

**Security Council Open Debate on Post-Conflict Peacebuilding: Institution Building**  
**21st January 2011, Security Council Chamber (GA-TSC-01)**

*Statement by Mr. Gonzalo Gutiérrez, Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations*

We wish to thank the Security Council, in particular the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, for the timely convening of this debate and the drafting of the concept paper (S/2011/16, annex), which helps the Council to give greater thought to key elements of a more effective Peacebuilding Commission and contributes to the organization and planning required to implement the recommendations emanating from the review process.

Peru attaches the greatest importance to adopting comprehensive and multidimensional strategies for peacebuilding in post-conflict situations. Such strategies promote security, development and good governance in close coordination with all United Nations system agencies. The adoption of a needs-driven or a demand-driven approach and the prevention of a resurgence of conflict are crucial pillars in the design of a comprehensive strategy. In that regard, we believe that a needs-driven approach must take account of the specificities of each case and of national priorities, thereby facilitating a targeted response.

In his report on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict, the Secretary-General pointed out priority areas in which peacebuilding work should be conducted simultaneously. One of the key main areas involves the importance of a cross-cutting and holistic security strategy in which priority is given to development and institution-building. The crosscutting strategy reflects the need to include early peacebuilding efforts during the implementation of peacekeeping processes.

In order to prevent a resurgence of conflict, it is imperative to rebuild and bolster the institutional capacities of the country in question. Institutionbuilding is an indispensable factor of sustainable socio-economic development. A comprehensive peacebuilding strategy, which must include provisions for institution-building, should be based on national ownership and a prior assessment of existing national capacities. In that way, international support and cooperation will fill the gaps where capacity is lacking and strengthen the areas where there are weaknesses. The implementation of the Agenda for Change and the poverty reduction strategy in Sierra Leone could serve as useful examples in evaluating positive aspects and areas for improvement through a lessons-learned approach.

In implementing the strategy, it is imperative to establish mechanisms for inclusion to ensure the maximum involvement of society and the public and private sectors. Such an approach will mend the social and political fabric as a framework for the rule of law and will lay the foundation for the country's reconstruction. In that regard, we should recall that the empowerment of women and the gender perspective are key factors in generating capacity and in the peacebuilding process, as underscored in the Secretary-General's report.

Particular attention must also be paid to job creation and training for young people who are unemployed or underemployed, and who are a high-risk and potentially disruptive factor in the transition to peacebuilding and institution-building. It is also essential to sustain close and ongoing coordination with local stakeholders and partners providing international assistance, with particular emphasis on regional cooperation, South-South cooperation and North-South triangular cooperation. This will ensure the implementation of a needs-driven strategy on the ground and take account of the experience and expertise of the partners.

Peru believes that determining the origin of a conflict and the need for a transition towards peace and for the rebuilding process — and therefore for early peacebuilding efforts and a preventive dimension — are aspects that must be taken into account when the mandate of a peacekeeping operation is first established. These considerations must be part of the groundwork for a comprehensive peacebuilding strategy, including in rebuilding and strengthening institutional capacities.

The Security Council and the Peacebuilding Commission, in particular its Organizational Committee, have a crucial role to play in drafting mandates for peacebuilding operations and in formulating and implementing the aforementioned comprehensive strategy. Mechanisms must therefore be established so that the Peacebuilding Commission, as a subsidiary body of the Council and the General Assembly, can develop active and frequent coordination with both the Security Council and the General Assembly.

Finally, I reiterate the importance my country attaches to the Peacebuilding Commission maintaining its primary advisory and catalytic role within the system, which ensures the consistency, flexibility and effectiveness of the work of the United Nations in peacebuilding processes and in implementing the Secretary-General's action plan.