Letter dated 11 December 2007 from the President of the Security Council to the Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission

I have the honour to refer to paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 1645 (2005) and presidential statement 38 of 24 October 2007.

In a letter to the Secretary-General dated 11 July 2007, which was forwarded to the Security Council on 26 July 2007, the Prime Minister of Guinea-Bissau requested that Guinea-Bissau be placed on the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission. The Security Council supports this request and invites the Peacebuilding Commission to provide advice on the situation in Guinea-Bissau.

The Security Council considers that the advice of the Peacebuilding Commission would be particularly useful in the following areas:

(a) Governmental capacity to institute effective oversight and management of national finances, and comprehensive public sector reform, including effective anti-corruption policies and programmes;

(b) Action by the national Government and the international community to develop effective, accountable and sustainable security systems and to strengthen the independence of the judiciary and the rule of law, taking account in particular of the dangers posed by drug trafficking and organized crime;

(c) Ongoing development of democratic accountability and preparations for elections in 2008.

The Security Council believes that the above-mentioned priorities would be among the areas that would benefit most from the Peacebuilding Commission’s expert advice as a complement to the Council’s ongoing attention to Guinea-Bissau. The Security Council would welcome the Peacebuilding Commission’s initial advice on the above priorities within 90 days.

(Signed) Marcello Spatafora
President of the Security Council