio-economic development; and the strategic use of aid. The discussions were designed to allow for the participating countries to gain first-hand insights into Rwanda's experience in managing a complex post-conflict landscape focused on State- and institution-building.

16. The recommendations from the event included a call on the Commission to reflect on lessons learned from the Rwandan experience, as appropriate, in the development and implementation of the instruments of engagement with the countries to be placed on its agenda. Another recommendation was that the Commission build on existing mechanisms within the United Nations system to facilitate lesson-sharing between countries that have experience in peacebuilding and State-building and those that are about to undertake such processes. In addition, African countries represented at the Conference called for sustainable mechanisms to drive a more proactive African agenda of sharing lessons and best practices in peacebuilding and nation-building, for the benefit of African countries that have undergone conflict.

17. Going forward, the Commission will actively follow up on the report of the Secretary-General on civilian capacity in the aftermath of conflict (A/66/311-S/2011/527) and engage with the African solidarity initiative of the African Union.

Establishing a partnership with the African Development Bank

18. The Chairs of the configurations visited the temporary headquarters of the African Development Bank in Tunis on 11 November. The visit was the first of its kind since the establishment of the Commission. A key objective of the visit was to deepen the collaboration between the Commission and AfDB and explore how both institutions could jointly support peacebuilding priorities in African countries on the Commission's agenda. The visit culminated in minutes of consultation, which spell out areas of potential collaboration between the two institutions. These include

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employment and economic recovery initiatives; and to generate common thinking to promote coordination and coherence in the work of the United Nations system and other partners. The meeting highlighted the need for the Commission and UN-Women to jointly promote a 15 per cent spending threshold for United Nations projects that target women's needs and empowerment; to convene country-specific discussions on the progress and challenges of integrating women into peacebuilding; and to activate the dialogue between country configurations and UN-Women on country priorities for women's participation in peacebuilding.

Thematic discussion: contribution of peacekeepers to early peacebuilding

20. In its resolution 65/290, the General Assembly requested that the Secretary-

B. Country configurations

1. Burundi

26. The review of progress in the implementation of the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in Burundi: fifth progress report (PBC/5/BDI/3; fifth review) provided an opportunity for the Commission to renew its engagement with the Government and key stakeholders with respect to the peacebuilding agenda. The review resulted in the outcome document (PBC/5/BDI/2), which was adopted on 26 April and constituted the revised instrument of engagement between the Commission and the Government of Burundi. Taking into account the completion of the 2010 elections, the scope of the engagement was narrowed to the following tasks: (a) consolidation of the culture of democracy and dialogue; (b) good governance, human rights and the rule of law (fight against corruption, strengthening of the human rights instruments, transitional justice and reconciliation); (c) socio-economic reintegration of vulnerable groups; (d) the second poverty reduction strategy paper (peacebuilding issues, resource mobilization); and (e) regional integration. The engagement was also marked by close consultations with regard to the renewal allocation from the Peacebuilding Fund.

27. To provide more frequent opportunities to engage with Burundi, the Chair convenes an open-ended steering group of interested members on a regular basis. The steering group exchanges views with the United Nations Office in Burundi (BNUB) and is involved in the implementation of tasks at hand.

Political advocacy and support

28. The Chair of the configuration visited Burundi and the East African region from 14 to 22 February and from 31 October to 5 November to pursue engagement with the Government and national, regional and international stakeholders and to discuss further the Commission's priorities in the peacebuilding phase following the 2010 elections. Throughout the visits and meetings the Chair has engaged with the Government and stakeholders to discuss the Commission's priorities in the peacebuilding phase following the 2010 elections. Throughout the visits and meetings the Chair has engaged with the Government and stakeholders to discuss the Commission's priorities in the peacebuilding phase following the 2010 elections.

which manifest themselves through attacks against members of the opposition. The apparent unwillingness of the opposition to engage in solution-oriented political work also represents an obstacle to national dialogue. In addition, the need to combat poverty and create job opportunities, especially for the youth and the groups affected by the conflict, are equally viewed as key elements for creating sustainable stability and national cohesion.

