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Report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau and on the activities of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in that country

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to resolution 1876 (2009), by which the Security Council established the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS) and requested me to report every four months on progress made in the implementation of that resolution. The present report covers major developments since my report of 24 June 2010 (S/2010/335).

II. Political developments

2. The period under review was dominated by the efforts deployed by the authorities in Guinea-Bissau to sustain international support for the country following the military events of 1 April 2010, as well as to resolve contentious issues, including the leadership of the armed forces and national strategies to stabilize the country.

3. On 24 June, the Council of Ministers endorsed a proposal by the Minister of Defence for the nomination of Major General António Indjai as the new Chief of General Staff and forwarded it to President Malam Bacai Sanha. The next day, President Sanha signed a decree dismissing Vice Admiral José Zamora Induta as Chief of General Staff and appointing Major General Indjai, who was subsequently promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General. On 26 June, the ruling African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde (PAIGC) praised the efforts of both the President and the Prime Minister to find a solution to the crisis affecting the country since 1 April. While the opposition Social Renewal Party (PRS) also welcomed the appointment, civil society organizations voiced their concern over what they saw as a pattern of impunity in the armed forces. On 9 July, President Sanha convened a session of the Council of Defence and Security and urged the military to demonstrate higher standards of discipline, warning that members of the armed forces found to be involved in drug trafficking would immediately be dismissed. President Sanha defended the appointment and promotion of Lieutenant General Indjai as a sovereign decision in conformity with the Constitution.



4. The international partners of Guinea-Bissau, including the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the European Union and the United States of America, largely criticized the appointment of Lieutenant General Indjai because of his leading role in the events of 1 April. They also raised concerns over the detention, since 1 April, of the former Chief of General Staff. ECOWAS postponed a meeting of the Chiefs of Defence Staff of the subregion, scheduled for 28 and 29 June in Bissau; and on 29 June, the United States announced the suspension of its support for the security sector reform process in the country. On 5 July, the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Catherine Ashton, called for a review of the overall engagement of the European Union in Guinea-Bissau, in line with the provisions of the Cotonou Agreement.

5. At their Summit, held in Sal, Cape Verde, on 2 and 3 July, ECOWAS Heads of State and Government urged President Sanha to create an environment conducive to the resumption of collaboration with international partners in support of defence and security sector reforms. They also urged the ECOWAS Commission to initiate a process to ensure the safety of republican institutions. At a meeting held on 3 July on the margins of the ECOWAS Summit, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Brazil, Cape Verde and Portugal, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Angola, representatives of ECOWAS, the European Union, the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP) and my Special Representative, stressed that progress on security sector reform was a key factor for ensuring political stability and security, as well as the long-term development of Guinea-Bissau.

6. On 14 July, President Sanha stressed that his priority was to re-engage with his country's partners in support of the reform programmes in Guinea-Bissau. He underscored the fact that the suspension of their assistance would aggravate the overall situation and undermine the process of national dialogue that had commenced. In this context, President Sanha travelled to Angola from 22 to 24 July to attend the Summit of CPLP Heads of State and Government. The Luanda Declaration adopted at the end of the Summit reiterated CPLP concerns over the evolving situation in Guinea-Bissau and stressed that military insubordination was the major obstacle to the reform of the defence and security sectors, as well as a contributing factor in the resurgence of drug trafficking. CPLP reaffirmed its support for continued political dialogue between the authorities of Guinea-Bissau and international partners, while requesting a firm commitment from the national authorities to work towards improved security and political stability.

7. Subsequently, on the margins of the 15th Summit of the African Union, held in Kampala from 19 to 27 July 2010, President José Eduardo dos Santos of Angola, in his capacity as Chairman of CPLP, stated that he would not exclude the possibility of the deployment of an international mission in Guinea-Bissau to support the country's stabilization, if it were requested by the relevant national authorities. Meanwhile, as part of regional efforts to help sustain political dialogue and stability in Guinea-Bissau, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Jean Ping, appointed Sebastião Isata, of Angola, as his Special Envoy for Guinea-Bissau.

8. At a meeting held on 5 August, the CPLP Chairman, President dos Santos, the President of the ECOWAS Commission, James Victor Gbeho and the CPLP Executive Secretary, Domingos Simões Pereira, agreed to set up a joint ECOWAS-CPLP task force to coordinate their actions aimed at putting in place the necessary

conditions to implement the reform of the defence and security sectors, and to strengthen institutional and human capacities in order to assist in the consolidation of peace, stability and economic development in Guinea-Bissau. Subsequently, a joint ECOWAS-CPLP high-level delegation, led by the Secretary of State for External Relations of Angola, George Chikoti, visited Bissau from 9 to 12 August for consultations with national authorities on prospects for enhancing stability in Guinea-Bissau. The delegation, which also included the CPLP Executive Secretary and representatives of Brazil, Cape Verde and Portugal, met with all the relevant authorities, except the Prime Minister, who was out of the country.

