



**El futuro
es de todos**

Cancillería
Misión Permanente de Colombia
ante la ONU en Nueva York

PBC – Chair of PBC Configuration
New York, 11 February 2019
Talking points

- I would like to warmly welcome all of you to this informal breakfast meeting. We are pleased to see you and be able to have an informal talk about the works of the PBC for 2019.
- Colombia assumes this chairmanship as an opportunity for the PBC to achieve the key goals that will improve the management and performance of this Commission in its work for the consolidation of peace.
- As I said in my inaugural statement on the 28th, Colombia's recent history, our experience in building peace and our attachment to the principle of national ownership will guide our work during the next twelve months. Our idea is to focus on the seven priorities exposed.
- First, to improve the role of the PBC as a connecting bridge between the main organs of the United Nations, such as the General Assembly, the Security Council and ECOSOC.
- Likewise, we consider that the advisory role to the Security Council has a lot of potential that can be worked on, particularly when the Council is considering the formation, drawdown and review of mission mandates
- Promoting a regional approach. We believe that the Commission could eventually play a role and enable to coordinate with various regional organizations in order to ensure that they are coherent with each other and, therefore, have a greater impact.
- Fostering closer partnerships with IFIs, regional organizations and civil society, and strengthening existing associations such as, the World Bank, the African Bank and other sub-regions such as the ECOWAS and the Mano River Union.
- We want to direct this year's agenda to improve the effectiveness among the countries receiving contributions from the PBF and strengthen the synergies between the Fund and the Commission.



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- Sharing experiences and lessons learned, not only between the members of the Commission but also with other member States, using the Commission as a platform for sharing experiences is very important.
- And finally, framed within an examination of the peacebuilding architecture for 2020, we hope to have your informal consultations to seek their views on what they expect from the next review.
- In order to have a productive year, we would like to hear suggestions and recommendations from you and your experiences as chairs of the PBC configurations. We thank each of your countries for the interventions made in the last formal meeting.
- Brazil, as chair of the Guinea Bissau configuration, mentioned the difficulties that Guinea Bissau was facing to carry on the legislative elections this year due to the issues in the electoral census. The lack of economic resources was also addressed as well as the absence of a coordinated effort among the stakeholders such as World Bank and financial institutions. The meeting last Friday was a very productive discussion, and I think that precisely in this case we have to pay attention to the coordinated efforts between the UN presence in Guinea Bissau as with the IFI and other institutions, specially this year and next, as we will face the transition and exit phase.
- Sweden specified, as chair of the Liberia Configuration, that the national development plan presented on January 31, required synergies and resources to consolidate peace. You also suggested the need of more periodic debates in the Security Council that address the PBC work. This is one of the priorities we highlighted in my first statement, and I believe that having Germany as coordinator and also Peru, will help to advance in this priority.
- The statement made by Morocco, chair of the Central African Republic configuration, addressed the progress made by this country thanks to the key role that the main organs of the UN played. Additionally, a future visit to Central African Republic and a report that



will come from it was mentioned. This report will also help us to see better ways to achieve our priorities more efficiently.

- Switzerland, as the chair of the Burundi configuration, advised the PBC to focus its attention in the electoral cycle of 2020 as well as the economic situation of the refugee programs.
- Canada, recommended that efforts should be focused on the associations with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank as their help could have been crucial for the past elections. It was also specified that Sierra Leone is still in need of assistance in institution building and the government's priorities. The role of the civil society was also mentioned as Canada declared that it was absent during the previous process, reason why it should be included in the medium term.
- All of this inputs have helped us to draft the work plan circulated last Thursday. The idea of this lunch is to hear your experiences and recommendations, as you know time flies and our work plan is very ambitious, so we want to hear from you the best ways we can achieve our goals.

