



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

3 May 2006

Excellency,

In the 2005 World Summit Outcome our leaders decided that the Peacebuilding Commission should begin its work no later than 31 December 2005. The discussion on the composition of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission has been ongoing since we adopted Resolution 60/180 on the Peacebuilding Commission on 20 December 2005. It is now time to move to a decision and to adopt the General Assembly resolution on the elections to the Organizational Committee.

My Chef de Cabinet held a meeting on 1 May with the Presidents of the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, the facilitators of the providers of financial contributions and military and civilian personnel to the United Nations and the chairs of the regional groups to set a timetable for the adoption of the resolution in the General Assembly. According to the sequence established in resolution 60/180, the Security Council should select its members first, followed by the Economic and Social Council and the providers of financial contributions and military and civilian personnel to the United Nations. The Security Council has already agreed on their selection, as communicated to the Secretary General on 17 January 2006.

I am planning to present the draft General Assembly resolution on the elections of members of the Organizational Committee on 8 May 2006 at 3 p.m. This would allow us to take this decision before the elections to the Human Rights Council on 9 May. I have consulted with the President of the Economic and Social Council and the facilitators for the financial and troop contributors, and I am confident we will have the resolution by ECOSOC and the communications on the selections of members from the two other categories before the meeting in the General Assembly on Monday.

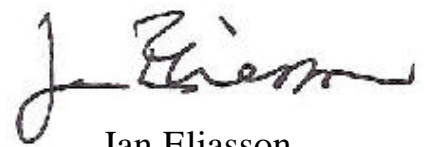
All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

I attach my draft resolution on the election of seven members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission. I do so after numerous consultations with Member States and after having carefully taken into account your reactions to my first draft submitted on 7 April. This is my best attempt to find a fair compromise between your respective views based on Resolution 60/180. It will allow the General Assembly to elect its members to the Organizational Committee for this year and to review the composition after one year.

The distribution of seats (op 1 and 2) in the draft resolution is based on the information I have received on the expected results of the selections/elections of the other categories of the Organizational Committee. Should these processes produce another result, amendments have to be made accordingly.

I trust that you agree with me on the urgent need of allowing the Peacebuilding Commission to finally begin its work. You have all made concessions in December to agree on the resolution on the Peacebuilding Commission. Let us now show the same commitment in operationalizing our historic decision and let the Commission start making a difference for the countries in need of support.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Eliasson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Jan Eliasson