



STATEMENT BY

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
H.E. MR. JAN ELIASSON**

AT

**THE FIRST SESSION OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL
COMMITTEE OF THE PEACEBUILDING
COMMISSION**

**UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS
NEW YORK
23 JUNE 2006**

Mr Chairman, Mr Secretary-General, Mr Minister, Distinguished Colleagues, Friends

Most of us have seen the despair in the eyes of women, men and children in war stricken countries. They have often had very little choice but to place their fate in the hands of us, the international community. But we have equally often failed them. When the TV cameras have left, so have we – far too often.

This week we are writing history in the United Nations. Last Monday, we opened the first meeting of the new Human Rights Council. Today, we are here to inaugurate the Peacebuilding Commission. The United Nations has been successful in ending wars. Building sustainable peace has proved much more difficult. Through this new intergovernmental body we have a chance to make a tangible difference for many people in the years to come.

Through the Peacebuilding Commission we have ensured that for countries emerging from conflict, post-conflict does not mean post-engagement of the international community. The recent events in Timor-Leste remind of the need for sustained attention. We have seen it earlier in Haiti, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Liberia.

Let us take a few steps back and see the evaluation of our thinking.

As we all know, we have struggled for many years to find ways of sustainably assisting States emerging from conflict towards durable peace and development. There has been an awareness of the gaps in the international community's response to countries in post-conflict situations. But donors have not found fully efficient ways of linking emergency relief

with reconstruction, institution-building, reconciliation and development. We are, in fact, not only talking about institutional gaps, but also about a financing gap and a gap in coordination between different actors, including within the United Nations.

The Peacebuilding Commission, first presented by the Secretary-General's High Level Panel - and later developed in the Secretary General's report "In Larger Freedom" - was an important contribution to the reform agenda of the United Nations. We commend the Secretary-General for his commitment to strengthen the United Nations capacity to assist countries in transition from war to durable peace. The United Nations has legitimacy and much experience to draw upon in the field of peacebuilding. To prevent States from sliding back into conflict, or to develop into failed states, must be one of the top priorities of the United Nations in the years to come.

You, the Member States, gave early and strong support to the establishment of a Peacebuilding Commission at the World summit in September 2005.

Coupled with this decision was the decision to establish a Peacebuilding Support Office and a Peacebuilding Fund. I congratulate Carolyn McAskie to her appointment to head the Peacebuilding Support Office. Her wide experience will be of great benefit for the work of the Commission. We also look forward to receiving the report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund.

We are all aware of the arduous negotiations last fall leading up to the adoption of resolution 60/180 on 20 December 2005 and to the long-awaited election of the Members of the Organizational Committee in May this year.

But you were able to put your differences aside and prove that the General Assembly can take decisions which are meaningful for the people of the world.

I am encouraged by the careful preparations for this first meeting by the members of the Organizational Committee. I congratulate you, Mr Chair, on your election to lead the work of the Commission in its first crucial year of operation. I also want to congratulate the other members of the Organizational Committee – you have important work ahead of you. I understand that you later during this meeting will take a decision on the two first country-specific situations. This is most welcome. It is in the country-specific settings that the work of the Peacebuilding Commission ultimately will be judged.

The Peacebuilding Commission is a truly innovative body, a body for the 21st century, bringing together different actors in peacebuilding for strategic discussions on how to best assist countries on their difficult journey from conflict to peace and development. Let me, in conclusion, point at some aspects which I find particularly important for the future work of the Commission.

1. The active engagement and involvement of the concerned government is fundamental to successful and sustainable peacebuilding. Regional organizations also have an important role to play.

2. Many of the situations on the Peacebuilding Commission agenda will also be on the agenda of the Security Council. Close coordination between peace-keeping and peacebuilding is essential. Much work is already being done

through the integrated peacekeeping missions. I imagine that the Peacebuilding Commission in a few years time will deal with country situations in various stages of peacebuilding.

3. The Economic and Social Council will have a crucial role to play in keeping international attention on a country as it moves from transitional recovery towards development.

4. The annual debate in the General Assembly will give us an opportunity to discuss the role of the United Nations in peacebuilding in a broader perspective.

5. International Financial Institutions are key actors in peacebuilding. Let us hope that the Peacebuilding Commission can open a new chapter in the United Nations relations with the Bretton Woods Institutions.

6. Suitable arrangement should be made for the dialogue with civil society in the work of the Peacebuilding Commission, both in the field and at Headquarters.

Lastly, you have among you several Member States with valuable experience from post-conflict recovery. I hope that you take advantage of their experience as part of developing best practices for peacebuilding.

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The success of the Peacebuilding Commission will in the end depend on how we can translate the resolution into action on the ground. Let us prove that an efficient, flexible and field-oriented body is now being created.

You, the first members of the Peacebuilding Commission have a great responsibility towards all those whose lives and futures you can improve after debilitating conflicts. I am confident that you will accept this responsibility with determination and a serious sense of purpose.



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

18 May 2006

Excellency,

On 16 May 2006, you elected seven members from the General Assembly to the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission. The selection/election process of the thirty-one members of the Committee is thus concluded. I attach a copy of the full membership of the Committee. I would also like to refer to the website for the Peacebuilding Commission (www.un.org/peace/peacebuilding).

As I referred to in my concluding remarks on 16 May, the thirty-one members of the Organizational Committee now have a special responsibility to start preparing the first meeting of the Committee. I am confident that the Organizational Committee at its first meeting or shortly thereafter will agree on its structures, rules and procedures and working methods. The country-specific meetings of the Peacebuilding Commission should start as soon as possible.

Once again, let me express my sincere appreciation for your support in this process as well as your continued commitment to the entire reform agenda.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jan Eliasson', written in a cursive style.

Jan Eliasson

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

17 May 2006

**ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE
PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION**

*Members elected or selected in accordance
with paragraphs (a) to (e) of General Assembly
resolution 60/180 of 20 December 2005*

Seven members selected by the Security Council

China, Denmark, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America.

Seven members elected by the Economic and Social Council

Angola, Belgium, Brazil, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Poland and Sri Lanka.

Five top providers of assessed contributions to United Nations budgets and of voluntary contributions to United Nations funds, programmes and agencies, including a standing peacebuilding fund

Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands and Norway.

Five top providers of military personnel and civilian police to United Nations missions

Bangladesh, Ghana, India, Nigeria and Pakistan.

Seven members elected by the General Assembly

Burundi, Chile, Croatia, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji and Jamaica

17 May 2006

**ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE
PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION**

*Members elected or selected in accordance
with paragraphs (a) to (e) of General Assembly
resolution 60/180 of 20 December 2005*

ANGOLA

BANGLADESH

BELGIUM

BRAZIL

BURUNDI

CHILE

CHINA

CROATIA

DENMARK

EGYPT

EL SALVADOR

FIJI

FRANCE

GERMANY

GHANA

GUINEA-BISSAU

INDIA

INDONESIA

ITALY

JAMAICA

JAPAN

NETHERLANDS

NIGERIA

NORWAY

PAKISTAN

POLAND

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

SRI LANKA

**UNITED KINGDOM OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND**

**UNITED REPUBLIC OF
TANZANIA**

**UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA**



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

10 May 2006

Excellency,

Once again I would like to thank you for your personal commitment so that we finally could adopt the resolution, "Elections of seven members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission" (resolution 60/L.52) on 8 May 2006.

As I referred to in my introduction of the draft resolution, I have been informed that the election in the Economic and Social Council to the Organizational Committee will be conducted on Friday, 12 May. The elections in the General Assembly will subsequently take place on Tuesday, 16 May, at 4 p.m.

I invite you to submit or reconfirm as early as possible candidatures to the General Assembly Secretariat (Room 2925). The Secretariat will prepare and make available a list of candidates for information.

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



Jan Eliasson

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



STATEMENT

BY

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
H.E. MR. JAN ELIASSON**

ON

**THE ELECTION OF SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE
ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE
PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION**

**UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS
NEW YORK
8 MAY 2006**

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

On 20 December you made history. By creating the Peacebuilding Commission the General Assembly decided to take an important step to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations in maintaining sustainable peace and security. The Peacebuilding Commission is an innovative body, which is to assist countries on the arduous road from violent conflict to recovery, reconstruction and development.

The composition of the Organizational Committee of the Commission is clearly spelled out in resolution 60/180. In the Outcome Document our leaders already decided on the different categories of members of the Organizational Committee. Some of you voiced strong concern that the Committee lacked in legitimacy, since many of you would not have the possibility of being elected or selected.

We all took that argument seriously and made a very difficult decision to open up the agreed text of the World Summit Outcome. A category was created to allow the General Assembly to elect seven additional Members from regions not sufficiently represented in the other categories of the Organizational Committee, giving particular consideration to those countries that have experienced post-conflict recovery.

