

of Ebola's impact on peacekeeping priorities, including with recommendations for focused and effective international support.

Considering the importance of the economic dimension to this crisis, we had invited senior representatives from the World Bank to our meeting last week to provide an assessment of the economic impact. According to the World Bank, the two-year regional financial impact could reach \$32.6 billion by the end of 2015. The World Bank also indicated that Liberia's revised 2014-2015 budget has an unmet financing gap of more than half of the budget deficit projected at over \$300 million. A recent assessment by the United Nations Development Programme points to the negative impact on domestic revenue generation and increased pressures on State expenditures.

As the Permanent Representative of Liberia, Ambassador Kamara, stated at our meeting last week, tensions will be rising and public confidence will be eroding as the gaps between the expectations of the people and the capacity of the Government to deliver grow wider. Social cohesion in Liberian society is being tested by this crisis, with increasing risks for disorder and political instability. As partners, we should help counter these risks, including by supporting efforts to improve State-society relations. Full transparency in the implementation of our support will be one important factor to help restore public confidence. As we have stated before, it is the Ebola virus that should be isolated, not the countries affected. Strengthening international and regional cooperation will continue to be vital to ease the burden of the crisis. We must help create the necessary conditions and advocate for businesses to return to Liberia. Suspended flights to Liberia should resume to facilitate this cooperation.

Due to the increasing risks for instability and the continued need for effective delivery of support, there

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