9. During the same period, the Committee of the Chiefs of Defence Staff of ECOWAS member States and their Angolan counterpart met in Bissau on 11 and 12 August. The President of the ECOWAS Commission, the Executive Secretary of CPLP and my Special Representative also attended this meeting. In their final report, the Chiefs of Defence Staff concluded that, despite the existence of an overall strategic framework for security sector reform and related legislation, the non-implementation of key security sector reform was at the core of instability in the country. Therefore, they proposed a road map envisaging, among other things, the deployment of training and protection units to enhance the security of State institutions, the demobilization and reinsertion of selected members of the armed forces and more effective mobilization of funds to support the implementation and fast-tracking of the process of restructuring of the armed forces and the establishment of a protection mechanism for key national figures, members of the national commissions of inquiry into the 2009 assassinations and key witnesses.

10. On 17 September, in Abuja, at an extraordinary summit of the Authority of ECOWAS Heads of State and Government convened by the Chairman of ECOWAS, President Goodluck Jonathan of Nigeria, regional leaders took note of the recommendations made by the ECOWAS Chiefs of Defence Staff and of the road map developed for the speedy implementation of the security sector reform programme. They directed the ECOWAS Commission to convene a meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Mediation and Security Council with a view to their considering both the report of the Chiefs of Defence Staff and the proposed road map, and to submit their recommendations to the ECOWAS Authority at its next session. They also urged the ECOWAS Commission to continue its efforts aimed at mobilizing international partners to provide Guinea-Bissau with necessary assistance. Finally, they requested President Sanha to write to the Chairman of ECOWAS to specify the nature and scope of assistance required by Guinea-Bissau to protect its institutions and to help accelerate the implementation of the security sector reform programme.

11. The 7th working session of the International Contact Group on Guinea-Bissau, held on 24 September in New York, provided another forum for discussion of the situation in Guinea-Bissau. In its final communiqué, the Group stressed the responsibility of Guinea-Bissau for maintaining stability and constitutional order, fighting impunity, respecting the rule of law and promoting national reconciliation. It welcomed the emerging partnership between ECOWAS and CPLP in support of the Government's efforts to stabilize Guinea-Bissau. It called for greater commitment on the part of the national institutions of Guinea-Bissau to combating drug trafficking, and recalled the need for cooperation between the countries of origin, transit and final destination to control the supply and demand chain. Furthermore, the Group urged the ECOWAS Commission to convene a meeting of

the Mediation and Security Council upon receipt of President Sanha's request for support, in order to chart the way forward, in consultation with relevant international partners, for the enhancement of political and social stability in Guinea-Bissau.

12. On 1 October, President Sanha made public the letter he had addressed to the Chairman of ECOWAS on 20 September 2010 requesting support and assistance in the implementation of defence and security sector reforms in Guinea-Bissau. An adviser to the President indicated to the press that the decision to make the document public was intended to clarify the nature of the request made by the President, who had not called for the deployment of military personnel by ECOWAS.

13. At the national level, the main opposition parties, notably PRS and the Republican Party for Independence and Development (PRID), promptly rejected the concept of a stabilization mission, while civil society organizations expressed their support for such a mission. On 10 August, the Chief of General Staff stated that, while the armed forces disagreed in principle with the deployment of an international stabilization mission, they would abide by the decision of the civilian authorities. Meanwhile, on 9 August, the Political Bureau of PAIGC issued a statement endorsing the principle of a stabilization mission and requesting the Government to engage in consultations with international partners, in particular the African Union, ECOWAS, CPLP and the United Nations, in order to agree on a definitive proposal concerning the mandate, composition, duration and objectives of the proposed stabilization mission.

14. On 20 August, Prime Minister Carlos Gomes Júnior chaired an extraordinary session of the Council of Ministers, convened to further consider the possible deployment of a stabilization mission to Guinea-Bissau, and to examine the recommendations of the Committee of ECOWAS Chiefs of Defence Staff. The Government accepted the principle of the proposed stabilization mission, while stressing that its deployment should first be endorsed by all State institutions concerned and by the United Nations. It also called for immediate negotiations with international partners already supporting security sector reform, so as to fine-tune the modalities and mandate of such a stabilization mission and the road map proposed by the ECOWAS Chiefs of Defence Staff. The Government also reiterated the need to urgently establish a pension fund for defence sector personnel, in order to sustain efforts towards the implementation of genuine security sector reform. Meanwhile, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guinea-Bissau declared that while ECOWAS should take the lead with respect to the security sector reform programme, the United Nations would be responsible for the coordination and mobilization of international support.

15. In an effort to provide momentum and continued international support for the stabilization efforts of Guinea-Bissau, the country's civilian and military leadership undertook separate official visits to Angola, Brazil and Cuba, in August and September 2010. In Brazil, President Sanha received pledges of technical military assistance and in Cuba, he discussed the strengthening of bilateral ties between Guinea-Bissau and Cuba. The visits by Prime Minister Gomes Júnior and Chief of General Staff Indjai to Angola resulted in the extension of existing cooperation agreements in the areas of the economy, defence and security. The Angolan authorities subsequently dispatched a team of military and police experts to Guinea-Bissau to conduct an assessment of the type of support required for the reform of defence and security institutions in Guinea-Bissau.

