

**Peacebuilding Commission**  
**Sierra Leone Informal Country-Specific Meeting**  
**Discussion on the Annotated Outline of the Sierra Leone Compact**

**May 9 2007**

***Summary Note of the Chair***

**I. Introduction**

1. The **primary purpose** of this informal meeting was to have a preliminary exchange of views on the Annotated Outline of the Sierra Leone Compact. The meeting also provided an opportunity for the members of the Peacebuilding Commission to discuss next steps in their engagement with Sierra Leone in support of the country's peacebuilding efforts.

2. The meeting was **chaired by H.E. Frank Majoor, Permanent Representative of the Netherlands**. In his opening remarks Ambassador Majoor noted that one of the key outcomes of the PBC delegation's visit to Sierra Leone was an agreement to develop a Framework for Cooperation or a Compact. As a **framework for mutual accountability**, such a Compact would contain **specific actions** that the Government of Sierra Leone and the PBC would commit themselves to undertake in order to address the most critical challenges and threats to sustaining and consolidating peace. The Compact would be an important tool for guiding the work of the PBC in Sierra Leone. Ambassador Majoor thanked the Government of Sierra Leone for developing an annotated outline of the Compact and initiating a consultative process on the Compact with civil society, the UN and other international partners.

3. The Government of Sierra Leone was represented by **H.E. Mr. Momodu Koroma**, the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Minister Koroma thanked the PBC for its continued support for the peace consolidation efforts in Sierra Leone. He noted that the current annotated draft of the Compact presents a good starting point for discussions with the PBC and for broader consultations with key stakeholders in Sierra Leone. These additional consultations would ensure that the first draft of the Compact is focused on **achievable and targeted commitments** by the GoSL and the PBC. Noting that the engagement of the **PBC should aim to provide additional political, financial and technical support** to Sierra Leone, he reaffirmed his government's support for the Compact as a medium-term cooperation framework. The Minister also noted that the Compact could serve as a framework to facilitate the **PBC's advocacy role** in enhancing dialogue and strengthening partnerships between Sierra Leone and its international partners.

4. In his statement, **Mr. Victor Angelo, Executive Representative of the Secretary General (ERSG) in Sierra Leone**, thanked the PBC for its continued support and the recent visit of the PBC delegation to Sierra Leone. He noted that the visit sent a strong political message that Sierra Leone is not a "post-conflict orphan" and that the international community will provide sustained attention and support to its ongoing peacebuilding efforts. He welcomed the leadership role of the government of Sierra

Leone in the development of the outline of the Compact. He also suggested a number of specific issues that could be considered in the first draft of the Compact.

5. In a short statement **Ms. Carolyn McAskie, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding**, briefed the PBC on the UN technical mission's visit to Sierra Leone from April 23-May 3, 2007. She noted that the primary purpose of the visit was to assist the government of Sierra Leone in the development of the Compact.

## **II. General Observations**

6. The following members of the PBC in New York participated in the discussion: Germany on behalf of the EU, Egypt, India, Indonesia, United Kingdom, Luxembourg, Chile, Guinea, Pakistan, Ghana, World Bank, Croatia, United States, El Salvador, and Jamaica. In addition to the GoSL a number of other stakeholders such as the UK, EC and Civil Society representatives joined the discussion via telephone from Freetown. Their comments focused on the substance of the Compact and the process for its development. (See attached annex for the list of participants in Sierra Leone).

7. PBC members **welcomed the annotated outline** as a good starting point for their discussions. They noted that the outline captures well the principles for cooperation, priorities for peacebuilding and cross-cutting issues that need to be addressed in the Compact. They also expressed support for the **consultative process** that has been initiated by the GoSL on the drafting of the Compact and urged its continuation in the next few weeks.

8. Members of the PBC agreed that the Compact provides an opportunity to define **synergies between existing strategies and frameworks** such as the Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Peace Consolidation Strategy and the Improved Governance and Accountability Pact. Furthermore, the Compact could strengthen the commitment for their continued implementation. In order to measure progress and ensure implementation of the Compact, a number of PBC members stressed the need to have a strong **monitoring and review mechanism** and a limited number of peacebuilding **indicators**. In this regard, the GoSL was urged to consider what would be the best mechanism to ensure adequate review of the Compact without unnecessarily adding to the reporting burdens of the government.

