

**Priority Plan for Peacebuilding in Burundi
(unofficial translation)**

**STRATEGIC NOTE 1
FEBRUARY 2007**

I. Introduction.

1. Burundi went through a number of violent periods since its independence, the most important dates of which are the years 1965 to 1969, 1972, 1988, 1991 as well as the 1993 coup and the ensuing civil war. The 2000 Arusha Agreement set the stage for the return to peace. Since the 2005 elections, which established a democratically elected government, Burundi has engaged in a peace process. This was strengthened by the recently signed cease-fire agreement, on 7 September 2006, between the Government of Burundi and the last rebel movement, the PALIPEHUTU-FNL. With this political development, followed by the preparation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS), which was recently finalized by the Government in consultation with the population and development partners, Burundi has clearly engaged on the road to peace building and socio-economic reconstruction.

2. Peacebuilding is an uncertain process which calls for sustained support by the international community. Recognizing the specific needs and challenges of countries emerging from conflict, among others Burundi, the United Nations General Assembly created the Peacebuilding Commission in 2005. It was in the same spirit that the UN architecture in Burundi was adjusted and redefined by the Security Council in its resolution 1719 (2006) which created BINUB with a mandate to “*continue to help the Government of Burundi to consolidate peace while reinforcing the necessary national capacities to address the root causes of conflict*”.

3. At its meeting on 13 October 2006, the Peacebuilding Commission announced that Burundi, together with Sierra Leone, was one of the priority countries to be considered by the Commission. In view of the massive needs linked to reconstruction of the country and the reconciliation of its society, the Commission recommended that priority areas be identified by the Government. This, as well as the fact the General Assembly elected Burundi as one of the members of the Peacebuilding Commission, is testimony of the confidence Member States have in the capacity of Burundi to consolidate peace in the coming years.

4. A priority plan for peacebuilding was jointly elaborated by the Government of Burundi and the United Nations in collaboration with international partners and the civil society. This plan was submitted to the Peacebuilding Support Office in December 2006, and later examined, in January 2007, by a team of various UN Departments and Agencies. This allowed for the Peacebuilding Support Office to determine a PBF country envelope for Burundi amounting to US\$ 35 million. Based on this decision and various suggestions and recommendations, the Government of Burundi with the support of the United Nations refined the various interventions. The present strategic note serves as an update to the above mentioned Priority Plan.

5. In line with the agenda of the Commission and efforts deployed at country level to consolidate peace, the Government of Burundi and the United Nations have set up a Joint Steering Committee in the context of peacebuilding. The mandate of the Steering Committee will be to ensure proper follow-up and implementation of the

recommendations of the PBC related to Burundi. The Joint Steering Committee is also empowered with strategic guidance and control, as well as decision making power related to the allocation of funds from the Peacebuilding Fund.

II. Priority interventions.

6. In order to address these needs, the Government has identified the following priority areas: (a) good governance, (b) strengthening of the Rule of Law in security forces, (c) strengthening of Justice, promotion of human rights, reconciliation and the fight against impunity and, (d) the question of land, notably in the context of reintegration of the affected populations. For each of the priority areas, critical interventions have been identified and should receive immediate attention to avoid any risk of relapse into conflict in Burundi.

7. The following criteria for identifying priority interventions were used:

- The priority area is already receiving support, but interventions are not planned before 2007 or 2008, while quick interventions are needed to avoid relapse into conflict. In addition, the immediate action will allow for the Government to better prepare for the upcoming interventions;
- The priority area is already receiving substantial support, but some critical components linked to peacebuilding have not been considered;
- The impact on peacebuilding is immediate and the amplitude of the risk of relapse into conflict is evident;
- The interventions have been identified as absolute priorities in various peace accords, reiterated in national strategies and reflected in Security Council resolution 1719 (2006);
- Envisaged results from the interventions have a long term sustainable impact. They will allow for a strengthening of the capacity, the services and the institutional mechanisms required to accelerate the peacebuilding process;
- The intervention brings an added value to peacebuilding beyond its strictly socio-economic value;
- Experiences in Burundi and in the sub-region have proven the relevance of the intervention in a peacebuilding process.

II.1. Promotion of Good Governance.

