

**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. Mr. Sangqu, Representative of South Africa to the United Nations

We wish to congratulate the delegation of Brazil for organizing this debate on the maintenance of international peace and security focusing on interdependence between security and development. We welcome His Excellency Minister Antonio Patriota to the Council, and are pleased to see him presiding over this meeting. We acknowledge the presence and participation of the Foreign Ministers of India, Germany, Colombia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Portugal, and the Vice Minister of Gabon at this meeting. Unfortunately, my Foreign Minister, Ms. Nkoana-Mashabane, could not be with us today. She sends her best wishes, and is confident of the positive outcomes of this meeting.

We also thank Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, the Chairman of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) His Excellency Mr. Eugène-Richard Gasana, Permanent Representative of Rwanda, and the World Bank Special Representative, Ms. Cliffe, for their informative contributions.

We thank the delegation of Brazil for its concept paper for this debate (S/2011/50, annex). My delegation will focus on five key areas, namely, the changing nature of conflicts and the nexus between security and development, the role of regional organizations, South-South cooperation, integrated approaches, and resource mobilization and coordination.

Since 1945, the United Nations has been seized with the task and responsibility of addressing the critical issues of peace, security, human rights and development within the framework of the Organization's Charter.

The United Nations report "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all", highlighted that: "Not only are development, security and human rights all imperative; they also reinforce each other ... [W]e will not enjoy development without security, we will not enjoy security without development, and we will not enjoy either without respect for human rights. Unless all these causes are advanced, none will succeed". (A/59/2005, paras. 16 and 17)

In that context, South Africa is convinced that peace and stability in the world will remain elusive if we do not address the nexus between security and development. As a result of that conviction, we see our own development as inextricably linked to the peace and security of the southern African region, the African continent and the rest of the world.

The nature of contemporary conflicts reveals that such conflicts are, to a large extent, precipitated by dispute-related economic development issues, including access to mineral resources, the disproportionate distribution of wealth and power, bad governance, the lack of people's participation in democratic processes, and corruption, to mention but a few. In the context of Africa, the illegal exploitation of natural resources has contributed to the fuelling of conflicts. As a consequence of that reality, it is important to assist countries emerging from conflict to manage and redistribute the revenues derived from those resources in a manner that enhances people's livelihoods.

Consideration of the interdependence of security and development in the work of the Security Council on the maintenance of international peace and security does not necessarily mean the Council taking over the developmental functions undertaken by other bodies within the United Nations system. It simply means that the Council should take social and development issues into account in relevant deliberations within its Charter mandate.

South Africa is of the view that it is vital to integrate developmental aspects in international efforts in the areas of conflict prevention, resolution and management and post-conflict peacebuilding. In that regard, we welcome the efforts of the United Nations interdepartmental Framework Team on Early Warning and Prevention and the ongoing review of the Economic and Social Council.

We also welcome the work of other members of the international community, including the international

financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, as important and critical partners in sustaining peace efforts with development in countries emerging from conflicts. Equally, we emphasize the importance of context-specific and nationally owned interventions, such as the poverty reduction strategies.

In addition, the international private sector and institutions should be involved in development efforts to reinvigorate the lives of the populace by providing jobs, especially for vulnerable groups, such as young people and demobilized and demilitarized armed groups, in an attempt to create sustainable livelihoods. In this connection, the importance of building sustainable social safety systems cannot be overemphasized.

Development requires a significant amount of resources that most post-conflict countries do not have. In light of this fact, we encourage the international community to make available sufficient, timely and predictable resources for post-conflict peacebuilding and development programmes.

The establishment of the PBC in 2005 was a recognition of the need to fill the gap between peacekeeping and peacebuilding, thus complementing the interdependence between security and development. Similarly, we welcome the recognition by the Security Council of the link between peace, security and development, which is reflected in the integrated approaches to peacekeeping today. In this context, we appreciate the fact that some United Nations peacekeeping and political missions, including the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste, the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and others, have civilian components that are structured under development and security pillars.

The Council is unified in welcoming the outcome of the historic Southern Sudan referendum. The international community should be cognizant of the huge development needs of a new, independent South Sudan. A future successor mission to the United Nations Mission in the Sudan will have to incorporate a strong element of State-, institution- and capacity-building in its mandate, while addressing issues of security, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, and security sector reform, among others.

South Africa also calls for a strengthened and enhanced cooperation and information-sharing between the Security Council and other United Nations bodies, such as the PBC, the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations Development Programme, aimed at concretizing the crucial interdependence between security and development. My delegation strongly supports the call for greater coherence, coordination and interaction between various United Nations organs and agencies.

We encourage the Council to seize the opportunity and make optimum use of the advisory role of the PBC in relation to socio-economic and other peacebuilding matters. We also encourage close coordination between all stakeholders, including the inclusion of women and civil society in peacebuilding and development issues.

Regional and subregional organizations have a crucial role to play in efforts aimed at promoting the nexus between security and development. The African Union (AU) has, over the years, shown commitment to resolving African conflicts and promoting socio-economic development on the continent. In this context, the stabilization of Africa needs to be anchored in concrete socio-economic development programmes. The AU has adopted the New Partnership for Africa's Development as a key mechanism for the achievement of this socio-economic development paradigm.

Further, the AU has adopted a post-conflict, reconstruction and development programme as one tool to promote reconstructive development programmes in countries emerging from conflict and to offer peace dividends that hold better hope for anchoring peace and stability. The creation of regional economic communities at the subregional level and the development of conflict-resolution mechanisms within these structures are crucial steps towards sustainable peace through sustainable economic development.

South Africa continues to work through bilateral, trilateral and multilateral forums towards the advancement of development as a long-term measure for preventing conflicts. Within the South-South realm, the India, Brazil and South Africa mechanism plays an important development role through projects in Haiti, Palestine, Guinea-Bissau, Burundi and Sierra Leone, among other countries. Additionally, South Africa is currently in the process of establishing a South African development partnership agency, which will play a significant role in supporting socio-economic and human resource development in the countries of the South, particularly in Africa, including through trilateral cooperation with the countries of the North.

In conclusion, my delegation supports the adoption of the draft presidential statement on this crucial topic at the end of this meeting. We hope that today's debate will highlight the importance of development aspects in dealing with conflict situations that the Council is seized with, and thus enhance the work of this body.