



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

6 October 2005

Excellency,

My letter of 30 September 2005 noted widespread recognition of the need to work urgently on the establishment of the Peacebuilding Commission. There was further broad agreement on this at our meeting on 4 October.

I therefore called the first informal consultation of the plenary on the Peacebuilding Commission for Friday, 7 October, at 10:00 a.m. Ambassador Løj of Denmark and Ambassador Mahiga of the United Republic of Tanzania have kindly agreed to serve as Co-Chairs for these inter-governmental negotiations.

As you know, extensive discussions on the establishment of the Peacebuilding Commission took place prior to the Summit. There was an emerging consensus on a number of points. I trust we can build on it.

I hope our discussion tomorrow will give us direction on how to resolve the remaining issues. I believe these are:

1. Establishment

- How should the Peacebuilding Commission be established?

2. Involvement of the host country

- How should the importance of national ownership be reflected?

3. Reporting lines

- How should the Peacebuilding Commission relate to other UN bodies, in particular the Security Council, ECOSOC and the General Assembly?

All Permanent Representatives and  
Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York

#### 4. Agenda Setting

- What matters should be discussed by the Peacebuilding Commission and who should refer them to the Commission?

#### 5. Membership of the Organizational Committee

- What should be the number and size of the categories from which members to the Organizational Committee are drawn?

In my view, we should try to get a sharper focus on the concrete role the Peacebuilding Commission can and should play. I am planning to convene a separate meeting within the coming weeks with representatives from the field for a discussion on what peacebuilding means on the ground.

As our negotiations proceed, the Co-Chairs will provide draft texts for discussion. Any contributions from Member States can be given to me or the Co-Chairs.

I look forward to this first meeting on the follow-up and implementation of a specific element of the 2005 World Summit Outcome. As I said in my letter of 30 September, if the Peacebuilding Commission is to begin its work by 31 December, we should aim to conclude our negotiations by early November.

I will be writing separately, as appropriate, regarding other areas of follow-up to the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Jan Eliasson