

**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. Collin D. Beck, Permanent Representative of the Solomon Islands to the United Nations

Madame President, thank you for organizing this timely open debate on the interdependence between development and security. As pointed out in Brazil's concept paper (see S/2011/50), a series of similar discussions has taken place over the years. At this juncture, let me thank Brazil for that concept paper, which provides a number of reference documents but also poses thought-provoking questions.

A common thread that runs through all past discussions on the issue before us is the linkage between development and security. They are the two sides of the same coin. It is now an established fact that the Council, in discharging its role in the maintenance of international peace and security, will need to examine and address the root causes of conflict. Only by doing so can long-term sustainable peace be globally achieved. The Council, as advocated by the concept paper, must take due notice of actors in the other principal United Nations organs, in particular the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other subsidiary bodies, including the Peacebuilding Commission.

The linkage between development and security is best summed up by our 2005 Summit document (General Assembly resolution 60/1) and the report of the then Secretary-General, Kofi Annan (A/59/2005). The purpose of multilateralism is to provide our populations with freedom from want, freedom from fear and freedom to live in dignity. These populations include our youth, women and children and our rural communities.

As we look at the global environment, we see that the global financial markets have since improved. However, the environment remains fragile. External factors, depending on their health, shape and size, influence the level of instability and conflicts risk throughout the world.

The situation for Member states operating on the fringes of the international system is more brutal. These countries will need to be put on a special watch list with a dedicated development package. Countries with low income, low growth and dependence on natural resources and those vulnerable to climate change have a high conflict risk. Least developed countries and some small island developing States fall into this category. If not confronted decisively and meaningfully, climate change will determine our future. It is for these reasons that resolutions of the General Assembly have requested the Council to look at the security implications of non-action on global issues, including climate change. We therefore request the Council to be seized of this subject.

We still have the opportunity to enhance the maintenance of international peace and security. The climate change funds promised need to be released in a transparent manner through a United Nations multilateral body. The trust and confidence restored in Cancún remain fragile, and non-delivery threatens multilateralism. For the least developed countries, the Fourth United Nations Conference in May this year must deliver. We must break with business as usual; three 10-year programmes in the past three decades have not yielded the results we have been seeking. The Istanbul programme of action must be responsive to the development aspiration of least developed countries, allowing at least half to graduate from the group within the coming decade.

At all levels, the maintenance of international peace rests on the quality of development partnership, which must be balanced and strengthen national capacities with people-centred investment in the productive sectors. The Group of Seven Plus group of fragile countries led by Timor-Leste is seeking dividends of peace and quality, air-tight partnerships between partners and post-conflict least developed countries, and continues to add its support to this discussion. My delegation, with a watchful eye and hopeful spirit, looks forward to the outcome of this discussion, and once again thanks Brazil for its initiative and all Council's members for their support at this gathering.