More than four months have passed since 20 December. We have discussed the regional representation in ECOSOC and in the General Assembly at length. The decision to allow the Peacebuilding Commission to become operational is long overdue. The World Summit Outcome requested that the Peacebuilding Commission should begin its work no later than 31 December

2005. I acknowledge the difficulties you have been facing during your discussions, in particular since the composition of the Peacebuilding Commission is innovative. Let us not forget that one of the main purposes of the PBC, according to its mandate, is to bring together actors to marshal resources and to advise on and propose integrated strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery.

I am gratified that you, in all categories of the Organizational Committee, have shown commitment and flexibility in spite of strongly held views.

You have now in front of you draft resolution 60/L.52, Elections of seven members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission.

The resolution is based on paragraphs 4 (a) to (e) and 5 in General Assembly resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005). More specifically it implements paragraph 4 (e) giving the General Assembly a mandate to elect seven additional members giving due consideration to representation from all regional groups in the overall composition of the Organizational Committee and to representation from countries that have experienced post-conflict recovery.

The distribution of seats among the five regional groups for this year is based on the elections/selections in the other four categories set out in resolution 60/180 paragraph 4 (a) to (d) and communicated to the Secretary General in accordance with the following:

-Letter from the President of the Security Council, dated 17 January 2006

-Resolution E/2006/L.2/Rev.2, entitled “Membership from the Economic and Social Council in the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission pursuant to paragraph 4 (b) of the General Assembly resolution 60/180 and of Security Council resolution 1645 (2005)” adopted 8 May 2006.

-Letter from the Facilitator for the Group of Top Ten Providers of Contributions to the United Nations, dated 8 May 2006

-Letter from the Facilitator for the Group of Top Ten Troop Contributing Countries, dated 5 May 2006

The letters from the facilitators of the donor and troop contributing categories will be distributed as official UN documents. I take note and welcome the fact that both the donor and the troop contributors categories foresee some rotation among its members.

The General Assembly will elect seven members for this year distributed among the five regional groups as follows

Two seats for African States

One seat for Asian States

One seat for Eastern European States,

Three seats for Latin American and Caribbean States and

No seat for Western Europe and other States

I understand that the Economic and Social Council will conduct their elections on 12 May. I propose that the elections in the General Assembly take place on 16 May in the afternoon. Member States are invited to inform or confirm their candidatures to the Secretariat before 16 May. I understand that the Secretariat will prepare a list of candidates for information.

The draft resolution sets out that the rules of procedure and established practices of the General Assembly for the election of members of its subsidiary bodies shall apply to the elections to the Organizational Committee.

The elected members will serve for renewable terms of two years, beginning the day of the first meeting of the Organizational Committee. A new element introduced in the draft resolution is that the term of membership shall be staggered, and that two members from different regional groups, to be drawn by lot in the first election, shall serve for an initial period of one year. This will allow for continuity and not having all members from the General Assembly category change at the same time. Those members serving for one year only are eligible for subsequent periods of two years.

It will also allow the General Assembly to have an annual review of its distribution of seats based on changes in the membership in other categories in the Organizational Committee. After all, the General Assembly category was created in order to have a balanced representation from all regional groups and thus ensure legitimacy.

Finally, I would like to emphasize that representation from all regional groups in the overall composition of the Organizational Committee is not the

only criterion for the General Assembly category. Countries among you that have gone through difficult periods of post-conflict recovery will be a special asset for the work of the Peacebuilding Commission. I am confident that you will keep this in mind when electing members of the Organizational Committee.

In closing, let me thank you for your hard work, cooperation and support to me and my Office. We will soon leave the process of the creation of the Peacebuilding Commission behind us.

Let us now concentrate on the important work to prepare the first meeting of the Organizational Committee and even more importantly, the first country-specific meeting. As I have said many times, our work at the United Nations must always go through a “field test”. I would strongly hope that the Peacebuilding Commission will go through that field test before the end of this 60th session. This we owe to all those who are in dire need of post-conflict recovery.



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.

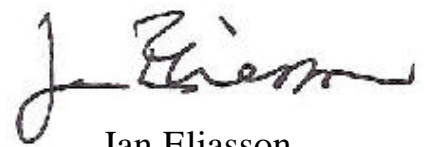
All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

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



General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 May 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 112 (f)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 8 May 2006

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.52)]

60/261. Election of seven members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005), both of 20 December 2005, in which the Assembly and the Council concurrently operationalized the decision by the 2005 World Summit¹ to establish the Peacebuilding Commission as an intergovernmental advisory body,

Recalling in particular paragraphs 4 (a) to (e) and 5 of the above-mentioned resolutions setting out the arrangements for the composition of the Organizational Committee of the Commission,

Bearing in mind that, in accordance with paragraph 4 (e) of the above-mentioned resolutions, seven additional members of the Organizational Committee shall be elected according to rules and procedures decided by the General Assembly,

Emphasizing that, in electing members of the Organizational Committee, the General Assembly should give due consideration to representation from all regional groups in the overall composition of the Committee and to representation from countries that have experienced post-conflict recovery,

Emphasizing also that Member States from all regional groups should have the possibility of presenting candidatures for election in the General Assembly, in accordance with paragraph 4 (e) of the above-mentioned resolutions,

1. *Notes* that the elections and/or selections that have taken place, in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 4 (a) to (d) of General Assembly resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005), have resulted in the following distribution of seats for this year among the five regional groups in the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission:

- (a) Five members from African States;
- (b) Seven members from Asian States;
- (c) Two members from Eastern European States;

¹ See resolution 60/1.

- (d) One member from Latin American and Caribbean States;
 - (e) Nine members from Western European and other States;
2. *Decides* that the seven seats for election by the General Assembly for membership in the Organizational Committee for this year shall be distributed among the five regional groups as follows:
- (a) Two seats for African States;
 - (b) One seat for Asian States;
 - (c) One seat for Eastern European States;
 - (d) Three seats for Latin American and Caribbean States;
 - (e) No seats for Western European and other States;
3. *Also decides* that the rules of procedure and established practice of the General Assembly for the election of members of its subsidiary bodies shall apply to its election of members of the Organizational Committee;
4. *Reiterates* that the members of the Organizational Committee shall serve for renewable terms of two years, as applicable, beginning on the day of the first meeting of the Committee;
5. *Calls upon* Member States to give due consideration to representation from countries that have experienced post-conflict recovery when electing members of the Organizational Committee in the General Assembly;
6. *Decides* that the term of membership shall be staggered, and that two members from different regional groups, to be drawn by lots in the first election, shall serve for an initial period of one year;
7. *Also decides* that each of the five regional groups shall have no less than three seats in the overall composition of the Organizational Committee;
8. *Further decides* that the elections to be held by the General Assembly this year will set no precedent for future elections and that the distribution of seats as set out in paragraph 2 above will be reviewed annually, on the basis of changes in the membership in other categories established in paragraphs 4 (a) to (d) of the above-mentioned resolutions, in order to give due consideration to representation of all regional groups in the overall composition of the Organizational Committee.

*79th plenary meeting
8 May 2006*

Secretary-General's Note

Top Ten Providers of Assessed Contributions to United Nations Budgets and of Voluntary Contributions to United Nations Funds, Programmes and Agencies, including the standing Peacebuilding Fund

| | | 3 year total | average | 2004 | 2003 | 2002 |
|----|-------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | US | 11,398,068,755 | 3,799,356,252 | 4,227,135,223 | 3,955,255,610 | 3,215,677,922 |
| 2 | Japan | 5,446,093,994 | 1,815,364,665 | 1,853,003,700 | 1,897,577,533 | 1,695,512,762 |
| 3 | UK | 3,438,243,909 | 1,146,081,303 | 1,432,995,162 | 1,165,535,746 | 839,713,001 |
| 4 | Germany | 2,385,870,903 | 795,290,301 | 921,302,377 | 742,676,715 | 721,891,811 |
| 5 | Netherlands | 2,238,024,996 | 746,008,332 | 888,452,772 | 708,329,199 | 641,243,025 |
| 6 | Italy | 1,839,285,165 | 613,095,055 | 694,425,775 | 634,591,700 | 510,267,690 |
| 7 | Norway | 1,775,543,922 | 591,847,974 | 659,404,140 | 630,764,396 | 485,375,386 |
| 8 | France | 1,698,551,891 | 566,183,964 | 644,471,409 | 477,039,715 | 577,040,768 |
| 9 | Sweden | 1,648,155,264 | 549,385,088 | 692,951,315 | 571,305,208 | 383,898,741 |
| 10 | Canada | 1,609,678,170 | 536,559,390 | 688,419,581 | 562,344,746 | 358,913,843 |

Explanatory Notes:

1. Resolution A/60/180 requests the Secretary General to compile a list of the top ten providers of assessed and voluntary financial contributions to the United Nations, based on the average annual contributions in the previous three calendar years. Following the circulation of an initial list on 13 January, the President of the General Assembly requested the Secretariat to supplement this list with additional data in order to provide a more comprehensive picture on financial contributions to the UN.