Resource mobilization

30. **Poverty reduction strategy paper.** During the February visit to Bujumbura and later to the East African Community in Dar-es-Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, it was suggested that the Chair would co-host a donor event once the second poverty reduction strategy paper had been completed. During the Chair's visit in November, the idea was discussed further, and the African Development Bank was identified as a potential co-sponsor of the donor conference. The donor event is expected to take place after the completion of the second poverty reduction strategy paper.

31. **Mobilization of private investment.** Following the request reiterated by the President of Burundi for assistance in attracting private investment, the Commission has continued to explore ways to respond to that request. One possible way, identified and discussed with the Government of Burundi during the visits of February and November, would be to organize a high-level event on private investment in 2012 after the donor conference. During the Chair's visit to AfDB in November (see para. 18), the Bank expressed interest in partnering with the Commission in organizing such an event during the second half of 2012. In other matters, the Chair was closely consulted in the preparation for the participation of Burundi in the investors' forum that took place on the margins of the fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in May 2011 in Istanbul, during which the Global Compact attracted a substantial number of potential private investors.

32. **Socio-economic reintegration.** Reflecting the prioritization in the revised instrument of engagement of the Commission, the Burundi Joint Steering Committee for peacebuilding identified reintegration as the single issue for a Peacebuilding Fund renewal tranche. The Fund provided \$9.2 million out of the \$24 million required to cover five priority provinces. During and following his visit in November, the Chair continued to advocate on behalf of the Commission with Burundi's partners to mobilize the additional funding required by the programme.

Fostering coherence

33. During his visit in February, the Chair attended the meeting of the Political Forum of the Partners Coordination Group, at which the participants discussed the fifth review. The Chair suggested that the recommendations of the fifth review could represent a peacebuilding pillar in the second poverty reduction strategy paper. It was then agreed that the Commission would use the reporting and review mechanisms of that paper to monitor and sustain attention on peacebuilding issues.

34. The Chair has also advocated for the use of the existing coordination mechanisms under the Partners Coordination Group, such as the Strategic Forum and the Political Forum, as key policy dialogue and coordination mechanisms

between the Government of Burundi and its partners to validate the second poverty reduction strategy paper at the country level.

35. At the meeting of the Council on 7 December, the Chair made a statement on the situation in Burundi, in which he informed the Council that reflection on transitioning Burundi out of the present form of engagement with the Commission had started.

36. Based on the outcome document of 26 April, the configuration, in coordination with the Government of Burundi, will focus on two priorities in the upcoming year. The first concerns the further implementation of the socio-economic reintegration proposal put forward by the Government and BNUB. It is the intention of the Chair to foster understanding of the selected approach and — together with the Government of Burundi — to advocate for addressing the resource gap of \$14 million. The second priority concerns the implementation of the second poverty reduction strategy paper, which is expected to be finalized early in 2012. The Chair will propose to the Burundi configuration that it assist in organizing and possibly co-host a donor event in conjunction with a Consultative Group meeting expected to take place in the first half of the year. In addition, the review of the April 2011 outcome document (see para. 26) in spring 2012 will be an occasion to determine how the Commission can best continue to contribute to supporting Burundi's peacebuilding priorities.

2. Sierra Leone

37. During the reporting period, the Commission confirmed its engagement with Sierra Leone on the basis of the peacebuilding elements of the Agenda for Change of the Government of Sierra Leone, namely: good governance and the rule of law; youth employment; and combating drug trafficking, with gender and regional perspectives as cross-cutting issues (PBC/3/SLE/6). Subsequently, the configuration decided to focus its engagement in the area of governance on support for national actors to help them to prepare the country to hold free and fair elections, which are now scheduled for 17 November 2012 (PBC/4/SLE/3). The configuration has opted for a lighter form of engagement characterized by a smaller number of meetings with higher substantive and output-oriented content.