2.1.1. Democratic Governance.

8. The holding of general elections and the establishment of elected, representative and legitimate institutions constitute a turning point in the peace process in Burundi. The culture of democracy, as expressed through the electoral process, needs to be strengthened.

9. To consolidate the young democracy, the interaction and dialogue among all actors of society (parliament, locally elected officials, Government, political parties, civil society,

the media, private sector and religion) is essential. In order to facilitate this process, the Government of Burundi wishes to establish, on a permanent basis, appropriate frameworks for dialogue to develop broad national peacebuilding strategies. These frameworks will promote a culture of democracy and allow for the peaceful resolution of potential causes of conflict.

10. The administration inherited by the Government had been seriously weakened by years of conflict. Corruption and poor quality of public services are proof thereof. Furthermore, expectations are high and the Government's ability to face them is a condition to reestablish popular confidence in state institutions, which are believed to have lost touch with the plight of the population.

11. To instigate moral responsibility in public life, and to ensure accountability in the use of public funds as well as the protection of the citizens and their economic activities, the Government elaborated and submitted to Parliament three bill proposals to prevent and repress corruption. The first bill, of general scope, establishes preventive and repressive measures against corruption and related infractions. The second bill concerns the establishment, organization and functioning of the *Brigade Spéciale Anti-corruption*. The third bill establishes the *Cour Anticorruption*.

12. The adequate functioning of the *Brigade Spéciale Anti-corruption* and its first successes, as well as the rigor of the *Cour Anticorruption*, will contribute towards reinstating trust between the State and its citizens, establish transparency in the management of public goods, thus reestablishing confidence.

13. Confidence will reduce tensions, bring about a social climate conducive to prevention of conflict and spur economic exchanges. This dynamic will be strengthened by the development of activities involving the private sector in peacebuilding efforts while fostering economic competitiveness.

14. For the first time in four decades, at the 2005 local elections, local administration officials have been elected and not nominated. As local administrations exercise their power for the first time, it is necessary to clarify their functions with a view to reduce internal administrative conflicts and improve the quality of services.

15. The task will consist in clarifying the roles and prerogatives of the various levels of local administration, through the elaboration of a guide and a code of ethics for the elected official, as well as the wide dissemination of the two documents. The drafting of the two documents will involve wide ranging consultations with a large number of citizens through their various groupings, syndicates, political parties, development associations, etc. This initiative will contribute towards reducing conflicts among local administrations and will allow them to focus their energy on improving basic services to populations.

16. Although some projects are envisaged for the future, which include specific aspects of governance to initiate long term reforms, it is necessary to start quick impact activities

to address these challenges and avoid frustrations among the population which could constitute sources of conflict.

2.1.2. Strengthening of peace and social cohesion through the role of youth and women.

17. Women represent one of the most vulnerable categories of victims of conflict. However, women are also true actors of survival and solidarity during conflicts.

18. In Burundi, violence committed against women, in particular rape, over the course of 13 years of armed conflict (1993-2006) reached unprecedented levels. Rape was used as a weapon of war to humiliate the enemy and attack his dignity. Vulnerability is particularly acute for repatriated and displaced women, women affected by and infected with HIV/AIDS, former combatants who interrupted their demobilization process and women left without land or other sources of production.

19. On the one hand women suffered most from the conflict in Burundi, while on the other hand they have always been most involved in the search for peace through the development of solidarity mechanisms even in the middle of conflict. They went beyond boundaries, initiating activities for the social reintegration of displaced persons, refugees and IDPs, with traditional and modern techniques of peaceful conflict management and resolution. They have an undeniable engagement and potential for being actors of peace and need to be strengthened in that respect.

20. In this post conflict period, during which Burundi with the support of the international community has engaged in peacebuilding, we will need to invest in women in order for them to maintain their momentum as peace-builders and promoters of social cohesion. The contribution of women's networks for peace, fight against gender based violence and other structures aimed at helping women survive, constitutes a condition for peacebuilding in Burundi.

21. The intervention will focus on the most vulnerable communities of women and girls. These communities can be identified as those who were most affected by the conflict: women and girl returnees, displaced, widows, victims of gender based violence, women and girls infected or affected by HIV/AIDS, homeless women and girls and those who took part in armed groups and who did not benefit from DDR programmes.