16. During the reporting period, substantive progress was also made with regard to the preparatory process for the national conference scheduled to be held in 2011. On 29 and 30 June, UNIOGBIS, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), convened a training workshop for members of the organizing committee and assisted them with the drafting of the facilitation guidelines for the regional and thematic preparatory consultations. In July, UNIOGBIS and UNDP also worked closely with the preparatory commission for the national conference and with the Speaker of the National Assembly, who is leading the process, to help finalize the programme and budget of the conference. The national conference process was subsequently launched on 19 August 2010 at a ceremony chaired by President Sanha and attended by my Special Representative. The conference, which should provide an inclusive forum for the people of Guinea-Bissau in their search for solutions to consolidate peace in the country, has received the endorsement of the main political, military and religious leaders. It is envisaged that the regional and thematic preparatory consultations will include the participation of the defence and security forces. The Government of Japan has expressed a strong interest in providing financial support, alongside the United Nations system, but additional international assistance is required.

III. Military aspects

17. Military developments were mainly dominated by the concerns raised over the effectiveness of the military leadership following the promotion of Major General Antonio Indjai to Lieutenant General as the new Chief of General Staff, as well as the subsequent readjustments in the leadership of the armed forces. During his swearing-in ceremony on 29 June, the new Chief of General Staff stressed his strong commitment to remaining subordinate to the civilian leadership and to working closely with international partners to achieve tangible progress on security sector reform. Meanwhile, President Sanha undertook a series of visits to military barracks in Bissau, concluded that the state of degradation of military premises was unacceptable and called for the Government to prioritize the improvement of military infrastructure.

18. During a meeting of the Council of Defence and Security, held on 9 July and chaired by President Sanha, the military leadership reiterated its commitment to the reform of the defence and security sectors, and pledged to abide by its constitutional duties to remain subordinate to the civilian authorities and to fight relentlessly the scourge of drug trafficking within the ranks of the military. In mid-July, the Chief of General Staff initiated a reshuffling of the leadership of the Navy and the military structures of the Eastern, Southern and Central regional commands.

19. On 7 October, following a proposal by the Government, President Sanha signed a decree reappointing the Rear Admiral as the Chief of Staff of the Navy. By the same decree, Major General Mamadú Turé was appointed Deputy Chief of Staff of the armed forces. On 8 October, the United States raised concerns over the alleged involvement of the Rear Admiral in illicit activities and stated that his reinstatement was “disappointing and a step backwards for the people of Guinea-Bissau”. In addition, the European Union termed the appointment “a further setback to good governance in Guinea-Bissau” as the Rear Admiral is currently “under sanctions by international partners for alleged links to illicit activities”.

20. Despite the goodwill expressed by the new military leadership in July, the armed forces were criticized for their involvement in a major incident, in which five traffic police officers, four women and one man, were severely attacked by a group of military officers in Bissau. Immediately thereafter, President Sanha convened a meeting with representatives of all State institutions, including the Prime Minister, to reiterate the need for enhanced collaboration between the defence and security institutions, and for them to demonstrate, through their behaviour, respect for democratic principles and civic values. In his subsequent briefing of the Parliament, the Minister of Defence acknowledged the lack of preparation of both police and military personnel, as well as the need to improve cooperation between the two institutions. Civil society organizations deplored the incident, which occurred at a time when the national authorities were engaged in sensitizing the international community on the need to support security sector reform.

IV. Security sector reform and the rule of law

21. In the aftermath of the 1 April military events and the appointment of the new Chief of General Staff, the Council of the European Union, citing political instability and lack of respect for the rule of law in the country, announced on 2 August the closure on 30 September 2010 of its security sector reform mission in Guinea-Bissau.

22. During the reporting period, UNIOGBIS continued to work closely with key national and international stakeholders to enhance the coordination of the assistance provided by international partners in support of the defence and security sector reform processes. On 27 September, the Minister of Defence of Guinea-Bissau, in his capacity as Chair of the Security Sector Reform Steering Committee, endorsed a proposal for a security sector reform synchronization concept. The initiative was developed with the objective of, inter alia, setting up a common electronic platform for all security sector reform projects and programmes, creating a collective data system for all stakeholders involved in the security sector reform process and developing national capacity in this area. The Minister requested the assistance of UNIOGBIS for the development of the initiative. UNIOGBIS also worked closely with UNDP to provide capacity-building services to the Security Sector Reform National Steering Committee, the Special Group on the Pension Fund and the national secretariat of the Peacebuilding Fund, as well as to law and order enforcement structures.

