Security Council Open Debate on the Maintenance of International Peace and Security: Interdependence Between Security and Development
11th February 2011, Security Council Chamber (GA-TSC-01)

Statement by H.E. Mr. Octavio Errázuriz, Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations.

At the outset, I would like to thank the delegation of Brazil for its decision to convene this important debate focused on the interdependence between international security and development in the search for sustainable peace in the world. I should also like to express my thanks to the Secretary-General for his important briefing this morning; Mr. Eugène-Richard Gasana, Chairman of the Peacebuilding Commission, for his valuable contribution to this debate; and Ms. Sarah Cliffe of the World Bank, for her clear and substantiated statement.

Chile associates itself with the statement delivered by the Permanent Representative of Thailand on behalf of the Human Security Network, to which we belong.

The long experience of the United Nations in the prevention and resolution of conflicts shows us that the issue of development — or, rather, the lack thereof — is at the source of many of the conflicts that have been on the agenda of the Security Council. Security imposed by peacekeeping operations carries no guarantee that security will be sustained or that conflict will not eventually re-emerge. In order to avoid that there is a need for several factors to come together: security, the strengthening of the rule of law, respect for and promotion of human rights, the empowerment of women and the establishment of conditions that foster development. That is the only way to achieve sustainable peace.

In that regard, the issue of development and a country's social conditions — whether with regard to the levels of unemployment, hunger or poverty — and the way we address those challenges are issues that should be taken into account and assessed by the Council when it authorizes mandates for peacekeeping operations. We agree with today's presidential statement that "reconstruction, economic revitalization and capacity-building constitute crucial elements for the long-term development of post-conflict societies and in generating sustainable peace". (S/PRST/2011/4)

That is especially true in today's world, where the vast majority of crises that affect international peace and security have to do with internal conflicts and civil wars. In such cases, underdevelopment, poverty, unemployment and social marginalization pose underlying challenges to a State's governance, stability and unity. The Council cannot ignore those aspects in adopting informed decisions in the search for sustainable peace.

In that connection, it seems to us essential to point out that adequately addressing the interrelationship between security and development entails an effort in coordination and coherence of the actions of each United Nations body. This is not about bringing development issues to the Security Council, as the Council's work can take up the perspectives on development that can be provided by the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly, the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant bodies, funds and programmes of the United Nations and pertinent regional entities.

In the 2005 Summit Outcome, heads of State and Government recognized the need to establish the Peacebuilding Commission in order to help post- conflict States by providing a comprehensive perspective. With regard to the recommendations of the co-facilitators of the 2010 Peacebuilding Commission review process, which have been approved in various Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, with a view to establishing and maintaining an informal and fluid dialogue between the Council and the Commission, my country believes that one concrete proposal could be to incorporate that dialogue into the Council's Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. We know well that both peacekeeping and peacebuilding are two sides of the same coin. We are pleased that the presidential statement recognizes the need for coordination and dialogue with the Commission.

Finally, I wish to highlight two emblematic cases.

The first is Africa, which so many times has been an object of concern for this Council, and of sustained attention from Brazil. As recognized in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the

promotion of durable peace and sustainable development (S/1998/318), this is a region where the interrelationship between development and security is undeniable, and the Council must continue and deepen its efforts to include the factors of economic and social development that impact peace and security in the region.

Likewise, the case of Haiti is especially close to us — a sister nation confronting pressing challenges in its path to peace, political stability and economic and social development. In this case, my country also believes that, without neglecting the tasks of security, in a gradual and sustained manner, this Council is in an excellent position to help the United Nations system create appropriate conditions for the country's sustained and sustainable development, with full independence in the context of democracy and political stability and with strict adherence to the principle of national ownership that is suitable to the corresponding mandates so that, with an integrated focus, the required national capacities can be generated.