2. The above summary is based on 28 different data streams from a total of 22 UN entities and includes the following categories: UN Budget, UN General Funds, FAO, ILO, WHO, UNESCO, UNDP, UNDP administered (UNV, UNCDF, UNIFEM), UN-HABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, UNFPA, UNRWA, UNAIDS, IFAD, UNODC, IAEA, UNIDO and WMO. This list reflects virtually all significant financial contributions to the UN, amounting to more than US\$ 33 billion for the ten top contributors over the three year period. A few smaller agencies and Trust Funds administered in the field could not be included, given the limited time and data availability. A gap of US\$ 650 m separates the 11th largest donor from the 10th largest. As provided for in resolution A/60/180, any contributions received towards the Peacebuilding Fund as of 1 February 2006, have been included.

3. It is recognized that contributions from the European Community constitute a significant source of financial support to the United Nations. The following figures provide an indication for the level of funding received from the European Community, in addition to the direct contributions from its member countries: US\$ 457m in 2002; US\$ 572m in 2003 and US\$ 822m in 2004.

1 February 2006

Annex to the Secretary General's Note

1. United Nations Assessed Contributions

total payments made by member states as at 31 December of each year. Figures include: UN Regular Budget, Working Capital Fund, Peacekeeping Operations, International Tribunals. *source: Contributions Service, OPBA, DM*

2. United Nations Trust Funds

all Trust Funds administered out of New York, Geneva and Vienna, including OCHA extra-budgetary activities. It does not include Trust Fund administered in other locations such as peacekeeping missions. *source: IMIS data, Trust Funds Unit, OPBA, DM*

3. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Regular Programme Contributions according to yearly assessment rate and voluntary contributions received for financing extra-budgetary technical cooperation activities, excluding unilateral "self-supporting" contributions. *source: AFFC, Finance Division FAO*

4. International Labour Organization (ILO)

assessed contributions of member States converted from CHF into US\$ using the annual budget rate of exchange. Voluntary Contributions towards ILO technical cooperation projects, funds received, Section A: receipts from States. *source: ILO Finance*

5. World Health Organization (WHO)

Assessed contributions as recorded in A55/26, A56/32 and EBABFC 21/2. Extra-budgetary contributions for WHO assisted activities, including "Voluntary Fund for Health Promotion" and "Other Funds" as published in A56/28Add1, A57/20Add1 and A58/26 Add1. *source: WHO.*

6. UNESCO

Contributions to Regular Budget as per yearly assessment. Voluntary Contributions received for extra-budgetary activities. *source: UNESCO DCO.*

7. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Income received by UNDP for both Regular and Other Resources. *source: Bureau for Resources and Strategic Partnerships (BRSP), UNDP.*

8. UNDP Administered Funds

Income received for core and non-core resources of the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), UNIFEM and UNV. *source: Bureau for Resources and Strategic Partnerships (BRSP), UNDP*

9. UN Human Settlements Programme (HABITAT)

earmarked contributions towards foundation and technical cooperation as well as actual receipts of general purpose pledges. *source: HABITAT*

10. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Contributions from UNHCR's main donors. *source: UNHCR*

11. UNICEF

top Government Donors to UNICEF total resources. Includes regular resources (RR) and other resources (OR). *source: UNICEF Programme Funding Office.*

12. World Food Programme (WFP)

Contributions to WFP.

13. UNFPA

Regular Contributions, excluding co-financing resources. *source: UNFPA*

14. UNRWA

Pledges and Contributions to UNRWA to Regular Budget and Non-regular Budget.

15. UNAIDS

Donor Contribution Table, the Unified Budget. *source: UNAIDS*

16. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Replenishment Contributions, supplementary funds and HIPC. *source: Resource Mobilization Division, IFAD*

17. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Major donor pledges to drugs and crime programmes (two separately administered trust funds). *source: Financial Resources Management Service, UNODC*

18. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Contributions towards Environment Fund, excluding earmarked contributions and other Trust Funds. *source Resource Management unit, UNEP. see also:*

19. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

assessed and voluntary contributions. *source: Budget and Finance Division, IAEA*

20. UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Assessment and voluntary contributions (assessments were converted from EURO into US\$ using the budget rate of exchange). *source: UNIDO*

21. World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Assessment and voluntary contributions received. *source: Finance Division, WMO*

22. Contributions towards the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)

converted at UN rate of exchange.

Secretary-General's Note

**Top Ten Contributors of Military Troops and Police Personnel to UN operations
based on monthly averages over a three year period**

| rank | country | total | monthly | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 |
|-------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | Pakistan | 264,236 | 7,340 | 114,235 | 94,344 | 55,657 |
| 2 | Bangladesh | 233,393 | 6,483 | 103,007 | 87,344 | 43,042 |
| 3 | India | 146,539 | 4,071 | 75,708 | 36,902 | 33,929 |
| 4 | Nigeria | 111,886 | 3,108 | 36,068 | 41,485 | 34,333 |
| 5 | Ghana | 98,577 | 2,738 | 36,799 | 36,350 | 25,428 |
| 6 | Nepal | 84,537 | 2,348 | 41,551 | 28,501 | 14,485 |
| 7 | Jordan | 79,648 | 2,212 | 36,180 | 24,507 | 18,961 |
| 8 | Uruguay | 76,476 | 2,124 | 29,644 | 25,743 | 21,089 |
| 9 | Ethiopia | 72,439 | 2,012 | 41,041 | 30,315 | 1,083 |
| 10 | Kenya | 62,244 | 1,729 | 17,914 | 22,834 | 21,496 |

Explanatory Notes:

1. Resolution A/60/180 requests the Secretary General to provide a list of the top ten providers of military personnel and civilian police to United Nations missions, based on the average monthly contributions in the previous three calendar years.
2. Data for monthly contributions has been obtained from DPKO. Yearly averages have been compiled on the basis of cumulative totals for each contributor, divided by 12 months.

1 February 2006



31 January 2006

Excellency,

The adoption of the General Assembly resolution on the Peacebuilding Commission on 20 December was an historic achievement. In my letter of 22 December I stressed the importance of a speedy operationalization of the Commission.

To achieve this end I invited to an informal exchange of view on 20 January the Presidents of the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, the Chairs of the regional groups and the ten top providers of assessed contributions to United Nations budgets and of voluntary contributions to United Nations funds, programmes and agencies and the ten top providers of military personnel and civilian police to United Nations missions.

I have encouraged the Chairs of the regional groups to consult with their members on the issues raised at that meeting. But I wanted to share with all of you my views on how we might proceed.

The basis for our decisions is operative paragraphs 4-6 of resolution 60/180. Op 4 sets out a clear sequence for the election/selection process starting with the Security Council followed by the ECOSOC, then the top financial and troop contributors and finally the General Assembly. It is of great importance that this sequence be followed.

The Security Council has communicated to the Secretary General - with a copy to my office - the names of the seven members it has selected as members of the Organizational Committee.

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

The Bureau of the Economic and Social Council has commenced its discussion on how to conduct its elections. I am grateful to the President of the Economic and Social Council, Ambassador Hachani, for his commitment to conclude this process as early as possible.

The Secretary-General presented on 6 December a list of the top providers of military personnel and civilian police to United Nations missions. On 13 January I circulated the Secretary-General's Note containing an initial list of the top financial contributors of assessed contributions to the United Nations budgets and of voluntary contributions to the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies, including a standing peacebuilding fund. These two lists establish the ten top contributors in both categories for the purpose of the selection to the Organizational Committee.

I have requested the Secretary-General to provide me with finalized lists of the two above mentioned contributors for the purpose of the selection to the Organizational Committee by 1 February.

I am encouraged that the Member States within these two categories have already started to consult each other. At the meeting on 20 January Member States within those groups volunteered to facilitate early consultations.

As per operative paragraph 4 (e) of resolution 60/180, and as I emphasized in my introductory remarks to the resolution on 20 December, the selection of members from the General Assembly is intended to achieve a balanced geographical representation from all regional groups in the overall membership of the organizational committee. This implies that the distribution between the different geographical groups in the General Assembly can only be decided after we have noted the results of the elections and selections in the first four categories.