22. The intervention is part of the national triennial programme (2006-2009) elaborated by the *Ministère de la Solidarité Nationale, des Droits de la Personne Humaine et du Genre*, with a view to strengthen the capacity of women in peacebuilding in Burundi during the post-conflict period.

23. Through their recruitment into armed forces and rebellions, the youth has been made part of the violence in Burundi during the successive wars. Recruitment was facilitated by the lack of economic alternatives for the youth as well as feelings of socio-political frustration.

24. The unemployment rate among the youth remains very high. The reintegration of ex-combatants, refugees and the IDPs has increased the competition for jobs and goods. The lack of job opportunities for the youth in urban areas, in particular for orphans or those infected with HIV/AIDS, is apparent with an increasing number of children living on the streets.

25. The intervention is aimed at strengthening social cohesion and at rehabilitating the youth with a view to using them as a catalytic for peace and a driver of economic recovery of Burundi.

26. The intervention will focus on the most vulnerable youth (boys and girls) in rural and urban areas. In rural areas, priority will be given to those that have been most affected by the conflict, in particular those youth from displaced and returnee families who are facing specific challenges of reintegration into guest communities. In urban areas, priority will be given to street children and the unemployed youth.

27. The interventions aims at providing training and technical support with a potential for small business creation and income generation; job creation in the area of community work with the aim of creating income and recognition for the youth in their communities; income generating activities; as well as peace and solidarity education programmes.

II.2. Strengthening of the Rule of Law in Security Forces

28. A reform of the security sector aimed at strengthening the rule of law is unavoidable in order to protect the advances made towards peace in a country which looks back at over thirty years of military rule.

29. The analysis of existing challenges revealed that a large number of partners are supporting the Government in the area of security, but that some specific components of security need immediate attention. The current ongoing support by partners engaged in security sector reform is very specific and do not address issues of professionalization of defense and security forces in the context of peacebuilding.

2.2.1. Quartering of the Forces de Défense Nationale (FDN) to mitigate the impact of their presence among the population.

30. The return to peace and security in Burundi requires a return to the barracks of members of the FDN. However, given the deplorable condition of existing infrastructures as well as their inadequate size to accommodate the current FDN numbers, members of the FDN are spread throughout the country in so-called “military positions”. Their precarious living conditions make professionalization difficult and put them at the mercy of neighboring populations (violence, robberies, rapes, etc...).

31. There is an immediate need to allow the return of the military to their barracks, since their continued presence among the population constitutes a source of insecurity for the

population and an important cause of human rights abuses. The principal beneficiaries of this project will be the communities neighboring the military positions.

2.2.2. Institutional support to the Police Nationale Burundaise (PNB) to allow it to ensure the security of the citizen and respect for the rule of law.

32. The national police is composed of a variety of sources: public security police, judiciary police, air and border police, former Burundi Armed Forces, former gendarmerie and former armed political parties and movements. This proximity police does not have the basic expertise and material resources to ensure security and public order. This reduces the feeling of security and constitutes a real and potentially important threat to the peacebuilding process.

33. The abhorrent conditions police officers work and live in are a constant threat to the environment and tranquility of populations they are supposed to protect. To increase public confidence in them, the police will need to be granted the necessary resources to allow for the mobility of services, and the generalization of interventions and of security patrols. Radio communication equipment is also needed.

34. These projects will have to be linked to the previous intervention. The PNB will have to ensure internal security, taking over from the FDN which will be quartered and whose main function is to ensure territorial integrity. Ultimately the population will feel more secure through the presence of a police which is capable of rapid reaction to any immediate threat while respecting human rights.

35. The projects/interventions in this area have been conceived to complement action undertaken by different partners in Burundi.

2.2.3. Raising the moral standard and professionalization of the force.

36. The political, socio-economic and moral crisis which affected Burundians for over 13 years also compromised the military. The loss of moral standards by the Burundi society resulted in absence of discipline, scandals and blatant violations of human rights by the military towards to the population. As a result of former combatants mixing in the DDR process, the FDN became a heterogeneous force, which necessitates important efforts to harmonize and to create a coherent and loyal force, respectful of the values of democracy and the rule of law.

37. The aim of the intervention is to promote a republican army, respectful of the rule of law, to consolidate achieved gains from the transition, through the reduction of gaps, the promotion of an “esprit de corps” and the strengthening of methods of discipline, professionalism and legitimacy in the eyes of the population.

