

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

Statement by Mr. Justin N. Serubere, Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations

Madam President, I thank you for convening this timely debate on post-conflict peacebuilding and institution-building. The United Republic of Tanzania fully supports the concept of and need for institutionbuilding and sees it as an indispensable requirement for preventing post-conflict communities from relapsing into conflict. I have trust and confidence in your leadership qualities, Mr. President, so I have no doubt that you will stir this debate to a fruitful conclusion.

We welcome the statement of the Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission, His Excellency Ambassador Peter Wittig, Permanent Representative of Germany; that of the Non-Aligned Movement, read by the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, Ambassador Abulkalam Abdul Momen; and the joint statement of the Chairs of the country-specific configurations for Guinea-Bissau, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Burundi, read by His Excellency Ambassador Jan Grauls, Permanent Representative of Belgium.

Speaking from past and recent experience, the United Republic of Tanzania supported in practical ways the successful processes that ended conflicts in southern Africa and the Great Lakes region. The vision of my country has always been to see the transformation of post-conflict societies into a space of sustainable peace and security of States and peoples, stability as well as shared growth and development. That wisdom is, as a matter of fact, enshrined in the Dar es-Salaam Declaration on Peace, Security, Democracy and Development in the Great Lakes Region, adopted in November 2004.

The former Secretary-General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, once said that there is no security without development and no development without security. We draw inspiration from the wisdom of both the Dar es-Salaam Declaration and the dictum of Kofi Annan. In order realize that inspiration in the Great Lakes region, where peacebuilding processes are ongoing — and, indeed, elsewhere — institutionbuilding is critical. It is also critical that such institutions lead ultimately to lifting living standards of the people in the post-conflict stages. That way they can also attain the Millennium Development Goals and reach desirable human development indices.

“Peace-building: institution-building” will benefit not only post-conflict societies but also the entire world and the international community. The United Republic of Tanzania says so because, as experienced in the Great Lakes region and elsewhere, local wars suck in other countries from near and far. Thus preventing conflicts and the recurrence of conflicts is beneficial to all humankind.

It is desirable and paramount that all Member States and the international community provide support of every kind to institution-building in post-conflict societies and their neighbours in order to establish, consolidate and promote good governance, democracy, rule of law, respect for human rights, security and stability, as well as economic growth, development and integration. Where that cannot be done by supporting individual States, it should be accomplished through subregional and regional approaches.