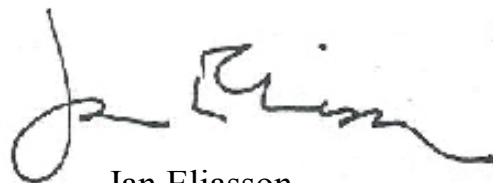
As soon as I am informed of these results I will revert to you with proposals on how we may proceed with the distribution of the seven seats in the General Assembly. As stated in resolution 60/180 the election in the General Assembly should be conducted in accordance with rules and procedures decided by the General Assembly. I foresee that we will need to take a decision on modalities for the election in the form of a brief resolution.

In accordance with the resolution 60/180 the Economic and Social Council as well as the General Assembly are requested to ensure that in their election processes due consideration is given to those countries that have experienced post-conflict recovery.

On the issue of the term of serving in the organizational committee (operative paragraph 6) I would hope that we can agree that it would be most useful for the work of the Peacebuilding Commission if members could serve for two years. I encouraged all participants in the meeting of 20 January to keep this in mind in the election and selection processes.

I would hope that we should, with joint efforts, be able to take the necessary steps to enable the Secretary General to convene the first constituting meeting of the Organizational Committee in the first weeks of March and the Peacebuilding Commission to become operational also in its country specific setting during the spring.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jan Eliasson', written in a cursive style.

Jan Eliasson



General Assembly

Distr.: General
30 December 2005

Sixtieth session
Agenda items 46 and 120

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 2005

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.40)]

60/180. The Peacebuilding Commission

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the 2005 World Summit Outcome,¹

Recalling in particular paragraphs 97 to 105 of the World Summit Outcome,

Recognizing that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

Emphasizing the need for a coordinated, coherent and integrated approach to post-conflict peacebuilding and reconciliation with a view to achieving sustainable peace,

Recognizing the need for a dedicated institutional mechanism to address the special needs of countries emerging from conflict towards recovery, reintegration and reconstruction and to assist them in laying the foundation for sustainable development,

Recognizing also the vital role of the United Nations in preventing conflicts, assisting parties to conflicts to end hostilities and emerge towards recovery, reconstruction and development and in mobilizing sustained international attention and assistance,

Reaffirming the respective responsibilities and functions of the organs of the United Nations as defined in the Charter and the need to enhance coordination among them,

Affirming the primary responsibility of national and transitional Governments and authorities of countries emerging from conflict or at risk of relapsing into conflict, where they are established, in identifying their priorities and strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding, with a view to ensuring national ownership,

¹ See resolution 60/1.

Emphasizing, in that regard, the importance of supporting national efforts to establish, redevelop or reform institutions for the effective administration of countries emerging from conflict, including capacity-building efforts,

Recognizing the important role of regional and subregional organizations in carrying out post-conflict peacebuilding activities in their regions, and stressing the need for sustained international support for their efforts and capacity-building to that end,

Recognizing also that countries that have experienced recent post-conflict recovery would make valuable contributions to the work of the Peacebuilding Commission,

Recognizing further the role of Member States supporting the peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts of the United Nations through financial, troop and civilian police contributions,

Recognizing the important contribution of civil society and non-governmental organizations, including women's organizations, to peacebuilding efforts,

Reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, and stressing the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution and peacebuilding,

1. *Decides*, acting concurrently with the Security Council, in accordance with Articles 7, 22 and 29 of the Charter of the United Nations, with a view to operationalizing the decision by the 2005 World Summit,¹ to establish the Peacebuilding Commission as an intergovernmental advisory body;

2. *Also decides* that the following shall be the main purposes of the Commission:

(a) To bring together all relevant actors to marshal resources and to advise on and propose integrated strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery;

(b) To focus attention on the reconstruction and institution-building efforts necessary for recovery from conflict and to support the development of integrated strategies in order to lay the foundation for sustainable development;

(c) To provide recommendations and information to improve the coordination of all relevant actors within and outside the United Nations, to develop best practices, to help to ensure predictable financing for early recovery activities and to extend the period of attention given by the international community to post-conflict recovery;

3. *Further decides* that the Commission shall meet in various configurations;

4. *Decides* that the Commission shall have a standing Organizational Committee, responsible for developing its own rules of procedure and working methods, comprising:

(a) Seven members of the Security Council, including permanent members, selected according to rules and procedures decided by the Council;

(b) Seven members of the Economic and Social Council, elected from regional groups according to rules and procedures decided by the Council, giving due consideration to those countries that have experienced post-conflict recovery;

(c) Five top providers of assessed contributions to United Nations budgets and of voluntary contributions to United Nations funds, programmes and agencies, including a standing peacebuilding fund, that are not among those selected in (a) or (b) above, selected by and from among the ten top providers, giving due consideration to the size of their contributions, according to a list provided by the Secretary-General, based on the average annual contributions in the previous three calendar years for which statistical data are available;

(d) Five top providers of military personnel and civilian police to United Nations missions that are not among those selected in (a), (b) or (c) above, selected by and from among the ten top providers, giving due consideration to the size of their contributions, according to a list provided by the Secretary-General, based on the average monthly contributions in the previous three calendar years for which statistical data are available;

(e) Giving due consideration to representation from all regional groups in the overall composition of the Committee and to representation from countries that have experienced post-conflict recovery, seven additional members shall be elected according to rules and procedures decided by the General Assembly;

5. *Emphasizes* that a Member State can only be selected from one category set out in paragraph 4 above at any one time;

6. *Decides* that members of the Organizational Committee shall serve for renewable terms of two years, as applicable;

7. *Also decides* that country-specific meetings of the Commission, upon invitation of the Organizational Committee referred to in paragraph 4 above, shall include as members, in addition to members of the Committee, representatives from:

(a) The country under consideration;

(b) Countries in the region engaged in the post-conflict process and other countries that are involved in relief efforts and/or political dialogue, as well as relevant regional and subregional organizations;

(c) The major financial, troop and civilian police contributors involved in the recovery effort;

(d) The senior United Nations representative in the field and other relevant United Nations representatives;

(e) Such regional and international financial institutions as may be relevant;

8. *Further decides* that a representative of the Secretary-General shall be invited to participate in all meetings of the Commission;

9. *Decides* that representatives from the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other institutional donors shall be invited to participate in all meetings of the Commission in a manner suitable to their governing arrangements;

10. *Emphasizes* that the Commission shall work in cooperation with national or transitional authorities, where possible, in the country under consideration with a view to ensuring national ownership of the peacebuilding process;

11. *Also emphasizes* that the Commission shall, where appropriate, work in close consultation with regional and subregional organizations to ensure their involvement in the peacebuilding process in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter;

12. *Decides* that the Organizational Committee shall, giving due consideration to maintaining a balance in addressing situations in countries in different regions in accordance with the main purposes of the Commission as stipulated above, establish the agenda of the Commission based on the following:

(a) Requests for advice from the Security Council;

(b) Requests for advice from the Economic and Social Council or the General Assembly with the consent of a concerned Member State in exceptional circumstances on the verge of lapsing or relapsing into conflict and with which the Security Council is not seized in accordance with Article 12 of the Charter;

(c) Requests for advice from Member States in exceptional circumstances on the verge of lapsing or relapsing into conflict and which are not on the agenda of the Security Council;

(d) Requests for advice from the Secretary-General;

13. *Also decides* that the Commission shall make the outcome of its discussions and recommendations publicly available as United Nations documents to all relevant bodies and actors, including the international financial institutions;

14. *Invites* all relevant United Nations bodies and other bodies and actors, including the international financial institutions, to take action on the advice of the Commission, as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates;

15. *Decides* that the Commission shall submit an annual report to the General Assembly and that the Assembly shall hold an annual debate to review the report;

16. *Underlines* that in post-conflict situations on the agenda of the Security Council with which it is actively seized, in particular when there is a United Nations-mandated peacekeeping mission on the ground or under way and given the primary responsibility of the Council for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter, the main purpose of the Commission will be to provide advice to the Council at its request;

17. *Also underlines* that the advice of the Commission to provide sustained attention as countries move from transitional recovery towards development will be of particular relevance to the Economic and Social Council, bearing in mind its role as a principal body for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on issues of economic and social development;

18. *Decides* that the Commission shall act in all matters on the basis of consensus of its members;

19. *Notes* the importance of participation of regional and local actors, and stresses the importance of adopting flexible working methods, including use of videoconferencing, meetings outside of New York and other modalities, in order to provide for the active participation of those most relevant to the deliberations of the Commission;

20. *Calls upon* the Commission to integrate a gender perspective into all of its work;

21. *Encourages* the Commission to consult with civil society, non-governmental organizations, including women's organizations, and the private sector engaged in peacebuilding activities, as appropriate;