Political advocacy and support

38. The Sierra Leone configuration has remained a forum for discussing the major political and development issues, whose resolution is essential to the strengthening of the country's peace consolidation process. During the reporting period, the focus of the configuration was on the imperative

in May 2011. The Peacebuilding Fund's renewal tranche, programmed in late 2010, has also reinforced the Commission's focus in this direction. The bulk of the allocation from the Fund has been invested in innovative programmes aimed at building the capacity of influential non-State actors, political parties, religious and traditional leaders, academia and civil society, to advocate for free, fair and peaceful elections and to prevent and resolve election-related violence that may emerge during the election process.

39. In March, the Commission hosted the All Political Parties Women's Association and provided an international platform for the Association to advocate for increasing women's participation in politics in leadership positions. Through that exposure, the Association has gained the support of the international community for its cause.

Resource mobilization

40. The engagement of the Commission has resulted in sustained and heightened international attention being devoted to Sierra Leone and has helped in coordinating donor support. Several donors have

revamped the security sector reform National Steering Committee, and drafted a tripartite memorandum of understanding for the implementation of the road map, which is being negotiated with CPLP and ECOWAS. The Government also deposited, on 2 September, a total of \$200,000 as the first tranche of its initial contribution to the pension fund, and has indicated that it is considering depositing an additional contribution of \$300,000 by the end of 2011.

49. The configuration has also addressed other peacebuilding priorities, such as combating drug trafficking and organized crime, and consolidating the rule of law. In that regard, and with a view to garnering further support and encouraging the adoption of a regional approach, the Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone configurations jointly convened a meeting to discuss the issue of transnational crime and drug trafficking, and their impact on peacebuilding in the four countries (see sect. II.C). It is also worth mentioning that the Government of Guinea-Bissau has made important progress in this area. A transnational crime unit, within the West Africa Coast Initiative, was set up in Bissau with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The management board of the unit is headed by the Director of the Judiciary Police and has been meeting regularly. INTERPOL has set up an office in Bissau. Moreover, in June 2011 the Government adopted an operational plan to combat drug trafficking and is seeking to strengthen its bilateral cooperation with the United States of America to fight this scourge (extension of the United States Africa Command operations to Guinea-Bissau).

50. The Chair visited the country from 1 to 3 September 2011. She met with Carlos Gomes Júnior, Prime Minister of Guinea-Bissau, and with the Minister for Foreign Affairs; the Minister of Economy, Planning and Regional Integration; the Minister of Defence; and the Minister of Justice, as well as with the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Social Communication and Parliamentary Affairs. The Chair subsequently met with representatives of civil society, the diplomatic corps, the heads of United Nations agencies and with the press. The urgency of focusing on security sector reform was widely recognized by all interlocutors during the visit. To that end, the launching of a pension fund for the armed forces and security forces personnel to be demobilized is regarded as a crucial step that will enable the reform to proceed. During her visit, the Chair felt that the Government of Guinea-Bissau was fully committed to the reform and that there is political will to move forward on it.

51. To mobilize support for the launching of the pension fund, the Government of Guinea-Bissau requested the assistance of the Commission in organizing a high-level event on security sector reform. Upon the Chair's return from her visit to Guinea-Bissau, she convened a meeting of the configuration on 9 September to share the findings of her trip and to discuss the way forward with the members of the configuration. During the discussions at the meeting, it was felt that the Commission could contribute to the preparation of the high-level event by presenting some elements for the Government's consideration. The configuration then prepared a list of relevant elements. During a meeting of the configuration on 4 November, the Minister for Economy, Planning and Regional Integration of Guinea-Bissau, Maria Helena Nosolini Embaló, made a presentation sharing the responses to the list of elements with the members of the configuration.

52. Despite the difficult global environment and the internal political challenges, international financial institutions have acknowledged the Government's progress in

financial and economic reforms. In that regard, at the meeting of the configuration on 4 November, a representative of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) highlighted the progress made so far by the Government in terms of macroeconomic management, especially regarding fiscal revenue collection. The IMF representative argued that, thanks to an exceptional cashew-nut harvest combined with enhanced fiscal discipline, the Government was able, for the very first time, to cover its own public expenditure (current spending). Any future financial contribution, therefore, would directly translate into developmental and investment support.

