

Intervention by Ambassador Bhagwant S. Bishnoi, Deputy Permanent Representative of India at an Ambassadorial-level meeting of Organizational Committee, Peacebuilding Commission, United Nations on March 11, 2015

Mr. Chair,

I would like to welcome you back to New York in your new capacity as Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations and congratulate you on assumption of PBC Chairmanship. I wish you all success in this endeavour. The ninth session of PBC is important especially due to ongoing Peacebuilding Architecture (PBA) review.

Mr. Chair,

I would like to express our sincere appreciation for the excellent work done by the previous chair Ambassador Patriota. He and his team did an outstanding job in advancing the work of PBC. The successful completion of preparatory process for 2015 Peacebuilding Architecture (PBA) review, PBC response to the outbreak of Ebola and organization of the first annual session on the theme "Sustainable support for peacebuilding: the domestic and international aspects" in June 2014 during his able chairmanship deserves special mention.

We would also like to appreciate good work being done by chairs of other five country configurations namely Burundi, Sierra Leone, Central African Republic, Guinea and Liberia as well as Japan in its capacity as Chair of PBC Working Group on Lessons Learned and congratulate them for their re-election as chair of respective country configuration. We also thank Assistant Secretary General Oscar Taranco for his very useful remarks earlier today.

Mr. Chair,

At the opening of the 9th session of PBC, we would like to take this opportunity to briefly reiterate what we feel should be some of the important principles that guide peace building.

Mr. Chair,

Peacebuilding, once described as the "missing middle" between peacekeeping and durable peace, is important. It is necessary to rebuild institutions and infrastructure in nations torn by civil war if we want to solidify peace and avoid a relapse into conflict. A certain amount of external guidance is implicit in peacebuilding, but it should not be at the cost of local ownership and agenda. It is the primary responsibility of national governments of countries emerging from conflict to identify priorities and strategies for peace building in order to ensure national ownership.

Mr. Chair,

The Commission, its Organizing Committee and its Country-Specific Configurations have done commendable work in mainstreaming peacebuilding in post-conflict countries. The Security Council's engagement on peacebuilding in recent years has also helped to emphasize the critical role of peacebuilding. However, deeper engagement and commitment of the Security Council is imperative to ensure long-lasting peace and avoid relapse to into conflict.

Mr. Chair,

Peacebuilding anchored firmly in the overall peace process will deliver the best results. This requires the international community to make available a predictable and appropriate level of resources over extended periods. It is important that our advocacy must be accompanied by matching commitments in resources.

Mr. Chair,

I would like to assure my delegation's constructive support and participation in the PBC work under your able chairmanship.

Thank you.