38. The *Service National de Renseignement* (SNR) is a key actor in the process of restoring and maintaining security throughout the territory. The SNR is being accused of various problems, notably of violating human rights. The professionalization of its staff

is therefore indispensable. To that effect members of SNR will have to acquire the necessary competencies and appropriate working methods for the respect of legislation and rules as well as for the physical protection of populations and their goods.

39. The first and foremost goal of this project is to reduce the number of violations committed by some agents of the SNR towards the population, to create a body to prevent conflicts and destabilization and to propose ways and means to avoid them, with due respect to the rule of law.

40. In the area of training for the PNB, existing and planned activities by various international partners, including the United Nations, complement the institutional support provided.

2.2.4. Support to the disarmament of civil populations.

41. The fragility of the security situation is due in part by the proliferation of small arms and light weapons in the hands of civilians. A study conducted in 2005-2006 estimates that 100,000 weapons are in circulation, mainly for self-defense purposes. However, some of these weapons are used for criminal means which has contributed to the deterioration of the security situation, in particular in urban areas such as Bujumbura or Gitega. This situation compromises any hope for durable peace.

42. The Government, with the help of UNDP, has developed a strategy to fight the proliferation of small arms and light weapons and to disarm civilians. In April 2006, the Government established a Commission Technique de Désarmement de la Population Civile, whose members were nominated in August 2006. The mandate of the Commission is to finalize the strategy and implement it. BINUB supports the work of the Commission.

43. However, to succeed, such a programme will have to be preceded by a solid awareness campaign, which would prepare the population to its effective implementation. This project, which aims at launching the campaign against the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, will focus on developing tools to sensitize the population in Kirundi and in French, as well as developing training modules on the question.

44. The project will contribute to a change of attitude necessary to the success of the collection campaign, which is scheduled for later in 2007. The project will play a crucial role in preventing trafficking in small arms and light weapons and their proliferation in Burundi. The population would be reassured and would accept to voluntarily participate in the national programme for disarmament of civilian populations, which will reduce criminality.

II.3. Strengthening of justice, promotion of human rights, reconciliation and fight against impunity.

45. Impunity has been one of the root causes of conflict in Burundi since its independence. The absence of effective access by the populations to justice, and the lack of knowledge of existing laws, is further compounded by a culture of impunity and has encouraged citizens to take justice into their own hands. If factors promoting impunity are not eliminated immediately, injustice and conflict will remain.

2.3.1. Strengthening of the judiciary.

46. The judiciary remains weak and in need of additional means. The judiciary does not manage to impose itself and respond to the needs of the population. The judiciary is considered distant and inaccessible. The population demands concrete proof that rule of law works before deciding to give up violent extra-judiciary practices. Some international partners have planned large programmes to strengthen the capacity of judicial actors. However, these programmes will not start before the end of 2007. The proposed interventions, to be funded through the Peacebuilding Fund, should therefore start as soon as possible. They will have immediate consequences on impunity and will serve as a base for future activities envisaged by the Government in collaboration with its partners.

47. Since the beginning of the crisis in 1993, the judicial infrastructure, notably the local level “tribunaux de résidence” (some of the communes have two tribunals given their size) have been destroyed and magistrates have not been in a position to exercise their mandate. The distance between the justice system and those in need of justice created thereby has been, in particular in a post-conflict setting, a major obstacle to peacebuilding.

48. The lack of access to justice has fostered a feeling of distrust towards the judiciary among the population, encouraging citizens to take justice into their own hands, even if it meant committing violent crimes.

49. In the past years, a large number of judgments have not been implemented by the justice in Burundi due to material difficulties. The reduction of violence and the suppression of extra-judicial practices is indispensable. The launch of the national programme of reporting and execution of judgments delivered by courts and tribunals, and the strengthening of the capacities of the judiciary and penal systems will contribute towards achieving that goal.