Resource mobilization

53. During the reporting period, the configuration's resolution 5/2012, paragraph 53, requested the Secretary-General to report on the progress made in the implementation of the action plan for the mobilization of resources for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the context of the 2012-2015 period.

of the Peacebuilding Fund to ensure continuous improvement of the Fund's synergy with the Commission's priorities of engagement.

Political advocacy and support

59. The field visits of the Chair and the configuration remain an important tool for maintaining the dialogue with national counterparts, including civil society, and the Joint Steering Committee for the Peacebuilding Fund. The visits also provide an opportunity to interact with representatives of the international community based in the country in an effort to strengthen coordination among all actors.

60. Shortly after its field visit, the configuration adopted, on 16 November 2011, the conclusions and recommendations of the second review of the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in the Central African Republic (PBC/5/CAF/3). In addition to assessing overall progress in the peacebuilding process as well as the progress in the implementation of commitments made by Government, civil society and the Commission, the review provides a set of conclusions and recommendations for the way forward, addressed to the various stakeholders in the country's peacebuilding process. The current Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding (PBC/3/CAF/7) in the Central African Republic expires at the end of 2011; consequently, the configuration has initiated a process to define its future engagement in the country, firmly based on the second poverty reduction strategy paper, in accordance with the wish of the Government.

61. In the second half of 2010, the Commission focused much of its attention on the country's electoral process, and sustained its political accompaniment, albeit in a politically sensitive context. The first round of presidential and legislative elections was held on 23 January 2011, followed by a second round of the legislative

Resource mobilization

65. From 16 to 17 June 2011, the Government of Belgium hosted a partners' round table for the Central African Republic in Brussels. The event, organized by the Government of the Central African Republic with the assistance of the Peacebuilding Support Office, UNDP, AfDB and the World Bank, afforded the opportunity to the Government to present an advanced draft of its second poverty reduction paper.

66. The partners' round table, held in Brussels in June, was the highlight of the Commission's resource mobilization efforts for 2011. Its success lay in the number (over 160) and diversity of participants in the event, ranging from Governments, regional and subregional organizations and international financial institutions to international non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations, including the United Nations. The advocacy and sensitization work of the Commission, and particularly of the Chair of the configuration in the months leading up to the holding of the event, were critical in bringing to the table a wide range of existing and potential donors and partners.

67. Owing to the focus early in the year on the electoral process in the country, and in the light of the funding shortfall for that process, through targeted resource mobilization, the Commission and other partners were able to fill the \$7.5 million funding gap.

68. Building on measures taken by the Government in June to advance the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants, the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic (BINUCA) prepared in November a proposal for the Immediate Response Facility of the Peacebuilding Fund to further support the process. The proposal aims to build capacity within the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Steering Committee, and offer a quick start for reinsertion activities for ex-combatants.

69. The Chair and the Commission maintained a sustained engagement with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, following up on the high-level event co-organized in 2010 on the margins of the United Nations summit on the Millennium Development Goals.

70. As a result of his outreach activities, the Chair facilitated the donation of 300 mosquito nets from Sumitomo Chemical to the Ngaraba central prison in Bangui. The remaining nets were installed in the women's prison of Bangui.

Fostering coherence

71. The Central African Republic configuration pursued its efforts to bring together all relevant partners in support of the country. The results of those efforts were visible at the Brussels partners' round table in June, which was attended by a substantial number and variety of partners (see para. 66).

72. The Chair also continued his regular contacts within the United Nations system, including with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children in Armed Conflict, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and the Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Field Support, aimed at raising their awareness of the situation in the Central African Republic, and advocating that it be considered a priority country within

their respective mandates relating to the protection of children in armed conflict, sexual violence in conflict and civilian capacity. He also brought together the Civilian Capacities Team of the Department of Field Support, the Permanent Representative of the Central African Republic to the United Nations, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and the Peacebuilding Support Office to discuss capacity-building activities in the country.

