United Nations S/2003/176



Distr.: General 13 February 2003

Original: English

Letter dated 5 February 2003 from the President of the Economic and Social Council addressed to the President of the Security Council

I wish to bring to the attention of the members of the Security Council the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau (E/2003/8), established by the Economic and Social Council in October 2002. The report was submitted to the Economic and Social Council last month. After considering it, the Council, during its organizational session for 2003, on 31 January 2003, adopted resolution 2003/1, by which it welcomed the recommendations of the Advisory Group and endorsed the partnership approach it had set out.

I am pleased to note that Ambassador Jagdish Koonjul (Mauritius), former Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Security Council on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa, took an active part in the work of the Advisory Group. Furthermore, the Council has invited Ambassador Ismael Abraão Gaspar Martins (Angola), Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group for 2003, to do so as well.

As the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group has been extended until the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, in July 2003, I look forward to increased interaction between our two bodies in the coming months, thereby contributing to a comprehensive response by the United Nations to the situation in the country. I would be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Gert Rosenthal