22. *Recommends* that the Commission terminate its consideration of a country-specific situation when foundations for sustainable peace and development are established or upon the request of national authorities of the country under consideration;

23. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to establish, within the Secretariat, from within existing resources, a small peacebuilding support office staffed by qualified experts to assist and support the Commission, and recognizes in that regard that such support could include gathering and analysing information relating to the availability of financial resources, relevant United Nations in-country planning activities, progress towards meeting short and medium-term recovery goals and best practices with respect to cross-cutting peacebuilding issues;

24. *Also reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to establish a multi-year standing peacebuilding fund for post-conflict peacebuilding, funded by voluntary contributions and taking due account of existing instruments, with the objective of ensuring the immediate release of resources needed to launch peacebuilding activities and the availability of appropriate financing for recovery;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on the arrangements for establishing the peacebuilding fund during its sixtieth session;

26. *Calls upon* relevant bodies and Member States referred to in paragraph 4 above to communicate the names of members of the Organizational Committee to the Secretary-General to enable him to convene the first constituting meeting of the Committee as soon as possible following the adoption of the present resolution;

27. *Decides* that the arrangements set out above will be reviewed five years after the adoption of the present resolution to ensure that they are appropriate to fulfil the agreed functions of the Commission and that such a review and any changes as a result thereof will be decided following the same procedure as set out in paragraph 1 above;

28. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session an item titled "Report of the Peacebuilding Commission".

*66th plenary meeting
20 December 2005*



PRESS RELEASE

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ESTABLISHES PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, 20 DECEMBER 2005 — In implementing a major outcome of the September 2005 Summit, the UN General Assembly today established a Peacebuilding Commission to assist countries emerging from conflict to achieve sustainable peace.

The Peacebuilding Commission will marshal resources at the disposal of the international community to advise and propose integrated strategies for post-conflict recovery, focusing attention on reconstruction, institution-building and sustainable development, in countries emerging from conflict.

“This resolution would, for the first time in the history of the United Nations, create a mechanism which ensures that for countries emerging from conflict, post-conflict does not mean post-engagement of the international community,” General Assembly President Jan Eliasson told the General Assembly just before the decision.

Composed of Security Council members, top financial and troop contributors, members of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the General Assembly, the Commission will be an advisory body whose recommendations should carry the weight of its prestigious membership. It will have no enforcement powers.

The Commission will promote coordination among all actors within and outside the UN system involved in assisting a country’s recovery, including that country’s national authorities. Its objective will also be to extend the period of attention by the international community to post-conflict recovery and to ensure predictable financing for their efforts.

Secretary-General Kofi Annan called the establishment of the Peacebuilding Commission “a turning point in our efforts to help states and societies manage the difficult transition from war to peace.”

He said that the new Commission would address “a critical institutional gap” in the UN’s machinery for helping war-torn countries and should improve “coordination both within and beyond the UN system.”

The Secretary-General proposed the Peacebuilding Commission in his “In Larger Freedom” report of March 2005. In noting that roughly half the countries that emerge from war lapse back into violence within five years, he wrote that “no part of the United Nations system effectively addresses the challenge of helping countries with the transition from war to lasting peace.” The Peacebuilding Commission and its support office within the UN Secretariat will help achieve this end.

The Commission will convene in New York as soon as possible after the adoption of the resolution, and will be supported by a small Peacebuilding Support office in the UN Secretariat, financed by existing resources.

The Secretary-General will establish a standing Peacebuilding Fund from voluntary contributions to ensure the immediate release of resources needed to launch peacebuilding activities and secure financing for recovery.

The General Assembly resolution states that the Peacebuilding Commission will meet “in various configurations.” It will have a standing Organizational Committee composed of 31 members: seven members of the Security Council; seven members of the Economic and Social Council; five top providers of assessed contributions to the UN budgets and voluntary contributions to UN funds, programmes and agencies, including a Peacebuilding fund, — and five top providers of military personnel and civilian police to UN missions. Seven additional members will be elected to ensure representation from all regional groups and by countries that have experienced post-conflict recovery.

The work of the Commission will be carried out by country-specific committees that will include the country under consideration, countries in the region, major financial, troop and civilian police contributors involved in that country's recovery effort, relevant senior UN officials and relevant regional and international financial institutions.

The Security Council and ECOSOC or the General Assembly will solicit advice from the Peacebuilding Commission on identifying specific countries emerging from conflict which could benefit from the Commission's consideration. The Commission will then convene to organize assistance and make recommendation on efforts needed by the international community to ensure long-term recovery.

The Commission will end its consideration of a country when foundations for a sustainable peace and development are established or upon the request by national authorities of that country.

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STATEMENT BY

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
H.E. MR. JAN ELIASSON**

AT

**THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DRAFT
RESOLUTION ON THE PEACEBUILDING
COMMISSION (A/60/L.40) TO THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY PLENARY**

**UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS
NEW YORK
20 DECEMBER 2005**

Mr. Secretary-General, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are assembled this morning to consider the draft resolution on the Peacebuilding Commission (A/60/L.40) which was first presented to you in our informal meeting on 14 December.

Since then you will all have had the opportunity to study the draft resolution carefully, and to consult amongst yourselves. Many of you have approached me and my Office over the last few days about the text. I will make some comments on the text in a moment.

But first, I want to reflect on what we are all, I hope, on the verge of doing. I believe that this resolution will, if passed today, be truly historic. That word – ‘historic’ – is often over-used, but in this case I have no doubt that it is merited.

Why? Because this resolution would, for the first time in the history of the United Nations, create a mechanism which ensures that for countries emerging from conflict, post-conflict does not mean post-engagement of the international community. It would be our best chance to reverse the trend which, in recent years, has seen around half the countries emerging from conflict lapsing back into it again within five years. It would help bring an end to the pattern of conflicts erupting again, simply because support for the healing process was not there when it was needed.

As you know, I have often recalled the need to bring the realities into these halls over the last three and a half months. I am sure you all agree that, with the Peacebuilding Commission, we have a real chance to make a difference for the better in years to come for a great number of men, women and children in conflict-stricken countries.

So, who do we have to thank for getting us to the point of having this draft on the table? Firstly, those countries and individuals who came up with the idea and, of course, the Secretary-General who first elaborated and articulated the concept of a Peacebuilding Commission.

Secondly, our leaders, for giving us such clear direction in the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document. They decided to establish a Peacebuilding Commission, and stipulated that it should begin its work no later than 31 December 2005 – eleven days from now. The draft resolution rightly reaffirms this Outcome Document decision.

Thirdly, we should again thank the two co-chairs, Ambassador Løj of Denmark and Ambassador Mahiga of Tanzania, supported by their and my staff, for conducting our negotiations with such commitment and efficiency.

But fourthly, and perhaps most importantly, I want to thank all of you. You have devoted a great amount of energy and have shown deep dedication to this task during an intense period of work. You have worked closely with the co-chairs, giving them your comments and proposals, and engaging constructively in the negotiations. This draft resolution is, I hope, something which every single member of this General Assembly will recognize as a ground-breaking achievement.

Now, I will turn to my comments on the text.

My first observation is that none of you have got everything you wanted in this draft resolution. For some, adopting it would mean compromising on some points on which you had felt – and still feel – strongly. A number of you asked whether the language of the resolution could be changed to accommodate your concerns. To do

so would have meant opening up the document to a further round of lengthy and complicated negotiations, without necessarily leading to a better end result.

Many of you have commented on the roles of the different organs and other parts of the UN family in regard to the Peacebuilding Commission. This is an important question. The establishment of the Peacebuilding Commission is intended to create a new dynamic, bringing together the UN's broad experience spanning conflict prevention, mediation, peacekeeping, respect for human rights, the rule of law, humanitarian assistance, reconstruction and long-term development. Such varied activities, and the UN's global legitimacy, make the Organization uniquely positioned to take a leading role in peacebuilding. We need to make sure that the Commission can draw upon all the experience the UN system has to offer, so that it passes the necessary "field test".

The draft resolution sets out how the General Assembly, the Security Council and ECOSOC should work on peacebuilding. The Peacebuilding Commission will be an advisory subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Security Council, the first such body of its kind.

The General Assembly will have an overall responsibility to review the work of the Peacebuilding Commission through debating its Annual Report.

Most of the countries emerging from conflict are on the agenda of the Security Council. The Peacebuilding Commission will hence have an important role in giving advice to the Security Council for the early planning and commencement of peacebuilding activities.

And the Peacebuilding Commission must work with ECOSOC to ensure that the international community and donors do not lose interest in a country once it is no longer making the headlines.