23. A joint project of the Office of Disarmament Affairs and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, called "Support Guinea-Bissau in eradicating illicit small arms" and initiated on 1 September 2005, came to an end on 31 July 2010. The project contributed to the establishment and capacity-building of a national commission on small arms, which became the platform for weapon destruction initiatives. However, the challenging political and security situation in the country impeded full implementation of the project. The technical mission on ammunition stockpiles undertaken by the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in May 2010 resulted in the Government of Guinea-Bissau requesting UNIOGBIS on 15 July 2010 to provide assistance for the improvement of the country's weapons and ammunition stockpile infrastructure, as well as capacity-building on weapons and ammunition stockpile management techniques. UNMAS is currently assessing with UNIOGBIS the possibility of

removing and destroying stockpiles of unstable ammunition which represent an immediate danger to the population.

24. In the justice sector, UNDP has focused on assisting national institutions to develop the legal foundations for capacity-building, governance, oversight and accountability within the framework of the rule of law. In that context, it provided technical advice for the elaboration of a national policy for the justice sector, organic laws for judicial training centres and training regulations. UNDP also supported the formulation of the National Assembly's strategic development plan, with an emphasis on parliamentary oversight of security sector reform. Finally, as part of its capacity development strategy, UNDP has supported the Government in establishing its own judicial training centres for judges, prosecutors, lawyers and other legal professionals.

25. The preliminary results of extensive research financed by UNDP and the European Union on the traditional justice mechanisms and customary law of six different ethnic groups was presented to academics and students at the Bissau University Faculty of Law in July. The study was the first stage of a process aimed at interfacing the formal and informal justice sectors as a means of enhancing the population's access to justice. The project is complementary to the UNDP/Guinea-Bissau "Broader access to justice" programme, which targets marginalized members of the community and includes: the deployment of paralegals; legal literacy training; tracking, documenting and analysing the trajectories of disputes involving women and children; community mapping of local land rights; and human rights education campaigns.

26. UNIOGBIS, for its part, made progress in the implementation of its mandated tasks, despite the staffing challenges facing its police component. The Office continued to provide assistance for the vetting and certification process for the Public Order Police. The strategy paper developed for the implementation of the project was finalized on 13 August 2010. On 21 September, the Ministry of the Interior officially approved the proposed strategy and requested UNIOGBIS to initiate the implementation phase. This initiative in support of the Ministry of the Interior will help tackle impunity and increase accountability. With respect to the project for the establishment of the first model police station in Bairro Militar, the Ministry of the Interior held a bidding process for the construction of the premises, in accordance with the grant agreement signed with UNIOGBIS. Under a trilateral project involving Guinea-Bissau, Brazil and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Federal Police Department of Brazil conducted training sessions for police personnel of Guinea-Bissau. In addition, the Government of Portugal conducted training initiatives for the police institutions of Guinea-Bissau, including refresher and leadership courses, related to the country's security sector reform plans.

27. On 22 July, a computer-based training centre was inaugurated in Bissau. This Government-led project, funded by the Government of Canada and UNIOGBIS, was developed and implemented with the technical assistance of UNODC, the United Nations Standing Police Capacity and UNIOGBIS. The aim of the project is to train members of police institutions and other law enforcement agencies providing security services, in conformity with international standards. Since its inauguration, more than 190 police officers from different branches of the police system in the country have been trained. In coordination with the Guinea-Bissau Security Sector

Reform Awareness Campaign Commission, UNIOGBIS and UNDP organized a training workshop on security sector reform from 28 to 30 September 2010 aimed at reinforcing the knowledge of 33 journalists from the national media and communication officers from the Parliament and non-governmental organizations on the issues concerned.

28. Meanwhile, within the framework of their bilateral support for security sector reform, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, China, Nigeria and neighbouring Senegal, in response to calls from the authorities of Guinea-Bissau, have been providing direct assistance to the armed forces, including the Presidential Guard, and to liberation war veterans. The assistance has consisted, inter alia, of a refurbished military hospital, one apartment complex, vehicles, engineering machinery and generators, and additional support has been pledged. Furthermore, following the visit to Angola of the Chief of General Staff of Guinea-Bissau, a delegation of Angolan technical military and police experts, led by the Vice-Minister of Defence and Infrastructure, undertook a mission to Guinea-Bissau from 21 to 26 September. The mission was aimed at assessing the needs of the various branches of the Guinea-Bissau defence and security institutions, with a view to the provision of technical military and police capacity to support the training and protection efforts being undertaken by Guinea-Bissau in the framework of security sector reform and the emerging ECOWAS-CPLP partnership.

