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Following the promising example of the Haiti Group, and responding to a request made by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council established Ad hoc Advisory Groups on Guinea-Bissau and Burundi which were active from 2003 to 2006. These Groups, which promoted a comprehensive approach to peace and development in post conflict settings, prefigured the country specific configurations of the Peacebuilding Commission, for which they constituted an “avant garde”. Interestingly, the creation of these Groups led to enhanced interaction between ECOSOC and the Security Council, particularly its Ad Hoc Working Group Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa.

In recent years, ECOSOC has followed the development situation in South Sudan since the country joined the community of nations and has maintained interaction with the Peace-building Commission under its agenda item “African countries emerging from conflicts”. However, interaction with the Security Council has diminished considerably.

Mr. President,

The time has come to revitalise the relationship between the Charter bodies of this Organization. The changing nature of conflict, from interstate wars to complex civil conflicts that are intractable and reoccurring, highlights the fundamental link between sustainable development and lasting peace. As the report of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations rightfully stressed, the promotion of inclusive economic and social development and the broadening of community engagement are key to prevent relapse into conflict, and innovative approaches are needed to integrate conflict prevention, governance, development and human rights.

The changing context of global cooperation for development through the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development further enhances this opportune moment for a revitalisation of the relationship. The Agenda seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom and recognizes the major challenge to the achievement of durable peace and sustainable development in countries in conflict and post conflict situations. It also promotes a culture of peace and non-violence.



development, for which the Security Council also has a lot to contribute. I trust that our willingness to work together and to make the best use of our respective bodies will be stronger than political and institutional cleavages. Together, the entire UN system, including its principal bodies, ECOSOC and the Security Council, can provide strong, integrated policy support and guidance, within their respective mandate and competencies, to the cause of peace and development.

Thank you very much for this invitation and for your kind attention.