2.3.2. Independent National Human Rights Commission.

51. Despite some efforts and progress in the area of Human Rights, the situation remains worrying. As the country emerges from conflict and in the context of support to the strengthening of the rule of law, it is more than ever necessary to establish national institutions for the promotion and protection of Human Rights, which would complement the institutions created after the democratic elections, in order to ensure the protection of and respect for Human Rights in Burundi, a pre-condition to durable peace. The establishment and functioning of an Independent National Human Rights Commission

will need sustained support. It is important that the Commission be able to initiate its work as soon as possible. However, for the time being, no partner has indicated interest in providing that support to the Commission. Given the urgency in this matter and its proven impact on peacebuilding, immediate support to the establishment and functioning of the Commission is indispensable.

2.3.3. National ownership of the national reconciliation process

52. The absence of mechanisms allowing the population to retrace the various episodes of violence are an obstacle to national reconciliation. The judiciary does not have the tools to respond to these shortages, which is why the peace accords envisage the setting up of mechanisms of transitional justice. Through its representatives in civil society and religious groups, the population expressed the need for reconciliation, sharing of experiences, search for the truth on the past and to obtain answers, if need be through reconciliatory and non-vindictive justice.

53. The Government is currently negotiating with the United Nations Secretariat to set up a framework agreement for the organization and functioning of mechanisms of Transitional Justice. However, the immediate capacities to initiate the work of such a mechanism, once established, are limited. The absence of visible and significant progress in establishing such mechanisms of national reconciliation, which are the basis for peacebuilding in Burundi, could hamper other activities of peacebuilding. An initiative in this area, financed by the Peacebuilding Fund, will give the Government the necessary capacity to start preparatory work.

II.4. Support to the management of the land issue, in particular in the context of reintegration of the affected.

54. Socio-political crises have led thousands of Burundians to leave their land and belongings, to leave the country or to be resettled in IDP camps. With the return of peace, numerous returnees hope to reclaim their property. According to the relevant Ministry, some 260,000 returnees are without land. Much of their land is occupied by others or is being used by the State to build infrastructure. Other goods have been dishonored or destroyed. In order to face this issue in the context of the waves of returnees, and to create the necessary conditions favorable to the return of IDPs, the Government has recently created a *Commission Nationale des Terres et Autres Biens*.

55. To establish a solid base for prevention and resolution of land questions, the Commission will need the resources to elaborate a data base and to lead an information and awareness campaign, which will set the stage for a durable and peaceful resettlement.

56. In the context of resettling the affected, activities will be developed to respond urgently and in parallel to the implementation of the cease-fire agreement with PALIPEHUTU-FNL and their problem of reintegration in those Provinces that have returned to peace (Bujumbura rural, Bubanza, Cititoke).

III. Coordination mechanisms.

57. The development, approval, implementation and follow-up to the proposed projects in the context of the priority plan will be guided by following mechanisms:

- The Joint Steering Committee (Government – United Nations – International Partners – Civil Society) is the main coordination mechanism at the political and decision making level. The Committee will also call for and guide the coordination between and among administrative authorities, the United Nations in Burundi, the World Bank, other multilateral institutions and the bilateral partners in the context of the Peacebuilding Fund.
- The Steering Committee will work closely with the *Comité National de Coordination des Aides* to ensure coherence between planned interventions, the longer term programmes as envisaged in the PRS as well as with all other ongoing programmes financed by the international community.
- A support office composed of Government and United Nations experts as well as of a permanent secretariat is in charge of technical support to the Joint Committee for the follow-up to the implementation of the priority plan.

58. The follow-up to the implementation of planned interventions in the context of the priority plan will be done on a regular basis, through periodic meetings of the Joint Government – UN Steering Committee. Evaluations to assess progress made, adjust and draw lessons will be conducted.

IV. Progress and future steps.

59. The Joint Steering Committee has already started its work. At its first meeting, the Committee adopted its Terms of Reference and endorsed a template for project documents to be submitted to the Peacebuilding Fund.

60. The support office of the Joint Steering Committee has also held seminars to train those who will be responsible for project elaboration. Working Groups have also been formed for each of the priority areas, bringing together over 150 officials from Government, the United Nations, civil society and international partners. With the help of the support office, the working groups have started their work of elaborating project documents.

61. The Joint Steering Committee plans to meet as often as needed to examine project proposals on the basis of agreed selection criteria.

