

Security Council Open Debate on Peacebuilding in the Aftermath of Conflict
Wednesday, October 13, 2010

Statement by H.E. Mr. Claude Heller, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations

We thank you, Mr. President, and your delegation for having organized this meeting. We welcome the statements by the Secretary-General and Ambassador Wittig, Permanent Representative of Germany, in his capacity as Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission.

My delegation acknowledges the value of the reports we have before us (S/2010/386 and S/2010/466) and shares the view that we must place peacebuilding at the very centre of the work of the United Nations in various areas, including the participation of women and the strengthening of the Organization's peacebuilding capacity.

Meeting the challenge of peacebuilding requires a collective endeavour that rests upon the pillars of the United Nations: peace and security, human rights, development and humanitarian affairs, while guaranteeing respect for international law and always focusing our efforts on generating and strengthening national capacity. We welcome the recommendations contained in the report (S/2010/386) on the action plan to strengthen capacities and mechanisms to ensure an effective, systematic, planned and consistent response by the Organization in matters relating to peacebuilding in the aftermath of conflict. We consider it relevant to establish new guidelines for the integrated planning process for peacekeeping missions in order to bolster the collective and coordinated work of United Nations agents in the field and to achieve a greater complementary effect in the sectors of peace, security, humanitarian assistance and development.

We reiterate the importance of deploying an increased international civilian capacity in a prompt and coordinated manner in countries emerging from conflict, in particular taking advantage of the capacities of the southern hemisphere and of women, taking into account their important contribution in generating national capacity, in particular in spheres such as the strengthening of the rule of law, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, security sector reforms, mediation and electoral assistance.

We await the study by the Peacebuilding Support Office of ways to extend and improve the list of available civilian experts, including the role of the United Nations Volunteers programme. Likewise, we acknowledge the importance of developing strategic relations between the United Nations and the World Bank with a view to articulating effective responses and improving coordination and the collective impact on the ground on the basis of accountability and the delimitation of functions and responsibilities.

With regard to the report on the participation of women in peacebuilding (S/2010/466), we welcome the plan of action aimed at implementing resolution 1325 (2000) through concrete peacebuilding measures. Over the past 10 years, the Security Council has made progress and has put in place a solid framework for its gender agenda. But the time has now come for it to adopt concrete measures that enjoy the full support and political backing of the Security Council, as well as the political will of States, the United Nations system and strategic partners.

We support the plan of action for the participation of women and its seven commitments. We are aware that it is an ambitious plan, but it can be achieved by joining the efforts of all of us who make up the United Nations. Likewise, it will be crucially important to ensure that all the relevant agencies, including the recently established United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, participate actively to ensure women's contributions in conflict resolution and decision-making processes and that their particular needs are taken into account in the very design of security and justice strategies.

In discussing positive actions that should be undertaken by States at this stage of the peace process, countries have an unparalleled opportunity to ensure respect for the human rights of women and to contribute to their involvement in the civilian, political, social, cultural and economic spheres.

Last December, the Presidents of the General Assembly and the Security Council named Mexico, together with Ireland and South Africa, as co-facilitators of the Peacebuilding Commission review process. During the first semester of this year, we held informal, open consultations with Member States, wide-ranging debates with key

agents in the United Nations system, and meetings to consult with a broad range of interested parties and associates. On 21 July 2010, we submitted a report (S/2010/393, annex) that reflects the opinions that Member States transmitted to us in the context of a broad-ranging, open, transparent and inclusive process.

Subject to the views of our colleagues from Ireland and South Africa, we believe it important to draw attention to the specificity of this dual process. That is, both the General Assembly and the Security Council should continue to work on the basis of the recommendations contained in the report, in the interest of strengthening and raising the profile of the Peacebuilding Commission.

I conclude by expressing the support of my delegation for the presidential statement that we will be adopting at the end of this meeting.