



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Security Council
DPA

10 December 2008

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 3 December 2007 (S/2007/701), by which the President of the Security Council informed me that members of the Council had taken note of my recommendation to extend the mandate of the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS) for an additional year, until 31 December 2008.

I wish to inform members of the Council that during 2008, UNOGBIS continued to support national efforts to stabilize the country, focusing in particular on efforts to promote peacebuilding and national reconciliation. To that end, my Representative worked in close consultation with the Government of Guinea-Bissau and other national stakeholders, as well as with regional and international partners to help resolve various political and security crises, including, in particular, the challenges that followed the dissolution of the National Assembly and the collapse of the Government of Prime Minister Cabi in July, the attempted coup and plot to assassinate President João Bernardo Vieira in August, and the recent armed attack on the President's official residence in Bissau. UNOGBIS also cooperated with national authorities in addressing the growing threat of drug trafficking and organized crime.

Activities leading up to the holding of the successful legislative elections on 16 November 2008 included resource mobilization, civic education, and the strengthening of the capacities of women's groups. UNOGBIS coordinated the work of international electoral observers and continued to play a lead role in coordinating the country's engagement with the Peacebuilding Commission.

His Excellency
Mr. Neven Žurica
President of the Security Council
New York

28-14164

A UNDP-financed census of the country's armed forces, carried out in March 2008, was a milestone in the Security Sector Reform (SSR) process. On 20 August 2008, 30 senior military officers were transferred from active service to reserve status at a ceremony marking the start of the SSR Programme. UNOGBIS facilitated an Inter-Agency SSR Assessment Mission in October, aimed at proposing a United Nations integrated action plan to support the implementation of the SSR Programme.

Throughout 2008, the Government of Guinea-Bissau continued its collaboration with international financial institutions to improve the fragile situation of the country's public finances and to enable Guinea-Bissau to benefit from debt relief. It also made efforts to put in place the necessary reforms, supported by UNOGBIS and other partners, for economic stabilization. However, repetitive political and security disruptions have complicated efforts to improve the country's social and economic indicators.

On 21 November 2008, the Government of Guinea-Bissau requested the extension of the mandate of UNOGBIS for another year, so that the Office can continue to assist national efforts to consolidate peace in the country. I would therefore like to recommend that the mandate of UNOGBIS be extended for an additional year, until 31 December 2009, to allow the Office to continue providing support to the Government of Guinea-Bissau.

Accordingly, the mandate of UNOGBIS for 2009 would focus on:

- (a) assisting the Peacebuilding Commission in its multidimensional engagement with Guinea-Bissau; (b) strengthening the capacities of national institutions, including law enforcement and criminal justice systems, in order to maintain constitutional order; (c) supporting an all-inclusive national reconciliation and political dialogue process as an institutionalized peace consolidation framework; (d) supporting and facilitating the implementation of SSR; (e) extending cooperation to national authorities in their efforts to combat drug trafficking and organized crime; (f) assisting with the promotion and institutionalization of respect for the rule of law and human rights; (g) mainstreaming a gender perspective into peacebuilding, in line with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000); (h) facilitating efforts to curb the proliferation of small arms and light weapons and contributing to the collection of small arms and light weapons illicitly held; and (i) enhancing cooperation with the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States, the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, the European Union and other partners in efforts to contribute to the stabilization of Guinea-Bissau.

Furthermore, in reference to my letter dated 28 November 2007 (S/2007/700), in which I indicated my intention to submit to the Security Council, following the holding of credible and transparent legislative elections in 2008, concrete recommendations on transforming the current UNOGBIS into an integrated mission, I have the honour to inform you that I plan to deploy a technical assessment mission to Guinea-Bissau in the first quarter of 2009 to consult with the Government and the United Nations Country Team on integration-related strategies. Following that mission, I would submit recommendations to the Council for action in that respect.

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


Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ki Moon Ban". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ki" and last name "Ban" being more prominent than the middle name "Moon".

BAN Ki-moon

**! URGENT**To: Mr. Nambiar, *fw*
7W

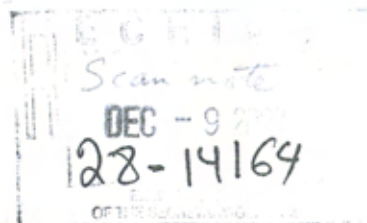
Please find attached, for your approval and SG's signature, a letter addressed to the President of the Security Council, on the extension of the UNOGBIS' mandate.

