**Press Release by the Guinea-Bissau Country-Specific Configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission**

Following the meeting of the Peacebuilding Commission on the situation on Guinea-Bissau held on 6th May 2019, at which members of the Commission were briefed by Mr. José Viegas Filho, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS), Mrs. Maria Antonieta Pinto Lopes D’Alva, Chargée d'affaires a.i of the Permanent Mission of Guinea Bissau to the United Nations, Mr. Tanou Koné, Permanent Observer of Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, and Ms. Barrie Freeman, Director and Deputy Head of the Peacebuilding Support Office;

The members of the Peacebuilding Commission congratulate the people and the Government of Guinea-Bissau for successfully concluding the legislative elections on 10 March 2019.

The members of the Commission call upon the political stakeholders of Guinea-Bissau to sustain their commitment to the Conakry Agreement, and the national authorities to organise the presidential elections within the legally-mandate timeframe in 2019.

The members of the Commission call for an appointment of a new Prime Minister and the formation of a new Government in accordance with the Constitution of the country.

They encourage all political stakeholders to resolve the deadlock related to the election of the Bureau of the People’s National Assembly, as a means to transition to political stability.

They reaffirm their commitment to sustain an active engagement of the Commission with the Government of Guinea-Bissau and relevant stakeholders as well as regional organisations, with the view to maintaining the long-term peacebuilding priorities of the country and to increase its role in supporting sustainable peace in Guinea-Bissau.

The members of the Commission support efforts aimed at ensuring system-wide coherence between UNIOGBIS, the UN Country Team, and all relevant international and regional actors. They underscore that the foreseen changes in the UN presence should not impair the United Nation’s capacity to respond to the country’s peacebuilding needs and priorities.

The members of the Commission commend the Economic Community of Western African States (ECOWAS) and other regional organizations for their important work towards the country’s stabilization. They also reiterate their appreciation for the cooperation received from the Special Representative of the Secretary-General José Viegas Filho and the UNIOGBIS team.