73. The Chair introduced the practice of participating at the directors' level in select meetings of the Integrated Task Force for the Central African Republic, including two such meetings relating to his visits to the country, which afforded the opportunity to coordinate messages between the visiting delegation and the United Nations presence at the country level. The practice proved to be particularly useful in allowing coordination between actors in the field and at Headquarters.

74. The existing Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in the Central African

Political advocacy and support

84. During the visits and meetings of the configuration, the Chair and members of the configuration highlighted the inauguration of the first democratically elected President as the beginning of a new era for the country and a great incentive for renewed cooperation with the international community. The April visit validated the three peacebuilding priority areas for the Commission's engagement with Guinea and pointed to other processes relevant to the peacebuilding agenda, namely the legislative elections and the poverty reduction strategy paper process. In a subsequent meeting focused on the security sector reform process, on 13 June, the Chair mobilized additional attention for the key issues related to that process and provided a platform which was used by partners to further discuss those issues with the Government. That advocacy has produced initial results, including consistent support by the Peacebuilding Fund in the form of a number of quick impact projects which have been approved by the Joint Steering Committee of the Fund in Guinea.

85. The Chair's second visit to Conakry from 4 to 6 September drew further attention to the need for an inclusive dialogue on the challenges the country is facing, including the organization of the legislative elections. The meeting of the configuration on 23 September, in which President Condé was an active participant, provided additional momentum for the international community to engage in

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forms and instruments of engagement and the partnership between the Peacebuilding Commission and the Security Council.

93. The Chair compiled initial findings on each of the topics which the Working Group addressed during the reporting period. While details can be viewed in the reports (see http://www.un.org/en/peacebuilding/doc_lessonslearned.shtml), examples

(ii) **Partnership between the Commission and the Security Council.** The meeting addressed ideas aimed at strengthening this partnership, including through the Commission's effort to improve its advisory role and the provision of timely and qualitative analysis. Suggestions included ways for creating more frequent and informal opportunities to exchange views between the two bodies, as well as the important role of countries with memberships on both the Commission and the Council. Specific areas relating to ways in which the partnership could be strengthened were also identified, including in the context of transition from United Nations peacekeeping to peacebuilding missions.

94. The selection of the above-mentioned topics marks a continuation of the efforts of the Working Group to focus on thematic areas of particular relevance to the peacebuilding process in the countries on the Commission's agenda. Moreover, the Chair introduced a new method of producing initial findings from each of the meetings of the Working Group, which are disseminated separately to a wider audience and presented for discussion by the Organizational Committee, as the primary forum for policy development on working modalities and mandate implementation.

95. The Working Group's potential to contribute to the work of country configurations and, more broadly, the normative development of the United Nations peacebuilding agenda, will also benefit from initiating discussions at the country level, where the lessons could be directly drawn from or disseminated to the concerned national and international actors.

III. Taking forward relevant recommendations of the 2010 review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture

96. The two overarching recommendations of the 2010 review were for the Commission to enhance its impact in the field and strengthen its relations with key actors at Headquarters. To that end, the road map for actions in 2011 focused on those priorities. The reporting period witnessed the initiation of critical activities that will place the Commission on the path towards strengthening its impact and demonstrating its value added, both in the field and as a policy platform for the normative development of the peacebuilding discourse in the United Nations and beyond. In that regard, while the Organizational Committee has played the main role of facilitating policy-level and thematic discussions in relation to the priorities identified in the road map, the implementation process involved the combined efforts of the Committee, the country configurations and the Working Group on Lessons Learned, as well as multiple multilateral and bilateral actors.

Aligning actors around common peacebuilding objectives

analysis and collaboration in priority areas of common interest, in particular, lesson learning and advocacy for good peacebuilding practices, resource mobilization and national capacity development.

98. Recognizing the significant role that international financial institutions and regional development banks play in peacebuilding at the country level, the Commission focused on strengthening partnerships with those actors. The release of the *World Development Report 2011* (see para. 12) provided an important opening for exploring greater alignment and complementarity between the World Bank and other United Nations entities in post-conflict settings, in particular in the countries on the Commission's agenda. The hosting of the initial dialogue with the Bank on the implications of the *Report* for the United Nations system and the initiation of partnership with the African Development Bank represent important steps in the right direction.