ECOSOC will be a principal organ for policy dialogue and coordination on issues of economic and social development and will promote assistance as countries move from recovery towards long-term development. In this context I once again stress the importance of a reformed ECOSOC playing its rightful part in peacebuilding. In this regard, I hope to see the fruits of your labours in the informal consultations dealing with ECOSOC reform very shortly after we return in the New Year.

These three organs will all be able to put countries on the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission in accordance with their respective mandates in the Charter.

Equally, I must stress that it will be possible for individual Member States on the verge of lapsing or relapsing into conflict to turn to the Peacebuilding Commission for advice. Our goal for the Peacebuilding Commission must be to decrease the number of countries falling back into conflict.

Another point on which a number of you have had concerns is the composition of the Organizational Committee, where difficult choices had to be made. On this matter, it is important to emphasize the extent to which much of the important substantive work of the Peacebuilding Commission will be done in its country-specific settings. We will have to make every effort to organize the work of the country-specific meetings in a manner conducive to effective action. The draft resolution leaves open how many members of the organizational committee will participate alongside others in these meetings.

With regard to the selection of the members in the Organizational Committee itself, the resolution sets out that every organ or group will select or elect its own members. The Security Council and ECOSOC will first choose the members they wish to be appointed.

Then, the top ten donors and top ten troop contributing countries will each select five members that have not already been chosen by the Security Council or ECOSOC. Finally, in order to have a balanced representation from all regional groups and thus to ensure legitimacy, the General Assembly will elect seven additional Members.

As the resolution sets out, members of the Organizational Committee shall serve for renewable terms of two years, as applicable. At two year intervals, the lists of donors and troop contributors will be updated. Existing members would need to remain on the updated lists for a renewal of their term in order to be considered. This will serve as an incentive for Member States to strive for maintained and increased contributions to the United Nations.

Lastly, some of you have asked about the nature of the participation of the international financial institutions, regional organizations and United Nations representatives in the Peacebuilding Commission. As you know, the resolution states that they will be included as members in the work of the country-specific meetings of the Commission. Given that the Peacebuilding Commission will be an intergovernmental body, these institutions, organizations and representatives will evidently participate in an observer capacity.

In closing, I want to reiterate my sincere hope that this text will meet with your approval. As I said last week, I believe your important contributions through the negotiation process have made this key issue of the Outcome Document ripe for decision. You have worked so hard for this.

A decision today with the broadest possible agreement would send a positive message that our intergovernmental work is producing results. We have an opportunity today to prove ourselves, to prove the relevance of the United Nations to the problems of the world.

Let us show our leaders, our peoples, our civil society, our media, and most of all let us show all those people who are seeking to cast off the dark shadow of conflict what the General Assembly of the United Nations can do in support and solidarity.



STATEMENT BY

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
H.E. MR. JAN ELIASSON**

AT

**THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE
PLENARY ON THE PEACEBUILDING
COMMISSION**

**UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS
NEW YORK
14 DECEMBER 2005**

I welcome you to this meeting – on this dark but clear winter afternoon.

I hope that you have all received and read the text of the draft resolution which has just been circulated.

It is time for us to come to a conclusion on the Peacebuilding Commission. We need to comply with the first major specific timeline our leaders tasked us to meet.

To begin with I would like to thank my two co-chairs Ambassadors Løj and Mahiga. They have conducted these negotiations with commitment and efficiency and have been the driving force behind the creation of the Peacebuilding Commission ever since the proposal was first presented.

You have provided the co-chairs with many thoughtful inputs and comments. I thank you for this. They have listened to you, they have discussed with you, they have tried to find compromise solutions and they have produced several drafts.

I have assessed what I have heard from my co-chairs and from you. I have consulted you individually or in your groups. We have all heard the representatives from the field and observers of the UN calling for the Peacebuilding Commission to commence its work. The text of a draft resolution that I am presenting today is my best attempt to strike the middle ground without giving up the important principles related to the Peacebuilding Commission. No one in this room will get everything he or she has aimed for, but we will together create a body that is functional, and can be of concrete assistance in conflict and post-conflict situations in a number of our Member States. I know how keenly so many of you want the Peacebuilding Commission to start its work, and this gives me the hope that we will all be able to unite around this objective. We will also give the reform process in our organization new momentum and new life.

I have carefully weighed the different parts of the draft resolution I present today and made some very tough choices in this process. I have worked towards reflecting the institutional realities and at the same time creating a dynamic advisory body. The Security Council must and does already play a central role in peace-keeping and peacebuilding, given its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. I do not think anyone would dispute the importance of the advice of the

Peacebuilding Commission to the Security Council on conflict situations on its agenda.

Likewise I think all of you would join me in acknowledging the role that the Peacebuilding Commission can play advising ECOSOC as it gives sustained attention to countries moving to recovery and sustainable development. The ad hoc post conflict groups under ECOSOC have been valuable fora to perform these functions. It is important that we now conclude the work to strengthen ECOSOC through the plenary consultations so ably led by Ambassadors Verbeke and Diarra as quickly as possible. ECOSOC must play its rightful role as stated in the Outcome Document as a principal body for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on issues of economic and social development.

And of course the role of the General Assembly is assured by its annual review of the Peacebuilding Commission.

We all want a Peacebuilding Commission that is efficient and brings together the real actors in peacebuilding. Our leaders have indicated who these actors should be. But I have listened to those claiming that not all regions will be sufficiently represented in the organizational committee of the Peacebuilding Commission. I take this argument seriously, since it touches the questions of the legitimacy of the Commission. I am therefore proposing that we enhance the representativeness of the organizational committee by allowing the General Assembly to elect additional members from regions not sufficiently represented, paying particular attention to those countries that have themselves experienced post conflict recovery.

Given this increased representation from all regional groups I hope that we can agree that the other members can be selected or elected in each category by the respective organ or group.

You are familiar with much of the text in front of you. I have built my draft resolution to a large extent on the co-chairs draft of 18 November. Based on your amendments we have improved it. Many of you have had many and far reaching amendments. I have incorporated what I believe would improve the text both in the preambular and the operative parts. But my main objective has been to keep a balanced text.

It is my sincere hope that this text will meet with your approval. We have six working-days to finish our work in the GA. I hope that we are ready to move to a conclusion, to a decision to adopt the resolution on the Peacebuilding Commission early next week. It is my conviction that this text will not improve through extended negotiations. Your important contributions through the negotiation process have made this key issue of the Outcome Document ripe for decision.

Your decision would not only be important in improving the conflict and post-conflict management work of the United Nations, it will also send a positive message that our intergovernmental work is producing results. This is an historic opportunity for the General Assembly to prove itself, to prove its relevance. A decision will also be an important foundation for further balanced progress in the entire reform process. You have worked so hard for this, let us reap what we have sown. Let us show our leaders and those with expectations of practical results from the Peacebuilding Commission what the General Assembly of the United Nations can do.

Concept Note on the Peacebuilding Fund

1. The outcome document requests the Secretary-General to establish a multi-year standing Peacebuilding fund for post-conflict peacebuilding, funded through voluntary contributions while taking account of existing instruments.
2. The PBF will support critical peacebuilding initiatives which directly contribute towards post conflict stabilization and strengthen the capacity of Government or transitional authorities to assume early ownership of the recovery process. The PBF will address critical funding gaps during the early stages of the recovery process and priority consideration will be given during the initial 12 month period, broadly defined as the stage between the conclusion of a peace agreement and when normal funding mechanisms come into play. Submissions outside this timeframe, to assist during other critical junctures in a peacebuilding process (e.g. just after an election or during the draw-down of a peacekeeping mission) could also be considered under specified circumstances.
3. Proposals for funding from the PBF will originate from field operations and will be based on discussions between the national authorities and the UN on peacebuilding priorities and the identification of critical gaps. The PBF will prioritize disbursements in favor of essential peacebuilding roles performed by the Government and may include direct support to national administrations designed to rapidly build-up national capacity or immediate support to facilitate Government participation in critical peacebuilding initiatives.
4. In reviewing submissions to the PBF, consideration will be given to relevance of the proposed activity to the peacebuilding process and the impact it will generate on the sustainability of the recovery effort. PBF funding should also have a catalytic effect and help to bring about other, more sustained support mechanisms such as a longer term engagement by development agencies and bilateral donors.
5. In taking disbursement decisions, the Secretary-General will be guided by the broad parameters spelled out by the PBC with respect to the strategic options available to the international community. A Project Review Board will be constituted to examine submissions to the PBF and ensure their compatibility with stated disbursement criteria.
6. The Secretary-General will appoint five members to serve on a special advisory group to provide him with strategic observations on the use of the PBF. The Special Advisory Group will produce an annual report on the impact of the PBF, for review by the PBC. Based on lessons learnt in this respect, the PBC will provide guidance on the disbursements criteria for future years.
7. A separate partner organization will be nominated to provide the fiduciary management of the PBF, acting as a trustee. The design of the Fund will meet highest

standards of accountability and include standard provisions for both internal and external auditing and take account of best practices with Multi Donor Trust Funds.