V. Drug trafficking and organized crime

29. UNODC, UNIOGBIS and other international partners continued to provide assistance to Guinea-Bissau in the fight against drug trafficking, in the framework of the West Africa Coast Initiative and the ECOWAS regional action plan to address the growing problem of illicit drug trafficking, organized crime and drug abuse in West Africa. In particular, UNODC and other international partners assessed the country's policing and internal security capabilities, through a gap analysis that identified priority needs for preventing and countering crime, as well as for supporting the Judiciary Police and Public Order Police in criminal investigations. In addition, UNIOGBIS and other partners have been assisting the national authorities in promoting dialogue and cooperation among law enforcement agencies in Guinea-Bissau, as well as between those agencies and magistrates and prosecutors. Furthermore, capacity-building programmes are being implemented to enhance the standards of the judicial and law enforcement institutions of Guinea-Bissau and the National Central Bureau of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL).

30. A two-month training programme for the penitentiary staff of the newly rehabilitated prisons of the Bafatá and Mansoa regions, including guards and directors, started on 20 September with support from Portugal, as requested by UNODC. Portugal also provided equipment for the penitentiary guards, including uniforms, batons and handcuffs. Furthermore, the legal framework for the prison system in Guinea-Bissau is being developed by a working group comprising representatives of the Ministry of Justice and UNODC.

VI. Activities of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund

31. During the reporting period, the Peacebuilding Commission conducted consultations with members of the Guinea-Bissau configuration and organized an informal meeting in July in which the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guinea-Bissau, the Mission Chief of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for Guinea-Bissau and my Special Representative participated. The Minister provided the Peacebuilding Commission with an overview of the latest developments in the country and stressed the determination of the national authorities to overcome the impact of recent crises. He appealed for international solidarity and the Commission's support in advancing urgently and decisively the plans for the reform of the defence and security sectors. The Minister underlined the need for reinforcing the fight against drug trafficking by strengthening national institutions to prevent Guinea-Bissau from being used as a transit country. He also stressed that it was crucial to enhance subregional cooperation and international resolve to combat the scourge of drug trafficking.

32. Members of the Guinea-Bissau configuration reiterated the need for the national authorities: to bring the perpetrators of the 1 April events to justice; to release the former Chief of General Staff and other detained senior ranking officers; to take effective steps to combat drug trafficking; and to continue the reform of the defence, security and justice sectors. Some members also raised the need to help strengthen the civilian leadership of the country. All members supported the need for urgent assistance in accelerating the national security sector reform plans and further efforts to consolidate the rule of law and contribute to meeting the country's socio-economic needs.

33. The rehabilitation of military barracks in the regions of Gabú and Quebo, funded by the Peacebuilding Fund, has started, while the bid to purchase materials for the refurbishment of the Amura fortress was launched on 19 August. The inauguration of the Mansoa and Bafatá regional prisons, also rehabilitated with the support of the Peacebuilding Fund, took place on 21 September. Under the Peacebuilding Fund project on vocational training and youth employment, a total of 145 young people were trained in various skills, while a total of 21 business plans prepared by the young beneficiaries were selected under the microfinance scheme.

34. The national technical team, coordinated by the Ministry of the Economy, concluded its discussions on the peacebuilding priority plan for the period 2010-2012. The draft plan, formulated with the support of the United Nations, focuses on three priority areas, namely, transformation of the State, including reform of the defence and security sectors, economic recovery and revitalization of basic social services.

VII. Economic and social aspects

35. The economic and fiscal situation in Guinea-Bissau remains fragile, but the important reforms currently under way are enabling significant performance in regard to macroeconomic stabilization and economic growth. The Government continues to consolidate its credibility with the international financial institutions by pursuing financial reforms and improving fiscal discipline, with a view to reaching

the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative completion point before the end of 2010. A second progress report of the poverty reduction strategy paper was prepared and submitted to the World Bank and IMF, in accordance with one of the HIPC target completion points. The collection of tax revenues increased by 46.9 per cent in the first quarter of 2010. The improvements in public finance management led to a positive economic performance in the context of IMF emergency assistance to post-conflict countries.

36. Given the rise in cashew prices in 2010, an increase in domestic consumption and the growth of investments in the construction sector, the economic growth rate of Guinea-Bissau is expected to reach 4 per cent in 2010, compared to 3 per cent in 2009. During the first two quarters of 2010, inflation decreased to just 1.5 per cent, remaining within the target of 2 per cent set by the West African Economic and Monetary Union. However, owing to rising imports, the country anticipates running a small external current account deficit of approximately 1 per cent of its gross domestic product.

37. These positive developments enabled the World Bank to approve in June a second grant for the reform of economic governance, while the creditors of the Paris Club made an initial gesture on debt relief in July 2010. Once it reaches the HIPC completion point in December 2010, Guinea-Bissau could benefit from an overall debt reduction of up to \$800 million. However, in response to the 1 April 2010 military events, the European Union, one of the major development partners of Guinea-Bissau, with a €102.8 million (an estimated \$130.6 million) financial commitment to Guinea-Bissau for the period 2008-2013, began to review its financial commitments to the country, raising questions as to whether it will continue to support the HIPC completion point decision to be taken by IMF in December 2010. In addition, the European Union has given no indication yet on its plan for budgetary support, which, if not provided, might have severe repercussions on the quality and quantity of goods, services and investments to be provided by the State in 2011.

