

**Statement by the Guinea-Bissau Configuration of the UN Peacebuilding Commission
welcoming the return of political stability in Guinea-Bissau.**

Following a prolonged political impasse in Guinea-Bissau, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) Guinea-Bissau Configuration met on 21 October 2015 to welcome the nomination of H.E. Mr. Carlos Correia as the new Prime Minister of Guinea-Bissau on 18 September 2015, and the confirmation of the Ministerial Cabinet sworn-in on 13 October. These milestones have consolidated the stability of the governance in Guinea-Bissau. The PBC is appreciative for the briefing by the new Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Communities of Guinea-Bissau, H.E. Mr. Artur Silva who spoke from Bissau about the government's priorities.

The PBC considers that this recent episode is an opportunity to address the underlying causes threatening Guinea-Bissau's fragile democracy. Guinea-Bissau's recent troubles tested the resolve of its politicians, its judiciary branch, the civil society and the armed forces to play a constructive role in settling differences without compromising the constitutional order of the country, through the use of dialogue and consensus.

The PBC welcomes the timely and effective mediation during the crisis in Guinea-Bissau by ECOWAS' Special Envoy, former President Obasanjo, as well as the good offices and leadership of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Miguel Trovoada. Moreover, the PBC is pleased in acknowledging the vital role of Guinea-Bissau's regional and international partners throughout the crisis.

The PBC has been and remains a steadfast partner of the people of Guinea-Bissau under any and all circumstances in full respect of the country's sovereignty. As such, the PBC has acknowledged that the challenges confronting the nascent democratic system in Guinea-Bissau must be addressed by prioritizing a comprehensive national dialogue and reconciliation process to heal the rifts of the past. In this regard, the PBC encourages national stakeholders to address the country's governance difficulties through political inclusivity and commitment to re-build the momentum for progress in key areas such as the security sector and the programme "Terra Ranka" presented to the donor community at the round table in March 2015.

The PBC reiterates its readiness to support Guinea-Bissau's authorities, including through the initiative of convening a meeting of the International Contact Group for Guinea-Bissau in the near future. Furthermore, the PBC is determined to cooperate with all stakeholders, national and international, to live up to their commitment to implement a peacebuilding agenda aimed at consolidating stability, democratic institutions and economic prosperity for all Bissau Guineans.

New York. 26 October 2015