8. The PBF, as a comparatively modest fund relative to all financing for peacebuilding related activities, will need to focus on critical peacebuilding priorities related to developing national state capacity and related stabilization efforts. Priority should be given to countries under consideration by the PBC.

9. The PBF will be supported through voluntary financial contributions and will need to be replenished at regular intervals if it is to maintain long terms sustainability. The replenishment process will be based on the provision of full accounts on funds disbursed and full reports including detailed impact assessments.

Secretary-General's Note on the Peacebuilding Support Office

Background

The Outcome Document of the 2005 World Summit requested the Secretary-General “to establish, within the Secretariat and from within existing resources, a small peacebuilding support office staffed by qualified experts to assist and support the Peacebuilding Commission and drawing from the best expertise available.”

Functions of the Peacebuilding Support Office

The proposed Peacebuilding Support Office will have four primary functions:

- (1) Strategies for Peacebuilding. The Office will advise the Commission, through the Secretary-General, on options for comprehensive peacebuilding strategies. The Office will prepare substantive inputs for the Peacebuilding Commission including by gathering and analyzing information in order that the Commission may best work with national authorities in formulating a peacebuilding strategy. At periodic intervals, the Office will assess progress towards peacebuilding goals and advise common, if necessary on suggested changes in overall strategy. The Office will also assess existing coordination between all national, bilateral, regional and multilateral peacebuilding efforts. The Office will provide strategic-level analysis to inform and guide Secretariat operational planning processes for peacebuilding activities. In consultation with Departments and with the Integrated Mission in the field or Country Team as appropriate, the Office will advise the Secretary-General on the options available on the nature, timing, sequencing and strategic management of UN peacebuilding efforts in a given situation as well as on the progress of any peacebuilding strategy. The Peacebuilding Support Office will facilitate improved coherence of UN departments, funds, programmes and agencies and to ensure that UN peacebuilding efforts support national ownership and national capacity-building to the maximum extent possible.
- (2) Funding of Peacebuilding and Recovery Activities. The Office provide a comprehensive overview of all assessed, voluntary, grant-based and other financing for all peacebuilding activities in a particular country. The Office will, through the Secretary-General, advise the Peacebuilding Commission on the best ways to ensure sustained financing of recovery and development activities, including those aimed at national capacity-building.
- (3) Best Practices and Cross-Cutting Peacebuilding Issues. The Office will systematically collect information on lessons learned in UN peacebuilding missions and will provide advice as requested on best practices relevant to

peacebuilding. The Office will work with the rest of the UN system to develop policy guidelines on UN cross-cutting peacebuilding activities as appropriate.

- (4) Other Support to the Peacebuilding Commission. The Office will prepare any other substantive inputs requested by the Commission. The Office will advise, through the Secretary-General, on appropriate UN Secretariat, Agency, Fund and Programme representation in its country-specific meetings and on other invitations as appropriate. The Office will advise the Commission as requested on the relevance of requests for Member States for advice. The Office will assist the Commission in making the outcome of its discussions available to all relevant bodies and actors of the United Nations, including the International Financial Institutions. The Office will assist as requested in drafting the annual report of the Commission to the General Assembly. And the Office will liaise with the Department of General Assembly and Conference Management which will provide meeting services and related support to the Commission.

The Peacebuilding Office may also need to assist the Secretary-General identify appropriate situations on which he may require the advice of the Commission.

The Peacebuilding Support Office will need to act as a hinge between the UN system on the one hand and the Peacebuilding Commission on the other, working to ensure maximum coordination between UN departments, agencies, funds and programmes and identifying ways in which the UN system can best assist national authorities and the Peacebuilding Commission in formulating and implementing an integrated peacebuilding strategy. The Office will represent the Secretary-General, at his request, at meetings of the Peacebuilding Commission and at external meetings relevant to the work of the Peacebuilding Support Office. The Office will need to maintain an active liaison function not only with other UN departments, agencies, funds and programmes relevant to peacebuilding, but also with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the regional development banks and, as appropriate, regional and sub-regional economic communities.

The Peacebuilding Support Office will not replace or duplicate the capacities of existing operational actors including Secretariat departments, agencies, funds and programmes. Capacities for operational peacebuilding activities will remain in other parts of the Secretariat and the UN system, including the lead role assigned to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in the management of peacekeeping missions. The role of the Peacebuilding Support Office will be to facilitate coherence, identify gaps, recommend ways in which these gaps may be addressed, and ensure that the Peacebuilding Commission is able to draw as necessary, in a timely and efficient manner, on the system as a whole.

The Expertise Required

For the Peacebuilding Support Office to provide the support and assistance above, it will need to be multidisciplinary and have within it a range of knowledge or expertise.

Expertise on specific issues (for example civilian policing or elections or refugee reintegration) will remain within the relevant department, agency, fund or programme; the Office should be able to draw on this expertise as required.

The Office will instead require staff with prior experience in the strategic planning and management of post-conflict efforts including, but not limited to: staff with strategic planning experience; staff who have themselves served in the governments of countries undergoing post conflict transitions and are familiar with the challenges facing these governments; staff who have served as advisors and assistants to the head of the UN peace operations who are familiar with the challenges of establishing and managing UN post-conflict efforts, including for example setting up transitional governing arrangements; staff with experience working in post-conflict situations, including in the area of public finance; and staff who have managed funding processes and who are familiar with international donor funding mechanisms

A mix of expertise and backgrounds will be critical to assist and support the Peacebuilding Commission in the functions outlined above, again drawing as required on more issue-specific expertise within (and outside if necessary) the UN system.

The Placement of the Office

The Peacebuilding Support Office will be placed in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General. As the Office will have a system-wide facilitation and coordination functions in support of the Commission, placing the Office in any existing department, agency, fund or programme would severely circumscribe its ability to play this role. Rather the Office should seek to bring together perspectives, plans and best practices from throughout the UN's political, peacekeeping, humanitarian and development bodies.

The Resources Required and the Structure of the Office

The Office will require sixteen professional staff in order to properly fulfill the functions outlined above, assuming that the Peacebuilding Commission will on average examine 4-5 active country situations per year.

The Office will be headed by an Assistant Secretary-General who may be asked to represent the Secretary-General at the Commission (including the Commission's country-specific configurations). He/she would be assisted by a deputy at the D2 level.

The Office will have a strategic planning section headed at the D1 level with six additional professionals as well as a section devoted exclusively to transitional financing issues with two professionals. Gathering and analyzing the information likely to be required and requested by the Commission, working closely with national authorities, the UN mission in country (if any) and the UN system as a whole will require the resources of at least three full-time professionals on any given country situation.

The Office will also have a best practices section of three professionals who will work closely with relevant sections and branches throughout the system as well as with experts outside to jointly develop a repertoire of best practices and ensure that these inform all the work of the Office as well as the proceedings of the Commission. This systematization of collecting best practices should help feed the strategic planning process for future cases.

Two additional professionals will be assigned to other support for the Commission, including the preparation of the annual regular report on peacebuilding and other documentation which may be requested.

Setting-up the Office

The Outcome Document had requested that the Peacebuilding Support Office be prepared to support the Peacebuilding Commission, which was to begin its work no later than 31 December 2005. In order to meet this ambitious deadline, the Secretariat has made temporary arrangements to support preparations for the establishment of the Office. Thus far, however, no one has been hired to work in the Peacebuilding Support Office.

PERMANENT MISSION OF DENMARK TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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Enclosure
1

File
5.E.7.a

Date
5 December 2005

Excellency,

We are writing to you in our capacity as co-Chairs of the informal consultations convened by the President of the General Assembly on the Peacebuilding Commission.

At the conclusion of our first round of informal consultations on 3 November, the co-Chairs were mandated by the Membership to present a draft resolution; subsequently presented by the President of the General Assembly on 18 November. The text attempted to find reasonable compromise language and strike a balance on all outstanding issues taking into account comments made by Member States during the informal consultations, as well as in written communications and in bilateral contacts. Our goal has been to create a Peacebuilding Commission that would be effective, functional and that could make a difference on the ground.

When presenting the draft resolution on November 18, the President of the General Assembly encouraged Member States to examine the draft resolution in this light and with flexibility in mind to work towards finding an agreement as soon as possible. He encouraged Member States to communicate – in writing or verbally – their comments to the draft to the co-Chairs as well as to the Member States at large.

