

15 July 2013

To: Members of the Peacebuilding Commission, Burundi Configuration

Dear Colleagues,

In my capacity as Chair of the Burundi Configuration of the UN Peacebuilding Commission, I visited Burundi from 24 to 28 June 2013 as part of the PBC's regular engagement and more specifically to follow up on the Burundi Partners' Conference that took place on 29-30 October 2012 in Geneva, to discuss with the government the next steps of the PBC's engagement with Burundi and to prepare my briefing of the Security Council on July 22. My initial intention was to participate in the first sectoral conference which

## Security:

Overall, the security situation has improved compared to 2011 and 2012, this holds especially true with regard to extra-judicial killings where a considerable decrease in incidents has been noted. However, the three incidents that took place in May (19 May in Gatumba, just outside Bujumbura; 29 May in Bubanza) and June (02 June, in Bubanza) are a serious warning and an indication that some armed elements still find refuge in eastern DRC from where they launch attacks on Burundi. The involvement of Burundi in the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes Region and the issue of Agathon Rwasa's return to Burundi are key to stabilize the country. I am encouraged by the fact that Burundi is committed to play an active role in the implementation of the regional framework by having hosted events organized by Mme Mary Robinson, UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region. These events include the Women Leaders' Consultative Meeting on the Implementation of the Framework on 9 July and the 3rd Regional Consultation on the Implementation of the UNSCR 1325 (2000) in the Great Lakes Region on 10-11 July.



