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Peacebuilding Commission Sixth session Sierra Leone configuration

## Statement dated 19 December 2012 by the Sierra Leone configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission

The Sierra Leone configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission met on 12 December 2012 to consider the outcome of Sierra Leone's recent elections. In that respect, the Commission welcomes the briefing provided by the Executive-Representative of the Secretary-General in Sierra Leone, Jens Toyberg-Frandzen.

The Peacebuilding Commission commends the people and institutions of Sierra Leone on the successful conduct and conclusion of the presidential, parliamentary, district and local elections. The large turnout in the elections testifies to the strong commitment of Sierra Leoneans to democracy, peace and development. The Commission also commends the important electoral support provided by the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone (UNIPSIL), the United Nations country team and Sierra Leone's international partners.

The Peacebuilding Commission congratulates President Ernest Bai Koroma on his re-election. The Commission notes with appreciation President Koroma's intention to work with all political parties during his second mandate and welcomes the spirit of dialogue, cooperation and conciliation that has prevailed among political parties during the post-election period. In that regard, the Commission also notes with appreciation the positive outcome of the 3 December meeting between President Koroma and Julius Maada Bio, the presidential candidate of the Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP), as well as the subsequent decision of SLPP that its elected officials would participate in the work of Parliament and the country's local councils. The Commission hopes that this positive start will form the basis for the resolution of any other outstanding concerns.

The Peacebuilding Commission echoes the Security Council in stressing the important work ahead to embed peace and secure equitable prosperity for the benefit of all Sierra Leoneans and in urging the international community to provide coordinated and coherent support to Sierra Leone in meeting its peacebuilding and development goals. In this regard, the Commission believes that sustained, coherent and coordinated support from the United Nations and other international partners will continue to be essential as the people of Sierra Leone pursue their peacebuilding and development priorities.





The Peacebuilding Commission stands ready to continue assisting Sierra Leone in the coming months, including by working in close cooperation with UNIPSIL and the United Nations country team. As such, the Peacebuilding Commission intends to visit Sierra Leone in early 2013 to discuss its future engagement with national and international counterparts.

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