9. Many PBC members also stressed the importance of adequately reflecting the sub-regional dimensions of peacebuilding in the Compact. In this regard they suggested efforts for strengthening the Mano River Union Secretariat.

## **III. Recommendations and Next Steps**

10. A number of member states made specific recommendations for commitments to be included in the Compact, noting that there is a need for relevant stakeholders in Sierra Leone to continue discussions on them.

11. Under the area of **youth employment and empowerment**, it was suggested that the Compact could look at the implementation of the National Youth Policy, strengthening of the District Youth Committees, and the expansion of the GoSL Youth Employment Scheme. Under **good governance and consolidation of democracy**, PBC members suggested considering the implementation of the Political Parties Code of Conduct, review of the Anti-Corruption Strategy as well as support to the constitutional review process, the decentralization process, and the May 2008 local elections.

12. Under **justice and security sector reform**, the Compact should consider reducing the backlog of cases at the district-level courts, support to the National Human Rights Commission, passage and implementation of the gender equality related bills, and continued support for security sector reform. Under **capacity-building**, the Compact should consider measures to support a comprehensive civil service reform programme, and strengthening coordination mechanisms to ensure greater cooperation between the government and its international partners.

13. At the end of the meeting, it was agreed that the GoSL, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders in the country, will produce a **first draft of the Compact by early June** for a discussion with the PBC on June 20. Following the June meeting of the PBC the Compact would undergo further revisions at the country level and would be then be finalized after Sierra Leone's August elections.

## **Annex I. List of Participants in Freetown, Sierra Leone**

### **I. Government**

Hon. Momodu Koroma, Minister- Foreign Affairs& International Cooperation  
Hon. Umaru B. Wurie, Ambassador at Large, Foreign Affairs& International Cooperation  
Hon. Dr. Mohamed L. Kamara, Deputy Minister, Foreign Affairs& International Cooperation  
Mr. Sahr E. Johnny, Foreign Affairs& International Cooperation  
Mr. Paul A.S. Minnah, Foreign Affairs& International Cooperation

### **II. International Partners**

Ms. McIntosh, British High Commission  
Mr. Robert Collett, British High Commission  
Mr. Hans Allden, European Commission Delegation, Sierra Leone  
H.E. Mr. Cheng Wenju, Ambassador, China  
Mr. Cheng Yan, Chinese Embassy  
Mr. Mokowa Blay Aou-Gyamfi, Ghana High Commission  
H.E. Mr. Dembom Badjie, Gambia High Commission  
H.E. El Sayed Nabil, Egyptian Embassy  
Mr. Martin Schwarz, German Embassy  
Ms. Graine O'Neil, Irish Aid  
Ms. Susie Pratt, US Embassy  
Ms. Christine Shecker, USAID  
Mr. Engilbert Gudmundsson, World Bank

### **III. Civil Society**

Ms. Nana Pratt, MARWOPNET  
Ms. Harrite Turay, 50/50  
Mr. Mohamed Kamara, AMB Development NGO  
Mr. Edward Jambala, WANEP/Sierra Leone  
Mr. Tennyson Williams, Action Aid International Sierra Leone  
Ms. Emma Kamara, Civil Society (CSPEC)

### **IV. United Nations**

Mr. Fioner C Kaikai, UNFPA  
Ms. Felicity Zawaira, WHO  
Mr. Gebremedhin Haggos, Chief, Peace and Governance Section, UNIOSIL  
Mr. Nega Berhanemeskel, UNIOSIL  
Mr. Rudolpho Landeros, UNIOSIL  
Mr. Benedict Sannoh, UNIOSIL  
Mr. Israel Jigba, UNIOSIL  
Ms. Harnik Deol, UNIOSIL  
Ms. Maria Kantamigu, UNIOSIL  
Mr. Frederik Brock, UNIOSIL  
Mr. Rui Flores, UNIOSIL