

REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR RAMADHAN M. MWINYI, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, AT THE SEMINAR ON INCLUSIVITY IN REBUILDING STATES: FOCUSING ON INCLUSIVITY IN SECURITY SECTOR REFORM, NEW YORK, APRIL 22, 2014

**Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I wish to join hands with the Permanent Missions of Japan and Slovak Republic in welcoming you to this seminar entitled inclusivity in rebuilding states: focusing on inclusivity in security sector reform (SSR).

As most of you may be aware, this seminar builds upon a seminar we co-hosted with the Mission of Japan in June 2013, whose focus was on inclusivity of peace negotiations and its impacts on post-conflict peacebuilding.

Security Sector Reform is an important element in any peacebuilding architecture. It aims at increasing a country's ability to meet a range of communities' security needs in an efficient, transparent and accountable manner.

Inclusivity is central to any SSR undertaking, as highlighted in the Secretary-General's report of 2008 and 2013 on this subject. Inclusivity entails the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the reform and/or rebuilding of public institutions.

In addition to the regular players in SSR, namely Governments, CSOs, Parliamentarians, Local Authorities, international multilateral organizations and donor governments, and International NGOs, sustainable SSR must also include special groups such as youth and women. This inclusion is important in ensuring ownership, legitimacy and support for the political processes.

This seminar should endeavour to address the persisting challenges in involving such groups. Women in post-conflict societies need to be empowered to participate in SSR with confidence, noting that some of them might be suffering from severe post-conflict trauma.

We should draw important lessons from initiatives such as the Regional Conference on Women, Peace, Security and Development in the Great Lakes Region, held in Bujumbura, Burundi in July 2013 in implementing the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the Great Lakes Region.

We also hope that this seminar will address the challenge of involving former combatants in the SSR processes. The Framework for Peace, Security and Cooperation, I have just alluded to, calls for the Governments of the Great Lakes Region of Africa to engage with armed groups, after they have been disarmed, demobilized and reintegrated. This process is complex and requires multiple approaches and involving multiple stakeholders, including the United Nations system at the concerned countries.

We recognize the importance of neighbouring States in supporting effective SSR processes in post-conflict countries. Most of these developing countries could lend a leaf to their neighbours, given the fact that most have and are still rebuilding and transforming their security sector institutions. These countries also have an important role to play in ensuring that rebuilding of security sector institutions goes hand in hand with economic development. Once peace takes root, it opens up to other opportunities, including trade.

In conclusion, let me underscore the importance of upholding the guiding principles of SSR, including the principle of national ownership. Inclusivity in peace negotiations is an important facet to ensure that all stakeholders are appreciative and committed to the political process. National ownership derives from people who have a social contract with their respective governments. A government which is not democratically elected or which does not uphold the principles of good governance, rule of law and human rights naturally lacks this important quality. Thus SSR must also entail strengthening and establishing of democratic institutions.

The United Republic of Tanzania remains committed to peace and will continue to render its support in rebuilding and restoring peace and security where it is lacking, through regional and international organizations such as the United Nations.

I wish all of us very constructive deliberations and thank you for your kind attention.