38. The Government of Guinea-Bissau approved its Agricultural Investment National Plan on 15 August. Owing to heavy rains from July to September 2010, there are good prospects for agricultural production in 2010 and 2011. However, Guinea-Bissau remains exposed to the consequences of the global food crisis because of its dependence on imported rice. Estimates for domestic rice production in 2010 are 122,300 tons, while rice imports total 126,500 tons. Despite the Government's efforts to control the prices of basic foodstuffs, they have remained high compared to 2009, with a 30 per cent increase in the price of imported rice and a 20 per cent increase in the price of locally produced rice. To promote the local production of rice, the World Food Programme (WFP) is implementing, with the financial support of Japan, the World Bank and the European Union, a food-for-work programme aimed at rehabilitating 3,328.5 hectares of lowland and mangrove plains for rice cultivation, which will benefit some 19,965 people.

39. In July, the Joint Programme for Children, Food Security and Nutrition, involving the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), WFP and the World Health Organization (WHO) and developed to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals, organized a sensitization campaign on the objectives of the Programme, aimed at developing a partnership with the media. The campaign included training

sessions for journalists. The Ministries of Health, Agriculture and Education, as well as local non-governmental organizations, community radio stations and local media were provided with office and sensitization materials. Coordinating teams have worked with several stakeholders to ensure the adequate use of materials provided for the prevention and treatment of malnutrition among children and women. In July and August 2010, 3,560 mothers and children received food assistance, in addition to 686 people living with HIV under anti-retroviral treatment and 537 tuberculosis patients, under the health and nutrition component of the WFP protracted relief and recovery operation in the country. Furthermore, 18,000 schoolgirls from grades 4 to 6 benefited from WFP take-home rations as food incentives for school attendance in June 2010.

40. WHO and UNICEF supported the mobilization of resources from the Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in the amount of €48 million (an estimated \$60.9 million) for the next five years. Key priorities set include primary prevention of mother-to-child transmission. In line with the African Union's recommendations for the reduction of maternal, neonatal and infant mortality in Africa, on 15 July the Government launched a six-month campaign for acceleration of the reduction of maternal mortality with the support of the United Nations and civil society organizations, targeting political, civic and sociocultural leaders and the private sector, to ensure their continued commitment to improving maternal and neonatal health.

41. WHO and UNICEF supported a three-phase national campaign of synchronized vaccinations against poliomyelitis for children under the age of nine months. The Ministry of Health, with the support of UNICEF and civil society organizations, has focused on hygiene education, including in regard to the treatment and safe storage of water for cholera prevention. As a result, only a few cases of cholera have been registered recently. UNICEF and the Portuguese Institute for Development Cooperation signed a joint project on education, which includes the rehabilitation of 10 schools and 2 vocational schools. The multiple indicator cluster survey and the reproductive health survey were completed at the end of July, with the support of UNICEF, and preliminary data from the surveys are expected to be available by the end of October 2010.

VIII. Human rights and gender

42. Vice Admiral Zamora Induta continues to be detained without due process since 1 April 2010. His lawyer filed a petition for habeas corpus on 22 July, requesting his release. In August, the detainee was granted permission to meet his lawyer in the presence of military officers. The lawyer subsequently wrote to the Supreme Military Court, requesting the observance of legal procedures, including a swift response to the habeas corpus petition. On 19 August, representatives of the UNIOGBIS Human Rights and Gender Section visited Vice Admiral Induta, in the presence of military officers, to ascertain the conditions of his detention. The detainee complained of lack of access to medical assistance, food and family visits. He requested that he be allowed regular visits from his lawyer and his family. However, on 26 August the Court ruled out the petition for habeas corpus, citing security reasons and the possibility that the detainee might escape. Vice Admiral Induta's lawyer has expressed his intention to appeal to the Supreme Court of Guinea-Bissau against the decision of the Supreme Military Court. My Special

Representative has discussed the recent developments with Government officials and has requested the release of the detainee and recommended urgent action to ensure a fair trial.

43. On 16 August, my Special Representative chaired a meeting with representatives of the international community, including ECOWAS and CPLP, and invited the Prosecutor General, Amine Saad, to provide an update on the commission of inquiry into the assassinations of former President João Bernardo Vieira and former Chief of General Staff General Tagme Na Waie in March 2009. The Prosecutor General stated that, despite financial constraints, the investigations had moved forward and most witnesses had been heard. The Prosecutor General expected a conclusive report by the end of October 2010 and requested financial support for the international travel of seven magistrates, as well as for the setting up of a protection mechanism for the witnesses. The Prosecutor General also expressed his intention to invite the United Nations and human rights organizations to monitor the investigation process, in accordance with requests made by international partners in Bissau. He explained that the investigation led by a military commission into the bomb attack that killed General Tagme Na Waie on 1 March 2009 would progress once forensic tests on the site of the bomb attack had been made. Meanwhile, the inquiries into the assassinations on 4 and 5 June 2009 of the former Minister of Territorial Administration and the former Minister of Defence have not registered any progress. UNIOGBIS is assisting national partners to establish a protection programme for witnesses and victims, a crucial element in addressing drug trafficking and organized crime, as well as other serious crimes.

