



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

16 December 2008

Excellency,

As you will recall, on 11 July 2008, the General Assembly decided, as an interim measure, to extend the term of office of the members of the Assembly on the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission, whose term should have expired on 22 June 2008, namely, Burundi, Chile, Egypt, El Salvador and Fiji, until 31 December 2008 to enable a viable solution to be found regarding the allocation of seats among the regional groups. Previous to this, similar extensions were also made by the Economic and Social Council as well as the troop contributing countries regarding their respective members.

During the current session, I have invited Ambassador Yukio Takasu, Permanent Representative of Japan and Chairman of the Peacebuilding Commission, to undertake consultations for such a solution. I am most grateful to him for his diplomacy and expert negotiation skills that culminated in a stakeholders' informal meeting held this morning.

With the understanding and cooperation of all the regional group chairs and focal points as well as representatives of the various bodies that comprise the Organizational Committee, I am optimistic that an agreement will soon be reached to allow the elections to take place before the recess of the session.

Part of the agreed solution is the consensus that, beginning with the election to be held during the current session, the term of office of the members of the General Assembly on the Organizational Committee of the Commission shall begin on 1 January instead of 23 June.

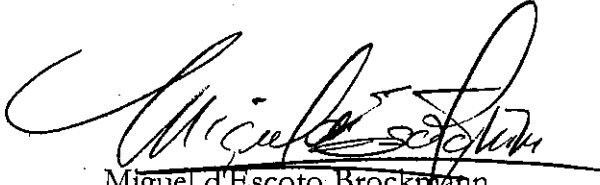
In this connection, I am attaching herewith a draft resolution which I will submit for circulation, with the intention for action by the General Assembly on Thursday, 18 December, on the understanding that the Economic and Social Council will take similar action immediately thereafter.

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

This draft resolution also aims to extend until 31 December 2009 the term of office of Georgia and Jamaica, two other members of the General Assembly whose term is supposed to expire on 22 June 2009. By so doing, all seven members of the General Assembly on the Organizational Committee will have the same starting and expiration dates of their term of office. Other bodies that comprise the Organizational Committee are also invited to make similar adjustment.

I will be grateful for your support of this draft resolution so that the election of the members of the General Assembly on the Organizational Committee can finally take place.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann

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**General Assembly
Sixty-third session
Agenda item 104 (b)
Election of seven members of the Organizational
Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission**

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

**Election of seven members of the General Assembly on the Organizational
Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission: term of office**

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005), both of 20 December 2005, in which the Assembly and the Council concurrently operationalized the decision by the 2005 World Summit¹ to establish the Peacebuilding Commission as an intergovernmental advisory body,

Recalling in particular paragraphs 4 (a) to (e) and 5 of the above-mentioned resolutions setting out the arrangements for the composition of the Organizational Committee of the Commission,

Recalling also its resolution 60/261 of 17 May 2006 on the arrangements for the election of seven members of the General Assembly of the Organizational Committee of the Commission,

Recalling further General Assembly decision 62/410 B of 11 July 2008, whereby the term of office of the members of the General Assembly on the Organizational Committee of the Commission that was due to expire on 22 June 2008 has been extended to 31 December 2008,

1. *Decides* that, beginning with the election to be held during the sixty-third session, the term of office for the members of the General Assembly on the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission shall begin from 1 January, instead of from 23 June;

2. *Also Decides* that the term of office of the two members of the General Assembly on the Organizational Committee of the Commission due to expire on 22 June 2009, namely Georgia and Jamaica, shall be extended to 31 December 2009;

3. *Invites* other bodies with members on the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission that have not yet done so, to adjust the term of office of their respective members so all members of the Organizational committee can start the term of office from 1 January.

¹ See resolution 60/1.