J 
Nicholas Haysom
10 December 2008

cc: Mr. Kim



28-14164

Note to Mr. Nambiar



**DRAFT LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
ON THE EXTENSION UNOGBIS' MANDATE**

1. I attach, for the Secretary-General's approval and signature, the draft text of a letter to the President of the Security Council recommending that the mandate of the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS) be extended for an additional year, from 1 January to 31 December 2009.
2. The draft letter also covers UNOGBIS' performance in 2008, and refers to the Secretary-General's letter dated 28 November 2007, in which he informed the Security Council that he would submit concrete recommendations on transforming UNOGBIS into an integrated mission following the holding of credible and transparent legislative elections in 2008. In this regard, the letter conveys the Secretary-General's intention to deploy a technical assessment mission to Guinea-Bissau in the first quarter of 2009 with a view to submitting recommendations to the Council.
3. I should be grateful if you could secure the Secretary-General's approval and signature of the letter at his earliest convenience.

 
B. Lynn Pascoe
4 December 2008

cc: Shola Omoregie



Security Council

Distr.: General
3 December 2007

Original: English

Letter dated 3 December 2007 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 28 November 2007 (S/2007/700) concerning your recommendation that the mandate of the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS) be extended for an additional year, until 31 December 2008, has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the information and recommendation contained in your letter.

(Signed) Marcello Spatafora
President of the Security Council



**Security Council**

Distr.: General
3 December 2007

Original: English

**Letter dated 28 November 2007 from the Secretary-General
addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to refer to my report of 28 September 2007 (S/2007/576) 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 submit proposals on how best we can continue to provide effective assistance for national efforts in order to contribute to the sustainable stabilization of Guinea-Bissau.

During 2007, UNOGBIS continued to contribute to the stabilization and reconciliation efforts of Guinea-Bissau. While encouraging progress has been achieved, especially in strengthening cooperative relations between the various branches of the Government and among the three main political parties, much more remains to be done to consolidate and sustain the momentum for democratic governance in order to prevent a relapse into conflict. Moreover, new challenges, in particular the threat of drug and human trafficking and organized crime, need to be addressed in order to prevent the unravelling of the important gains made so far.

Since the Government of Prime Minister N'Dafa Cabi assumed office in April 2007, it has taken significant steps to contribute to stabilization through government reform. Of particular importance is the determination of the Government to implement its Minimum Public Finance Stability Programme and the plan of action to advance the crucial objective of security sector reform. Externally, the Government of Prime Minister Cabi has actively re-engaged with the international community, especially the international financial institutions and regional neighbours.

Notwithstanding those constructive efforts, Guinea-Bissau remains fragile. Internal political tensions intensify, in advance of legislative elections in 2008, socio-economic conditions worsen and the multiple threats posed by drug trafficking and organized crime spread.

I have therefore responded favourably to the request from Prime Minister Cabi for United Nations assistance in the organization of legislative elections in 2008, and I have welcomed the generous support provided recently by the Government of Nigeria and the Economic Community of West African States to help the Government of Guinea-Bissau initiate a concrete security sector reform implementation process to prepare future demobilized military personnel to reintegrate constructively into civilian life. In light of the above, I would like to recommend that the mandate of UNOGBIS be extended for an additional year, until



31 December 2008, to allow the Office to continue to assist Guinea-Bissau as it confronts the challenges of peacebuilding and strives to bring about political stabilization. The mandate would also be slightly revised, to allow UNOGBIS to contribute to mobilizing international support for national efforts to eradicate drug trafficking.

Accordingly, the activities of UNOGBIS for 2008 would focus on: (a) supporting national reconciliation and dialogue; (b) assisting with the implementation of security sector reform; (c) facilitating efforts to combat drug and human trafficking and organized crime; (d) assisting with the holding of credible and transparent legislative elections in 2008, in close cooperation with the United Nations country team and other international partners; (e) promoting respect for the rule of law and human rights; (f) mainstreaming a gender perspective into peacebuilding, in line with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000); (g) facilitating efforts to curb proliferation of small arms and light weapons and contributing to the collection of weapons illicitly held; (h) helping in the mobilization of international assistance; and (i) 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 also like to refer to the presidential statement on Guinea-Bissau (S/PRST/2007/38), adopted on 19 October 2007, in which the Security Council requested me "to present proposals on how best the United Nations could provide effective assistance in an integrated and holistic manner to national efforts" for stabilization. It is my intention, following the holding of credible and transparent legislative elections in 2008, to explore the possibility of transforming the current United Nations Peacebuilding Office, UNOGBIS, into an integrated mission in Guinea-Bissau, and to make recommendations thereon to the Council. Such a mission, if deemed appropriate, would provide a holistic approach to addressing the complex and multidimensional situation facing Guinea-Bissau. I would submit concrete recommendations to that end following the successful organization of the elections.

