



Invitation

Open High-level UN Group of Friends of SSR Meeting: Security Sector Reform: Consolidating Priorities and Looking Beyond 2015

H.E. Mr. František Ružička
*Permanent Representative
of the Slovak Republic*

H.E. Mr. J. N. Kingsley Mamabolo
*Permanent Representative
of the South Africa*

request the pleasure of the company of
the Permanent Representative and expert of the Mission

on Thursday, 12 February 2015 at 10:00 - 12:30
Venue: Trusteeship Council Chamber, CB, UN Headquarters

for a discussion to

- a) examine and consolidate priorities for implementation of SCR 2151 and expected impact and*
- b) explore initiatives in the context of the preparation of the Summit on Post-2015 Development Agenda and General Debate*

with key speakers

H.E. Mr. Jan Eliasson, *Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations;*
H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák, *Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign
and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic*

For your convenience please find enclosed a Concept Note and draft agenda

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Names:

Mission:

- ☐ *I will attend*
- ☐ *I am not able to attend*

High-level UN Group of Friends of SSR Meeting

Security Sector Reform: Consolidating Priorities and Looking Beyond 2015

***hosted by the Slovak Republic and the Republic of South Africa
in their capacities as co-Chairs of the Group of Friends of SSR***

12 February 2015, 10:00-12:30;

Venue: Trusteeship Council Chamber, UN HQs, New York,

Background

The adoption of the first UN Security Council Resolution (SCR 2151) on Security Sector Reform (SSR) on April 28, 2014 has been a milestone for the UN SSR agenda as it signifies a new level of political commitment, based on broad member state support, to meet the increasing demands for UN SSR support. While implementation is already underway, it is important to ensure a common strategic vision and outline the key elements of the impact that we expect from UN SSR support in the framework of SCR 2151. The need for a high-level discussion is even more pressing now that the United Nations is embarking on several strategic reviews and planning processes that hold the potential for long-term and ground-breaking impact on our work. The review of peacekeeping operations and that of peacebuilding have been initiated and we look forward to the adoption of a new Development agenda in 2015. The important role that SSR has to play in post-conflict, peacebuilding and development context is enshrined in SCR 2151.

Objective

The high level meeting of the Group of Friends of SSR will provide an opportunity to reflect on and consolidate the priorities that should guide the implementation of SCR 2151 which have emerged from a number of conferences and discussions held over the course of 2014. Building on the lessons learned thus far discussions should also reflect on the role that SSR can play in supporting the achievement of the post-2015 development agenda. In this regard the High level meeting may provide an impetus for initiatives of the Group of Friends of SSR, in cooperation with interested regional and sub-regional partners as well as the United Nations system, to leverage its ability to contribute in the upcoming review of peacekeeping operations and peacebuilding including in the preparation and the lead up to the summit for the adoption of the post-2015 agenda (A/69/L.43).

Discussion

Emerging priorities for implementation of SCR 2151 and expected impact

Throughout 2014 there have been a number of high level policy and technical debates within and outside the UN on SSR providing valuable contributions to the discussion on strategic priorities. Participants will have an opportunity to hear about the conclusions and recommendations made during at those meetings, including the African Forum on Security Sector Reform, held in Addis Abba from 24-26 November 2014. From those discussions some priorities have already emerged.

First, the need to ensure that the UN develops the necessary capacity, tools and approaches so as to more consistently, effectively and substantially venture into complex areas of SSR, has been consistently voiced. The discussion should allow for a critical review of UN capacity, structures, and

approaches that need to be reinforced, developed or adapted to meet the new commitments.

Second, it has been acknowledged that more systematic efforts need to go into continued review and evaluation of SSR processes, to better understand structural, process or capacity impediments to progress. How can the UN best use its capacity, experience and expertise to directly assist in the capacity building of national and regional institutions in developing monitoring and evaluation approaches as key element of national ownership of SSR?

Third, the need to build tangible partnerships with international and regional partners through whom critical support to SSR processes will be delivered in an effective and coordinated fashion has emerged as an imperative. What are the up-and-coming opportunities to strengthen the partnership between the UN and other regional and sub-regional organizations for SSR delivery and what should the United Nations' role be in this regard?

Looking beyond 2015 and positioning for the effective implementation of SCR 2151

We look forward to review of peacekeeping operations and that of peacebuilding including the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda during the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly, and which coincides with the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations. The synthesis report of the Secretary General on the post-2015 agenda takes account of the numerous initiatives and inter-governmental processes that have taken place so far and provides the outline of a proposed agenda. The proposed Sustainable Development Goals present a transformative framework that takes account of the role that violence, personal safety and functioning institutions of security and justice play in ensuring the long term development and prosperity of people and societies. As we have learned over the past fifteen years, countries emerging from conflict have lagged behind on many of the MDGs. It is therefore the time now to examine how our support to peace and security, including SSR during the post-conflict period and beyond should be configured to make sure that we build institutions and provide services that assist the people, their development and prosperity.

Agenda

1. Welcome

- *H.E. František Ružička*, Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the United Nations

2. Remarks

- *H.E. Jan Eliasson*, United Nations Deputy Secretary-General
- *H.E. Sam Kutesa (tbc.)*, *President of the 69th Session of the UN General Assembly*
- *H.E. Miroslav Lajčák*, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Slovak Republic
- *H.E. Kingsley Mamabolo*, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations
- *H.E. Mankeur Ndiaye(tbc.)*, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Senegal
- *H.E. Bård Glad Pedersen*, State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway
- *H.E. Irakli Sesiasvili*, *Chairman of the Defense and Security Committee of the Parliament of Georgia*
- *H.E. Joy Ogwu*, Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations
- *Mr. Magdy Martínez-Solimán*, Assistant Administrator and Director, Bureau for Policy and Programme, UNDP
- *Mr. Dmitry Titov*, Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions

3. Discussion (45 minutes)

4. Closing Remarks and way forward