

**JOINT PBC CHAIR AND ASG PBSO VISIT TO CHAD  
(13-17 MARCH 2018)**

**Ministerial Coordination Platform for the Sahel Strategies**

At the invitation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chad, H.E. Cherif Mahamat Zene, together

coordination between the various efforts to address the complex, multi-dimensional and transnational challenges facing the region. Participants also welcomed the efforts to revitalize the Platform, including through four thematic groups on security, resilience, development and governance.

### **Meetings with government officials**

Together with ASG PBSO and the UN Resident Coordinator, PBC Chair met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Cherif Mahamat Zene, and the Minister of Economy and Development Planning, H.E. Dr. Issa Doubragne on 14 and 15 March respectively. Our meetings with the government officials provided an opportunity to further discuss the situation in the Sahel as well as the peacebuilding challenges in the Lake Chad Basin. Government officials also highlighted the country's internal peacebuilding priorities, including UN support through the peacebuilding fund and the PBC. I assured the government officials of the PBC readiness to use its platform to bring international attention and support to Chad's peacebuilding priorities, and to help enhancing UN-system wide coherence and coordination.

### **Field visit and meetings with the UN Country Team**

On 17 March, together with ASG PBSO, UN Resident Coordinator and staff members of UNDP and UNICEF, I visited the PBF funded Cameroon-Chad cross-border project in Mitterine in the Mani District. We met with local administrative authorities, community leader, women and youth groups. We discussed the peacebuilding challenges facing the communities across the border. After the visit, ASG Peacebuilding and I met with the UN Country Team to discuss UN ongoing support to the regional and national peacebuilding challenges, with a particular focus on UN efforts in Chad.