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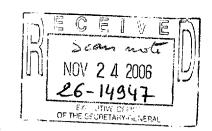
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## Note to Ms. Alicia Bárcena

## EXTENSION OF UNOGBIS' MANDATE



- I wish to refer to paragraph 1 of the attached note dated 9 August 2006, from Mr. Malloch Brown, informing me of the Secretary-General's approval of DPA's recommendation to extend the presence of the United Nations Peace-building Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS) until 31 December 2007. In that connection, I attach the draft text of a letter from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council, H.E. Mr. Oswaldo de Rivero, conveying the Secretary-General's intention, following recent consultations between his Representative, Mr. Shola Omoregie, with President Vieira and other officials in Guinea Bissau, to extend UNOGBIS' mandate until 31 December 2007.
- 2. As the draft letter makes clear, the various national and international stakeholders recognize the critical role that UNOGBIS has played towards the stabilization of Guinea Bissau. While much progress has been achieved to that end, recent political tensions between the government and opposition parties, as well as the failure to meet the financial target the government had set during the recent Donor Round Table held in Geneva from 7-8 November 2006, confirm that much more remains to be done to reach the goal of sustainable peace and progress. Many of the country's international partners, in particular, consider the continued UN political presence as vital in helping create a conducive climate for stability and the mobilization of crucial donor support.
- 3. I should be grateful if you would secure the approval and signature of the Secretary-General at your earliest convenience.

Ibrahim Gambari 24 November 2006

cc:

Mr. Kalomoh

Mr. Buo

Mr. Omoregie

1.12

2006

### Note to Mr. Gambari

# UN Peace-Building Support Offices in Guinea-Bissau and Tajikistan

- 1. Further to your note of 21 July on BONUCA and UNOGBIS, your recommendations to extend the presence of the UN Peace-Building Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS) until 31 December 2007 with a streamlined mandate, and to appoint a new RSG, are approved. I would therefore appreciate it if you would submit, as soon as possible, a list of candidates for the post of RSG.
- 2. Your proposed exit strategy outlined in your note of 28 July concerning the UN Peace-Building Office in Tajikistan (UNTOP) is also approved. Accordingly, it would also be appreciated if the EOSG is apprised in due course of the implementation and achievements of the objectives of the exit strategy

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Mark Malloch Brown
9 August 2006

cc: Ms. Bárcena Mr. Lopes Mr. Sise

DPA/OUSG

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### 8 December 2006

Dear Mr. President,

I have the honour to refer to my report of 29 September 2006 (S/2006/783) on developments in Guinea-Bissau and on the activities of the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS), in which I indicated my intention to propose a revision of UNOGBIS mandate and request its extension until 31 December 2007.

During the year 2006, UNOGBIS continued to contribute to Guinea-Bissau's stabilization and reconciliation efforts. While encouraging progress has been achieved, especially in the establishment of a framework for security sector reform, much more remains to be done to consolidate and sustain the momentum for democratic governance, in order to prevent a relapse into conflict. Recent developments have highlighted the continued volatility of the situation, as the major opposition parties have intensified pressure on President Vieira to dismiss the Government appointed just over a year ago, in October 2005.

The convening of the Donor Roundtable on Guinea-Bissau, held in Geneva from 7 to 8 November 2006, confirmed the international community's continued readiness to be supportive of the country's reconstruction efforts in a climate of peace and stability. A Secretariat assessment mission to Guinea-Bissau in May concluded that a United Nations political presence in that country remained vital in order to contribute to stabilization, without which the full resumption of development cooperation and economic investment, essential for sustainable peace and progress, cannot be guaranteed.

On 8 November 2006, Prime Minister Aristides Gomes wrote to inform me that the situation in his country remains extremely fragile, especially given that the Government's enormous resource constraints

His Excellency Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser President of the Security Council New York hampered its ability to meet its statutory responsibilities in a timely fashion. The Prime Minister, therefore, requested emergency financial assistance from the UN Peacebuilding and Democracy Funds to fill the budget gaps for 2006 and 2007. His request further demonstrates the continuing necessity for international engagement with Guinea-Bissau as it strives to consolidate peace and enhance prospects for development.

President Vieira and other senior members of his government have, in recent meetings with my new Representative, Mr. Shola Omoregie, expressed the same concerns conveyed to me by the Prime Minister and reiterated the country's desire for enhanced international cooperation, in particular with UNOGBIS, to promote peace and progress in the country.

In light of the above, I recommend that the mandate of UNOGBIS be extended for one year, until 31 December 2007, to allow the Office to continue assisting Guinea-Bissau as it pursues its difficult peacebuilding process. The proposed extension would allow UNOGBIS to operate under a streamlined mandate highlighting mediation and good offices functions aimed at promoting dialogue and reconciliation in order to reduce current divisive and polarizing pressures hampering the restoration of normalcy.

Accordingly, UNOGBIS' activities would focus on: a) supporting national reconciliation and dialogue; b) assisting with security sector reforms; c) promoting respect for the rule of law and human rights; d) mainstreaming a gender perspective into peacebuilding, in line with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000); e) promoting the peaceful settlement of disputes; t) helping mobilize international assistance reconstruction efforts; g) facilitating efforts to curb proliferation of small arms and light weapons; and h) enhancing cooperation with the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States, the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, the European Union and other international partners.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Kofi A. Annan