Key Insights

Key Insights of the Seminar "Inclusivity in Rebuilding States: Focusing on Inclusivity in Security Sector Reform
22 April 2014

The seminar was co-organized by the Permanent Missions of Japan, the United Republic of Tanzania, and the Slovak Republic to the United Nations on 22 April 2014 at the Permanent Mission of Japan to the UN in New York. There are three key insights discussed in three and half hours of active discussion:

1. **Inclusivity in Security Sector Reform is Crucial to Establish "Their Own Military and Police":**

   ● Enhancing inclusivity in the security sector, especially in the context of rebuilding post-conflict states, is critical.

   ● If components and members of the military and police are not inclusive enough in the eyes of local people in post-conflict states, those security institutions may be perceived as either biased or serving only specific political groups.

   ● This mistrust between local people and the security sector can easily lead to a relapse of violent conflict, as frequently witnessed in the past.

   ● On the other hand, inclusive and participatory processes in SSR will help local people perceive those institutions as "their own military and police," functioning based on the rule of law, not on their affiliations to political leaders.

2. Creating Legitimacy of Security Sector in Post Conflict States

- It is crucial for post-conflict states to invite different political, social, and ethnic groups, including traditional leaders and women's groups, into the decision-making and implementation process of building the new security sector.

- By doing so, these institutions can enjoy legitimacy in the eyes of local people.

3. Importance of Supporting Inclusive Process of SSR by the UN

- This dimension of inclusivity should receive more attention and focus in the context of UN assistance in SSR.

- In addition to considering the number and equipment of officers in military and police sections, the international community and the United Nations must pay more attention to and show commitment in supporting an inclusive and nationally-led process in designing, planning, and developing the security sector so that a wider range of local people may participate in the process of creating new security sectors.

- The UN should have comparative advantage in facilitating such inclusive and participating process among all stakeholders, due to its impartiality.