44. In September, UNIOGBIS was allowed to visit the air base where five suspects detained in connection with the bomb attack in which General Tagme Na Waie was killed have been held without charge since March 2009, far beyond the legal time. Three of the detainees have been heard by the Military Court and the Prosecutor General. Two of them reported to UNIOGBIS that they were in urgent need of medical assistance and had been subjected to torture during the first days of detention. UNIOGBIS could not meet with the remaining two, as the military authorities stated that they were undergoing medical treatment at the military hospital.

45. In August, UNIOGBIS launched a human rights radio programme in cooperation with the Government and members of civil society organizations. The programme focuses on raising awareness on human rights principles and highlights the responsibility of the State to protect the human rights of all and to fight impunity. As part of its activities to promote dialogue, peace and reconciliation, UNIOGBIS has broadcast 10 radio programmes on security sector reform, political dialogue, human rights, gender and small arms.

46. The National Human Rights Commission has started to review its statute to bring it into line with the Paris Principles. On 9 September, the Commission held a workshop, funded by UNDP, to brief national and international stakeholders on the universal periodic review of Guinea-Bissau. On 1 October, the Government participated in a meeting of the Human Rights Council at which the Council approved a report presented by Guinea-Bissau in follow-up to the 101 recommendations issued by the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review in May 2010.

47. On 29 June, the National Assembly unanimously approved a new law on reproductive health and family planning, which sets the minimum age for marriage at 18 and guarantees the principle of equality in reproductive health. A national

policy on gender equity and equality is being prepared by the Institute for Women and Children (IMC), in partnership with the National Research Institute, with technical and financial support from the United Nations. Also in partnership with the National Research Institute, IMC finalized a nationwide gender analysis survey, which allowed for comprehensive data on gender inequalities to be fed into the poverty reduction strategy elaboration process. In August, a draft bill on female genital mutilation and trafficking in persons was presented to parliamentarians and representatives of civil society during a workshop organized by the Ministry of Justice in cooperation with the United Nations and other international partners. Parliamentarians recommended nationwide campaigns against other harmful practices to avoid any misinterpretation of the fight against female genital mutilation as targeting a particular social and cultural group.

48. UNIOGBIS and the Secretary of State for National Security organized a human rights seminar on trafficking in children and gender-based violence in July for 47 officers of the Public Order Police. The training was aimed at providing law enforcement and security officers with instruments and skills with which to combat child trafficking and gender-based violence, in compliance with international law.

49. In the context of the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security, the Thematic Working Group on Gender concluded research that identified the typology of gender-based violence in the country, to be used as a basis to define a national strategy. On 26 and 27 July, the Group held a gender mainstreaming training workshop, funded by the United Nations Development Fund for Women, for the coordinators of the thematic working groups on the poverty reduction strategy paper. Also in July, the national steering committee for the implementation of the National Action Plan on Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) held a series of workshops to plan its 2011 activities.

IX. Safety and security of personnel

50. During the reporting period, there were no direct threats against United Nations staff. The crime rate in the country remains below the normal level. However, two violent street robberies, involving United Nations staff, were reported. All security measures applicable to United Nations staff continue to be strictly enforced.

X. United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau

51. Following the endorsement of the United Nations Framework for Peace and Development in Guinea-Bissau (UNDAF+), the United Nations system has continued to make progress towards the integration and implementation of programmes contained in the framework. The reporting period coincides with the quarterly review by the Strategic Policy Group of the implementation of that framework to ensure that it remains fully aligned with the national poverty reduction strategy paper expected to be finalized by the end of 2010, and with the mandate of UNIOGBIS. Additionally, an “after action review” on the development of the UNDAF+/Integrated Strategic Framework was conducted on 24 August to draw lessons from the process and identify best practices, which will inform future joint planning exercises.

XI. Observations

52. I am encouraged by the outcome of the successive meetings held by ECOWAS, CPLP, the African Union and the International Contact Group on Guinea-Bissau, as well as by the emerging partnership between CPLP and ECOWAS for the stabilization of Guinea-Bissau. These developments demonstrate the interest shown by international partners in response to repeated appeals made by the leadership of Guinea-Bissau for assistance in the reform of the defence and security sectors and in the stabilization of the country. I urge the national authorities and regional partners to explore ways of enhancing the security of the civilian leadership of Guinea-Bissau, including through specific initiatives in the context of international support to the reform of the defence and security sectors.

