



17 June 2010

The Office of the President of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions and Permanent Observers to the United Nations and has the honour to attach the draft programme of the thematic debate entitled “UN Peacekeeping-looking into the future” to be held on Tuesday, 22 June 2010.

The Office of the President would like to encourage Member States to engage in an interactive manner with the panelists without formal statements in order to have productive discussions.

The Office of the President of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly avails itself of this opportunity to reiterate to all Permanent Missions and Permanent Observers to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York
17 June 2010

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

General Assembly Thematic Debate

UN Peacekeeping: looking into the future¹

Tuesday, 22 June 2010

ECOSOC Chambers, Temporary North Lawn Building, UN Secretariat, New York

Draft Program

09:30 – 10:00 Opening

- H.E. Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki, *President of the General Assembly*
- H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, *Secretary-General*

Keynote speaker

- Mr. Lakhdar Brahimi, *Former Special Adviser to the Secretary-General, Former Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan*
"UN Peacekeeping: Overview of Challenges and Opportunities since the Brahimi Report of 2000"

10:00 – 11:00 Special Session on Building Partnerships and Securing Capabilities

Partnerships are crucial in securing the required capabilities for peacekeeping missions commensurate with their mandates. In this Special Session, Troop Contributing Countries will share their experience and expertise on, *inter alia*, the best ways to establish a meaningful partnership between those who authorize, those who implement and those who receive peacekeeping operations.

Special Presentations

- H.E. Mr. Henry Odein Ajumogobia, *Minister of Foreign Affairs, Nigeria*
- H.E. Mr. Luis Almagro, *Minister of Foreign Affairs, Uruguay*
- Major General (Rtd.) Tarique Ahmed Siddique, *Cabinet Minister, Bangladesh*
- Pakistan
- India

Remarks

- Mr. Alain Le Roy, *Under-Secretary-General, Department of Peacekeeping Operations*
- Mr. Anthony Banbury, *Assistant Secretary-General, Department of Field Support*

¹ Letter dated 22 April 2010 from the President of the General Assembly

11:00 – 12:00 Panel One: Political dimensions of UN Peacekeeping

This panel will focus on the political dimensions of peacekeeping including questions of political will and support for peacekeeping operations and the interlinkages and mutual impact of peacekeeping missions and political processes. It will address the centrality of political processes in multidimensional and complex operations, their evolving nature, from the signing of a peace process, to the launching, quite often, of a democratic process, the fostering of national reconciliation and the building of national capacity to sustain political processes after the end of the conflict. This panel will also consider the role of international and regional actors in the successful conduct of peacekeeping missions.

Panelists

- President Martti Ahtisaari, *Former President of the Republic of Finland, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate 2008*
- H.E. Ambassador Álvaro de Soto, *Senior Fellow, Ralph Bunche Institute, Associate Fellow, Geneva Centre for Security Policy, Former United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process*
- H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, *Joint Special Representative for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID)*

Moderator

- Mr. Terje Rød-Larsen, *President of the International Peace Institute*

Focus of Discussion

The importance of sustained political will and engagement throughout the life cycle of a mission, strategies for leveraging support for a peacekeeping operation and the responsibility of the international community in this regard

- How to maintain political engagement and support not just in the early phases of a mission but throughout its life cycle?
- How to ensure that missions' resources and capabilities match their mandates?
- How should a peacekeeping mission ensure continued consensus around its objectives?
- How to manage expectations and overcome obstacles?

The political challenges facing UN peacekeeping operations

- How to ensure that the presence of a peacekeeping operation contributes to moving the political process forward?
- Does the current conduct of complex missions ensure the extension of State authority?
- How should UN missions deal with "spoilers"?
- How to manage the high expectations associated with the deployment of a peacekeeping operation in the face of limited success in achieving long-term settlement?
- How can peacekeeping support and foster national reconciliation as part of the peace process?

The critical role of partnerships with and engagement of regional stakeholders

- How do UN peacekeeping operations work with regional and other partners to maximize their effectiveness?
- What is the role of neighboring countries in supporting political processes and responding to challenges to peace?

12:00 – 13:00 Discussion and Q&A with Member States

15:00- 16:00 Panel two: Multidimensional Peacekeeping Operations: Towards sustainable peace, peacebuilding and the nexus between security and development

This panel will focus on peacebuilding perspectives in the design of complex and multidimensional operations and how early peacebuilding tasks feed into and reinforce medium and long-term peacebuilding and development. In particular, this panel will emphasize the links between the security and economic aspects of sustainable peace, and address how UN peacekeeping operations can be rooted in dynamic and early partnership with all relevant actors in the field.

Panelists

- President John Agyekum Kufuor, *Former President of Ghana, Former Chairperson of the African Union, Chairman of Interpeace*
- Dr. Ashraf Ghani, *Chairman of the Institute of State Effectiveness, Former Minister of Finance, Afghanistan*
- Mr. Justin Yifu Lin, *World Bank Chief Economist and Senior Vice President, Development Economics*
- Ms Ellen Margrethe Loej, *Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Liberia (UNMIL)*

Focus of Discussion

- To what extent have the multidimensional peacekeeping missions been successful in promoting a comprehensive approach for sustainable peace and development?
- How can peacekeeping mandates facilitate the sequencing and prioritization of early peacebuilding tasks, including but not limited to security sector reform and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, while avoiding a linear approach that relegates other critical tasks such as national capacity development, economic revitalization and employment-generation to second priority?
- How can peacekeeping missions help initiate and facilitate the coherence of critical peacebuilding efforts which are undertaken by a number of UN and non-UN actors throughout the transition and consolidation phases (e.g. *inter alia* support for economic revitalization and provision of basic services, safe and sustainable return and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons, and restoring core government functions)?
- To ensure the coherence of efforts, how can multidimensional peacekeeping operations enable and provide legitimate frameworks for the integration of strategies and the exchange of information among all actors in the planning and delivery of peacebuilding activities at the country level?
- In view of the political and fluctuating nature of peacebuilding challenges and processes, how can national and international actors promote a shared and long-term vision for peacebuilding from the early stages of peacekeeping?

16:00 - 18:00 Discussion and Q&A with Member States

Concluding Remarks

- Mr. Alain Le Roy, *Under-Secretary-General, Department of Peacekeeping Operations*
- H.E. Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki, *President of the General Assembly*