99. Going forward, the dialogue with the World Bank, its Board of Directors and other operational actors of the United Nations system will seek to place additional focus on encouraging the practical alignment of their support for peacebuilding in the field. The Commission will continue to work with the World Bank, other operational actors of the United Nations system and their government counterparts to strengthen the partnership and the alignment of activities in the countries on its agenda, especially as those activities relate to needs assessment and poverty reduction strategies. The Commission will further explore the possibility of complementary programming between the United Nations system, in particular the World Bank, and other national and international actors where issues of security, justice and development intersect by linking the operationalization of relevant recommendations of the *Report* to that of relevant recommendations from the review of civilian capacity (see para. 9).

100. Similarly, the partnership with AfDB has the potential of enhancing complementarity and coherence among actors in the countries on the agenda. Practical actions in relation to the initially identified areas of cooperation as reflected in the minutes of consultations of the recent visit by the Chairs' Group to Tunis in November will be vigorously pursued. Furthermore, the Commission and AfDB will explore means to support the sharing of experience and expertise between countries emerging from conflict in Africa and a possible partnership between AfDB and the Peacebuilding Fund for complementarity and catalytic activities in countries on the Commission's agenda. The Commission will need to explore the relationship with the evolving Group of Seven Plus (g7+) conflict-affected States in the light of the outcome of the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, held in Busan, Republic of Korea, in November and December 2011. Such an effort could further help to develop a broader understanding on a common approach in support for mutual accountability frameworks, national ownership and improved aid effectiveness for peacebuilding.

Adoption of flexible and adaptable instruments of engagement

101. The 2010 review found that there were "clear advantages to a single overarching planning document" containing "well-defined peacebuilding elements". Beginning with Liberia in November 2010 and continuing with Guinea in February 2011, the Commission adopted the statement of mutual commitments as the new instrument of engagement for countries to be placed on its agenda. The new

instrument recognizes the need to build closely on existing national frameworks and

other entities of the United Nations system and multilateral development banks to identify resource mobilization opportunities and entry points.

106. In addition, synergies with the Peacebuilding Fund are expanding. The expanded priority plan in Liberia (see paras. 75 and 78) represents an innovation that other countries could follow. The expanded plan ensures that the convening of national and international stakeholders (through the Joint Steering Committee) will have an impact on the question of prioritization beyond the scope of activities that could be funded by the Fund. At the same time, the plan benefits from the knowledge that the Fund's catalytic resources are available to kick-start activities and provides a clear road map for additional resource mobilization for agreed priorities. In Guinea, Fund programming has been aligned to the statement of mutual commitments — in particular concerning security sector reform. In Guinea-Bissau, Peacebuilding Fund support for the Pension Fund responds directly to a high priority for the configuration, witnessed by the Fund's detailed engagement in this area.

IV. Conclusion

107. The reporting period, which also coincided with the first year in the implementation of the relevant recommendations emanating from the 2010 review, has witnessed a number of policy processes which need to be taken forward and further consolidated in 2012. The Commission should aim at building on such country- and Headquarters-level processes, ensuring that it retains its focus on strengthening the impact of its work in the countries on its agenda, and at continuing to pursue its efforts to build its credibility as the central intergovernmental advisory platform for championing and developing peacebuilding knowledge and practices. To that end, a new road map will be developed in 2012 to help to focus the Commission on priority actions and results. The road map should include actions aimed at enabling each country configuration to spell out its expected deliverables in the countries on the agenda, drawing on relevant country-specific indicators and mutual commitments, and to indicate how it intends to measure its achievements. In

the increasing importance of post-conflict peacebuilding across the United Nations system, but, more importantly, in the work of the principal organs.

109. In the particular case of the Security Council, the Commission recognizes that there are areas requiring additional effort from its side to bring added value to the