53. I commend CPLP, under the chairmanship of Angola, and ECOWAS, under the chairmanship of Nigeria, for their actions, which could result in the adoption of a joint road map to assist Guinea-Bissau, as requested by President Sanha. If endorsed, the road map, together with the pledges already made by CPLP for assistance in the area of security sector reform, should contribute to enhanced protection of State institutions and increased civilian oversight of military structures. It should provide for the deployment of technical assistance teams and security experts with a view to contributing to the protection of State institutions, members of the national commissions of inquiry into the 2009 assassinations and key witnesses. It should also help create conditions for the implementation of critical aspects of the security sector reform programme, including the demobilization and reinsertion of elements of the armed forces, while at the same time facilitating progress in the fight against impunity, drug trafficking and organized crime. Finally, it should create conditions for the renewed commitment of donors and other key partners to supporting the economic reforms in Guinea-Bissau and debt relief programmes for the country. This emerging momentum has resulted in the reopening of a window of opportunity for enhanced collaboration between the international community and the leadership of Guinea-Bissau following months of impasse. This opportunity should not be missed.

54. It is the responsibility of the civilian and military leaders of Guinea-Bissau to demonstrate their firm commitment to and vision for achieving long-lasting stability for their country. I urge them to forge a national consensus on the best way to ensure the stabilization of Guinea-Bissau. I further appeal to the authorities not to spare any effort to maintain stability and ensure respect for constitutional order and the rule of law, as well as to be resolute in fighting impunity and promoting national reconciliation.

55. The continued provision by police-contributing countries of qualified police officers would help reinforce the capacity of UNIOGBIS with regard to security sector reform. I once again call on bilateral, regional and international partners to continue to offer political, financial and technical support to Guinea-Bissau, especially for security sector reform.

56. I remain concerned about the persistence of impunity, as well as unwarranted delays in providing due legal process, as exemplified by the continued detention, without charge, of the former Chief of General Staff, Vice Admiral Zamora Induta, and other detainees. Established laws must be applied and fundamental principles of the rule of law, such as the duty to ensure fair legal proceedings and the right to

defence, must be respected. The United Nations remains available to assist the authorities in undertaking reform of the justice system and to work with the Government to ensure that investigations are undertaken through credible and transparent processes.

57. Drug trafficking and organized crime continue to pose a serious risk to the stability of Guinea-Bissau and to the West African subregion as a whole. There is a need for the international community to step up efforts to fight this menace in all its aspects and, in particular, to enhance national and regional capacities to do so. The authorities of Guinea-Bissau should also continue to demonstrate, through concrete action, their commitment to tackling this phenomenon, including by ensuring the due prosecution of those individuals involved in such criminal activities. In the final communiqué issued following their Summit in Sal, Cape Verde, in July, ECOWAS Heads of State and Government urged the ECOWAS Commission to explore, in collaboration with the European Union and relevant partners, all possible synergies for the speedy and immediate implementation of the ECOWAS regional action plan to fight illicit drug trafficking, organized crime and drug abuse, and also envisaged imposing sanctions against those identified as members of drug and/or terrorism networks. The United Nations, through UNODC, stands ready to assist ECOWAS and the Government of Guinea-Bissau in pursuit of those aims. Ultimately, the problem of drug trafficking must be tackled at all levels, namely, in the countries of origin, transit and final destination.

58. Efforts should also be continued to ensure genuine and inclusive political dialogue in Guinea-Bissau, especially among key actors in the country's political and military institutions, as well as civil society. I encourage the organizers of the national conference to build upon the valuable lessons learned and best practices from similar experiences elsewhere to make the ongoing Guinea-Bissau process a meaningful success.

59. Despite challenging political and security circumstances, the Government of Guinea-Bissau has continued to make commendable efforts for economic recovery and progress towards the completion point under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative. The consequences of the events of 1 April 2010, including reduced donor support, confirm, however, that political and security instability can have a major negative impact on economic prospects. Continued financial, including budgetary support, from international partners at this critical juncture, would contribute to alleviating the situation. I encourage the Government of Guinea-Bissau, which has registered encouraging economic accomplishments for the first time in a decade, to continue to pursue economic and fiscal reform.

60. On 31 December 2010, the mandate of UNIOGBIS will expire. In view of the critical leadership that the Mission is being called upon to play in implementing the security sector reform programme and the need for continued United Nations integrated support to peacebuilding processes of Guinea-Bissau, and following consultations with the Government of Guinea-Bissau, I would like to recommend that the mandate of UNIOGBIS, as approved by the Security Council in its resolution 1876 (2009), be extended for another year, until 31 December 2011. In the coming year, UNIOGBIS would continue to implement its mandate in close cooperation with the national authorities and international partners of Guinea-Bissau, with a particular focus on an inclusive national dialogue and reconciliation

process, security sector reform, promotion of the rule of law and human rights, and the fight against drug trafficking and organized crime.

61. I would like to commend the staff of UNIOGBIS, under the leadership of my Special Representative, Joseph Mutaboba, as well as the entire United Nations country team, international and national non-governmental organizations and other partners, for the important work they continue to carry out in Guinea-Bissau.