We wish to thank Member States for their many comments. While some were generally supportive, others were critical, and several restated positions taken in earlier rounds of consultations.

The World Summit decided to establish the Peacebuilding Commission as an advisory body with the main purpose of bringing together all rele-

vant actors to marshal resources and to advise on and propose integrated strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery. As Member States will recall, the Peacebuilding Commission is intended to fill an institutional gap, and was never supposed to duplicate or, indeed, alter the responsibilities of existing bodies of the United Nations.

The issues, on which Member States apparently continue to disagree, remain the same:

- 1) The Peacebuilding Commission's interaction with the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council.
- 2) The composition of the Organizational Committee.

The World Summit left us with a task and a deadline. No later than 31 December 2005, the Peacebuilding Commission should begin its work. The question is simple: Are we ready to implement the decision taken by our Heads of State and Government? In order to do so, we must all be prepared to make the necessary compromises and concessions.

We may not have found the right answers to each and every potential problem in relation to the functioning of the Peacebuilding Commission. No design of a new body can ever anticipate fully every situation or challenge it might encounter. That is why we, as co-Chairs, have included a review paragraph in the draft resolution, which will allow us to revert to the matter at a later stage and correct possible imperfections in light of the experiences gained.

Our next round of informal consultations will take place on **Tuesday, 6 December at 3:00 p.m.**

At these consultations the co-Chairs intend to focus on the two outstanding issues, referred to above, separately. For us to be able to have a full and balanced picture of the views of the membership as a whole, we would benefit if your views were brought to the table and presented in a fashion that reflects enough flexibility to reach an agreement.

We strongly urge delegations not to make prepared statements and not repeat well-known positions, but to participate in an interactive and constructive discussion in which solutions can be found.

The deadline given to us by our Heads of State and Government is approaching fast. Time has come for us to demonstrate that we are able to reach agreement on the outstanding issues and thereby ensure the implementation of our leaders' decision.

If we all approach our forthcoming consultations in this spirit, we are convinced we can reach the common goal; namely to give hope for a better future for the many men, women and children living in countries emerging from conflict. We cannot fail these expectations. This is also an historic opportunity for the General Assembly to prove itself.

We count on your cooperation and look forward to this – hopefully final - round of consultations.

Attached, please find a list, provided by the Secretariat, of the top contributors of military personnel and civilian police to United Nations missions. A note on the Peacebuilding Support Office will be circulated before the meeting Tuesday 6 December 2005. A list covering financial donors and a note on the Peacebuilding Fund are being prepared.

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

Yours Sincerely



Ellen Margrethe Loj
Permanent Representative of Denmark
Ambassador

Yours Sincerely



Augustine P. Mahiga
Permanent Representative of Tanzania
Ambassador

Monthly average of military personnel and civilian police
provided by the top fifteen contributors to
United Nations Missions over the past 3 years

| Country | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 | 3 year monthly average | Rank |
|--------------|------|------|------|------------------------------|------|
| Pakistan | 9617 | 7862 | 4638 | 7240 | 1 |
| Bangladesh | 8372 | 7276 | 3587 | 6296 | 2 |
| India | 6122 | 3075 | 2827 | 3884 | 3 |
| Nigeria | 3094 | 3457 | 2861 | 3140 | 4 |
| Ghana | 3173 | 3029 | 2119 | 2750 | 5 |
| Kenya | 3452 | 2375 | 1791 | 2486 | 6 |
| Uruguay | 2871 | 2145 | 1757 | 2222 | 7 |
| Jordan | 2480 | 2042 | 1580 | 2008 | 8 |
| Ethiopia | 3422 | 2527 | 90 | 1930 | 9 |
| Nepal | 2253 | 2009 | 893 | 1687 | 10 |
| South Africa | 1499 | 1887 | 1207 | 1533 | 11 |
| Morocco | 1707 | 1333 | 658 | 1205 | 12 |
| Ukraine | 795 | 1346 | 1063 | 1084 | 13 |
| Argentina | 1008 | 804 | 586 | 787 | 14 |
| Poland | 707 | 732 | 736 | 726 | 15 |

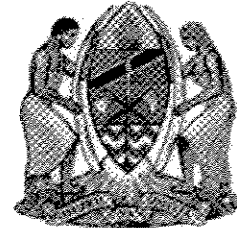
Explanatory Notes:

1. Source: DPKO
2. Method of compilation: based on a monthly average over a three year period.
3. 2005 data is based on the first ten months.

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Enclosure

File
5.E.7.a

Date
14 October 2005

Excellency,

We are writing to you in our capacity as co-Chairs of the informal consultations convened by the President of the General Assembly on the Peacebuilding Commission. Our consultations earlier this week proved very useful and we thank participants for their valuable contributions.

As earlier mentioned by the co-Chairs, **Monday, 17 October at 15:00 p.m.**, we will convene a briefing in the context of informal consultations. For this meeting, we as co-Chairs have invited the following representatives from the field level:

SRSGs Allan Doss from UNMIL in Liberia,
SRSG Carolyn McAskie from ONUB in Burundi,
SRSG Juan Gabriel Valdes from MINUSTAH in Haiti,
Ashraf Ghani, President of the University of Kabul.
Mats Karlsson, World Bank, Country Director, Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone,

Some of the panellists will address the members via video-link. In regard to the agenda, we refer to our letter of 11 October.

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

Yours Sincerely

Yours Sincerely

Ellen Margrethe Loj
Ambassador

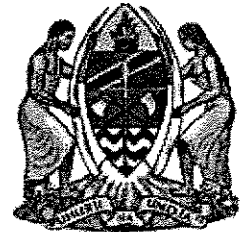
Augustine P. Mahiga
Ambassador

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Enclosure

File
5.E.7.a

Date
11 October 2005

Excellency,

We are writing to you in our capacity as co-Chairs of the informal consultations convened by the President of the General Assembly on the Peacebuilding Commission.

We welcome the contributions made at the first such consultations on 7 October on the outstanding issues regarding the Commission, as outlined in the President's letter of 6 October. The discussion last Friday showed that further clarification is needed on some of the basic issues regarding which a divergence of opinions persist among Member States.

We believe that it would be helpful at this stage to look for a common understanding of how the Peacebuilding Commission is supposed to operate in practice. What concrete role the Peacebuilding Commission can and should play, including what outcome it should produce, in order to sufficiently fill the institutional gap in the United Nations system identified in the High Level Panel Report and the Secretary-General's "In larger freedom" report. Once that has been done, we can revisit the outstanding institutional questions with more clarity, focus and, one would hope, common understanding.

Therefore, we have decided to convene two meetings to examine underlying, operational aspects of peacebuilding, including some not resolved in the Summit Outcome Document. In his letter of 6 October, the President already mentioned the intension in the coming weeks to invite representatives from the field for a discussion on what peacebuilding means on the ground. We can also benefit from the experience of those at Headquarters who plan and/or liaise with field operations and compile lessons learnt.

Our next round of informal consultations will take place on **Wednesday, 12 October at 10:00 a.m. in the ECOSOC Chambers**. For this meeting, we as co-Chairs have invited the following representatives from United Nations entities in New York:

Sally Fegan-Wyles, Director, UN Development Group Office
 David Harland, Chief, Peacekeeping Best Practices Unit, DPKO
 Mark Bowden, Chief, Policy Development and Studies Branch, OCHA,

For this meeting, and the following meeting with representatives from the field, the agenda will revolve around the following questions:

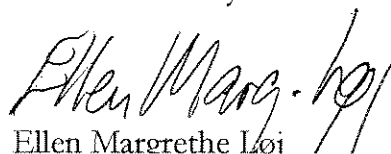
- When does peacebuilding come about and how does peacebuilding evolve, e.g. what are the approximate stages of peacebuilding activities and what actors and elements/instruments are most relevant at the various stages;
- How is peacebuilding operationalized, e.g. what local and international structures are best suited to ensure effective, coordinated action, and how do we ensure national ownership and sustainable results;
- What would the best way for the Peacebuilding Commission to insert itself into the process, so as to add value by providing greater direction and coherence; how will various local and international actors benefit from its advice, including the institutional actors in New York;

The co-Chairs will invite brief presentations from the panellists to introduce their experiences relating to these themes, and we will welcome comments and questions from delegations, not least those with experiences of peacebuilding and post-conflict recovery. Our aim is an informal interactive debate, rather than prepared statements.

These two meetings will help the General Assembly President and us as co-Chairs, as we proceed to work on the options available on the outstanding issues, on which we continue to welcome written contributions from Member States.

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

Yours Sincerely


 Ellen Margarethe Lövi

Yours Sincerely


 Augustine P. Mahiga



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?

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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