

20 November 2009

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Ali Abdussalam Treki,
President of the 64th Session of the General Assembly,
on the report of the Peacebuilding Commission (Item 10); and the
report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund (Item
108)**

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

In recent years, peacebuilding has come to be recognized as an essential and integral component of a comprehensive approach to peace and development. The challenge of assisting countries emerging from conflict move towards sustainable peace, and the imperative of preventing relapse of conflict, was duly acknowledged by the 2005 World Summit. The establishment of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund as the new UN institutional architecture was a logical outcome, responding to the need for a more coherent system-wide approach and strengthened capacity for successful peacebuilding.

Into the fourth year of its operation, this joint debate provides a useful opportunity to the general membership to assess the performance of the new peacebuilding architecture and to suggest ways and means of improving it further. We need to reflect deeply on how and to what extent the vision and objectives of peacebuilding have been put to practice. We should always keep in mind that for the millions of people struggling to win back their future from a past shattered by conflict and devastation, what matters most is the tangible benefit on ground, the improvement in their daily lives brought about by peace-building. These people are the best judge of their priorities and interests. Their voices should be heard first and foremost. That is why the principal of national ownership is the corner stone of an effective peace-building partnership.

This partnership must also address the complex underlying issues – the interlinked military, political, development, humanitarian and other dimensions of conflict situations. Sustained integrated strategies backed by adequate resources are required to respond to these challenges. Such strategies also entail a more effective and operational interface between peacekeeping and peacebuilding activities. It is a serious undertaking, whose success depends on the commitment and collective political will of Member States.

It is this commitment and support that the Peacebuilding Commission must continue to enjoy, given its important mandate, which it has carried out quite admirably since 2006. The upcoming review of the Peacebuilding Commission, mandated by the founding resolutions A/RES/60/180 and S/RES/1645(2005), I hope will provide an opportunity to not only renew our commitment to the cause

of peacebuilding but also to ensure that the Peacebuilding architecture is adequately equipped and adapted to perform its core mandates.

I have been in consultation with the Presidents of the Security Council regarding the process for this review. We have agreed that the review needs to be conducted in an open and inclusive manner. To this end, I intend to appoint two facilitators.

I hope this review will prioritize the effective delivery of political and economic support to countries emerging from conflict, and that Member States would combine their energies to reach an outcome which corresponds to the high expectations for more responsive, effective and efficient peacebuilding by the United Nations.

Thank you.