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

(Signed) Ban Ki-moon

BLP
HM
SKB



UNITED NATIONS HQS
United Nations Peace-Building
Support Office in Guinea-Bissau
08 NOV 26 Bissau



UNOGBIS

Gabinete das Nações Unidas de
Apoio à Consolidação da Paz na
Guiné Bissau

CONFIDENTIAL

CODE CABLE

TO: PASCOE, UNATIONS, NEW YORK

FROM: OMOREGIE, UNOGBIS, BISSAU

DATE: 26 November 2008

NUMBER: CGX No. 133

SUBJECT: Transmission of Letter from Prime Minister Carlos Correia proposing the renewal of UNOGBIS mandate for 2009

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1. I am forwarding herewith for your information copy of a letter dated 21 November 2008 received from Prime Minister Carlos Correia addressed to the Secretary-General, proposing the extension of the mandate of UNOGBIS for one more year. He states that while the ongoing stabilization in Guinea-Bissau has progressed, there is still room left to achieve stabilization in the country.

2. In this connection, the Prime Minister is proposing a revised mandate for UNOGBIS with the following elements: Civil Service Reform; Security Sector Reform; Judicial System Reform; Strengthening of institutional capacity and consolidation of democracy in order to combat drug trafficking; Human development actions in the areas of education, health and the fight against poverty; Consolidation of democratic and developmental process; and Social infrastructure. The Prime Minister believes that the proposed elements for the revised mandate of UNOGBIS would greatly contribute to consolidating Peace and Democracy in Guinea-Bissau.

3. If you agree, I intend to meet with the Prime Minister to remind him that the Secretary-General intends to submit recommendations to the Security Council shortly regarding the establishment of an integrated office in Guinea-Bissau. Some of the elements which were proposed by the Government, which fall within the purview of the UNCT, would be accommodated within the integrated office once established. In the meantime, the mandate of UNOGBIS could be renewed for one year as requested by the Prime Minister pending the approval of the Security Council of an integrated office in Guinea-Bissau. In this regard we look forward to consultation on how to operationalize the new configuration of the UN presence in Guinea-Bissau.

4. Copies of Prime Minister Correia's letter and unofficial translations are attached.

Best regards.

PRIME MINISTER

Bissau, 21 November 2008

Subject: Renewal of UNOGBIS Mandate

Dear Secretary-General

We are convinced that the ongoing stabilization process in Guinea-Bissau has progressed and that 16 November legislative elections were an additional step towards that end. However, there is still much left to achieve thorough stabilization of the country, for which purpose we believe that the mandate of UNOGBIS should be renewed for one more year.

The Terms of Reference for this mandate will have to be adapted to the current socio-political situation of the country which is why we went ahead and drafted what we believe they should be:

1. Essential Reforms

Civil Service Reform
Security Sector Reform
Judicial System Reform

2. Strengthening of institutional capacity and consolidation of democracy

It is assumed of particular importance to strengthen the institutions that combat drug trafficking, as this can generate intolerable levels of corruption capable of affecting the State institutions in a catastrophic.

3. Human development actions especially in the areas of Education, Health and Fight against Poverty.

4. Consolidation of the Democratic and Developmental process.

5. Social Infrastructure

We believe that these actions, if carried out by a light, effective and efficient structure, would greatly contribute to consolidating Peace and Democracy in Guinea-Bissau, which is UNOGBIS main objective.

With our highest consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

(Signature)
Engineer Carlos Correia
Prime Minister

To the Attention of
His Excellency
Secretary General of the United Nations

BISSAU



PRIMEIRO MINISTRO

Bissau, 21 de Novembro de 2008

Assunto: Renovação do Mandato da UNOGBIS

Senhor Secretário-Geral

Estamos convencidos que o Processo de Estabilização em curso na Guiné-Bissau tem avançado e que as Eleições Legislativas de 16 de Novembro foram mais um passo importante nessa direcção. No entanto ainda falta muito para a estabilização completa do País, pelo que consideramos que deveria ser renovado o Mandato da UNOGBIS para mais um ano.

Os termos de referência desse mandato teriam que se adaptar à actual situação Sócio-Política do País pelo que nos permitimos delinear o que pensamos deveriam ser esses termos:

1. Reformas Essenciais

Reforma da Função Pública
Reforma das Forças Armadas e de Segurança
Reforma do Sistema Judicial

2. Reforço das capacidades das Instituições e da consolidação da Democracia

Aqui assume particular importância o Reforço das Instituições de Luta Contra o Narcotráfico, já que este pode gerar níveis intoleráveis de corrupção capazes de afectar as instituições do Estado, e mesmo infiltra-las o que seria catastrófico.

3. Acções de desenvolvimento humano nomeadamente nas áreas da Educação, Saúde e Luta Contra a Pobreza.

4. Consolidação do Processo da Democracia e desenvolvimento.

5. Infra-estrutura Social

Creemos que estas acções, enquadradas por uma estrutura ligeira, funcional e eficiente contribuiriam muito para consolidar a Paz e a Democracia na Guiné-Bissau, objectivo principal da UNOGBIS.

Com a mais alta consideração.



Eng. Carlos CORREIA
Primeiro-Ministro

À
Sua Excelência
Secretário-Geral das Nações Unidas

BISSAU