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REMARKS TO THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

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1. I am very pleased to present the Secretary-General's report on civilian capacity in the aftermath of conflict to the Committee today.
2. The report focuses on UN support to national institution-building after conflict. It is an update report which provides additional information to the report made in the 67th session. New information is provided on results, lessons learned on supporting national ownership, and outreach, in particular to the Global South. It signals the completion of the work of the Civcap team, and outlines how lessons learned in this area can be taken forward in future through existing structures and business processes, within their mandates.
3. Let me first recall the origins and scope of the Civilian Capacities initiative. The General Assembly, in Resolution A/66/255, stressed the importance of supporting national capacity development and institution-building, encouraged the United Nations to broaden and deepen the pool of civilian expertise for peace-building, and requested the Secretary-General to draw on all relevant expertise in the development of initiatives to support national capacity.
4. The General Assembly resolution followed the 2011 report of the Secretary General on Civilian Capacities and the Senior Advisory Group headed by former USG for peace-keeping Jean Marie Guehenno, which noted that without strong national capacity and institution, the risks of renewed violence remain. The Senior Advisory Group also identified the five capacity gap areas which have been the basis of Civcap – inclusive political processes; safety and security; justice; core government functionality and economic revitalisation. This message remains highly relevant today, where we have integrated missions facing challenges of how best to support mandated national capacity-building in diverse situations, from Haiti to Liberia to Mali to Somalia to South Sudan.
5. So this report summarises lessons learned within that overall scope over the last two years. The report describes key results of the initiative in Section II. Results have included the development of comprehensive guidance material to support national institution-building; improved system-wide coordination mechanisms such as the Global Focal Point for Police, Justice and Corrections; identifying new sources of

expertise, in particular in the Global South; and the application of strengthened approaches at a country level.

6. After describing results, the bulk of the report is on the principal lessons learned, clustered around three areas:
 - a. Improved support to institution-building, grounded on national ownership;
 - b. Broadening and deepening the pool of expertise, and;
 - c. Enhancing regional, south-south and triangular cooperation.
7. In Section III, the report describes key lessons learned on how the United Nations can define, within existing planning and budget processes, realistic institution-building outcomes which support national ownership and the resources needed to achieve them.
8. It does so without making any proposals to change the format, structure, sequencing or presentation of budgets; rather, it articulates how the United Nations can present more information to Member States to support decision-making in these areas.
9. It outlines (in paragraphs 23 – 25) measures to strengthen integrated assessment, planning and implementation as well as clear division of labour between missions and country teams. Drawing upon the complementary capacities of UN missions and country teams— as defined in A/RES/2086 - does not change the existing mandate of any of the UN entities, but it helps them avoid duplication and maximise their collective support.
10. In paragraph 27, it outlines the need for: clear delineation of institution-building outcomes; information on how national decision-making cycles may affect or change the activities carried out by the mission; and description of the mix of inputs required. These measures should sharpen the focus on institution-building results in the planning process and support a more systematic link between planning and resourcing.
11. It also highlights as a lesson learned the need to produce a few key results, quickly, across the political, security, justice, economic and social sectors, in order to build the confidence of the conflict-affected populations in their national institutions. The Report does not make proposals for new measures in this regard, but indicates that integrated assessment and planning processes will have a renewed focus, where mandated on the support needed for institutions to deliver such rapid confidence-building results. These processes would also identify where gaps in support to core political, justice or security institutions in mandated areas may threaten peace and security, so that this risk can be drawn to the attention of Member States.
12. Concerning sustained financing of national institutions, the report notes that the importance of senior leadership teams working with host governments and the IFIs to identify the costs needed to sustain national institutions to ensure that robust financing frameworks are in place. Since most post-conflict countries lack domestic resources in the aftermath of conflict and are dependent on external funding, this is why paragraph

35 calls on Member States to ensure sustained and predictable financing to support national institution-building after conflict.

13. Section III of the report thus summarises the main lessons on support to institution-building grounded in national ownership, and presents a systematic series of steps to apply them from the earliest stages of the planning processes right through mission drawdown and transition. We recommend that the GA explicitly consider and encourage application of these lessons through the measures described.
14. Section IV of the Report presents lessons learned and future actions on outreach, particularly through the CAPMATCH pilot. This showed that relevant civilian expertise is available amongst member states, particularly amongst the global south. CAPMATCH attracted a large number of participants, with more than two thirds from the global south. It supported the provision of a broader pool of candidates for existing selection processes, resulting in deployments of specialised expertise to Liberia, Yemen, Cote D'Ivoire and South Sudan.
15. The CAPMATCH pilot period also showed, however, that human outreach to field presences and supplier countries is needed to support existing business processes, both to refine requirements, build a sustained relationship and work through the issues required to make deployments possible. Member States indicated that they wanted to engage with the United Nations, with such outreach provided through the normal structures of the Secretariat and through established selection processes. The report therefore focuses on existing workforce planning and outreach capacities in DFS, together with the thematic areas of expert outreach in OROLSI and other functional elements within DPKO and DPA.
16. The last section of the report addresses south-south, regional and triangular cooperation, as well as partnerships with IFIs. Such cooperation can be very valuable to post-conflict countries, in drawing on the experiences of institution-building of the global South in a broader range of programmes, and ensuring a coordinated approach to the financing of capacity-building needs. This cooperation is based on voluntary financing.
17. In conclusion, the challenges of supporting national ownership and national institution-building will continue to be of central importance in the coming years. We believe that this report, which benefitted from a strong consultative process during its preparation, lays out some essential lessons learned which can be important for the organisation going forward. I would therefore like to again, thank the Committee for the opportunity to present the report, and look forward to comments and questions from the members.