Priority areas	Project	Impact on Peacebuilding	Reference
I. Good governance			
I.1. Democratic Governance	1.1.1. Setting up of frameworks for dialogue between national partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Burundi wishes to establish on a permanent basis appropriate frameworks for dialogue to develop broad national peacebuilding strategies. • These frameworks will promote a culture of democracy and allow for peaceful resolution of potential causes of conflict. 	Arusha Accords CSLP RES 1719
	1.1.2. Promote social peace through the improvement of economic governance and the inclusion of the private sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The adequate functioning of the Brigade Spéciale Anti-corruption and its first successes as well as the rigor of the Cour Anticorruption, will contribute towards reinstating trust between the State and the citizens, establish transparency in the management of public goods, thus re-establishing confidence. • Confidence will reduce tensions, bring about a social climate conducive to prevention of conflict and spur economic exchanges. • The private sector will be strengthened in order to contribute to peacebuilding efforts while fostering economic competitiveness. 	Arusha Accords CSLP RES 1719
	1.1.3. Clarify the functions between elected and nominated local administrations to reduce internal conflict and improve the quality of basic services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The task will consist in clarifying the roles and prerogatives of the various levels of local administration, through the elaboration of a guide and a code of ethics for the elected official, as well as wide dissemination of the two documents. • The drafting of the two documents will involve wide ranging consultations with a large number of citizens through their various groupings, syndicates, political parties, development associations, etc. • This initiative will contribute towards reducing conflicts among local administrations and will allow to focus their energy on improving basic services to citizens. 	Arusha Accords CSLP RES 1719
1.2. Strengthening of peace and social cohesion through the role of youth and women	1.2.1. Rehabilitation of the role of women in the process of reconstruction and reconciliation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Burundi, violence committed against women, in particular rape, over the course of 13 years of armed conflict (1993-2006) reached unprecedented levels. Rape was used as a weapon of war to humiliate the enemy and attack his dignity. • On the other hand women have always been most involved in the search for peace through the development of solidarity mechanisms even in the middle of conflict. • The contribution of women's networks for peace, organization to fight against gender based violence and other initiatives to help women guarantee their 	Arusha Accords CSLP RES 1719 RES 1325

		survival such as employment, will allow women to fully play a role in peacebuilding.	
	1.2.2. Mobilizing the youth to make them into actors of peace and reconstruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through their recruitment into armed forces and rebellions, the youth have become actors of violence. If they are not integrated in the peacebuilding process and if their needs are not taken into account, they could easily become a destabilizing force. • The intervention aims at mitigating this threat through initiatives such as employment and rehabilitation of the youth with a view to using them as a catalytic for peace and a driver in the economic recovery of Burundi. 	Arusha Accords CSLP
II. Strengthening of Rule of Law in security forces			
	2.1. Quartering of the Forces de Défense Nationale (FDN) to mitigate the impact of their presence among the population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is an immediate need to allow the return of the military to their barracks. Their continued presence among the population constitutes a source of insecurity for the population and an important factor of human rights abuses. • The principal beneficiaries of this project will be the communities bordering on 'military positions' and who will not suffer from the presence of troops in their midst. 	Arusha Accords Accord Global de Cessez-le-feu CSLP
	2.2. Institutional support to the Police Nationale Burundaise (PNB) to allow it to guarantee security of citizens and respect for the rule of law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PNB will have to take ensure internal security taking over from the FDN which will be quartered and whose main function is to ensure territorial integrity. • The abhorrent conditions police officers work and live in are a constant threat to the environment and tranquility of populations whom they are supposed to protect. 	Arusha Accords Accord Global de Cessez-le-feu CSLP RES 1719
	2.3. Raising the moral standard and professionalization of the force	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of the intervention is to promote a republican army, respectful of the rule of law, to consolidate achieved gains from the transition through reducing of gaps, the promotion of an "esprit de corps" and the strengthening of methods of discipline, professionalism and legitimacy in the eyes of the population. 	Arusha Accords Accord Global de Cessez-le-feu CSLP RES 1719
	2.4. Support to professionalization of the Service National de Renseignement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first and foremost goal of this project is to reduce the number of violations committed by some agents of the SNR towards the population, and to create a body to prevent conflicts and destabilization and to propose ways and means with due respect to the rule of law to avoid them. • Members of SNR will have to acquire the necessary competencies for the 	Arusha Accords Accord Global de Cessez-le-feu CSLP

		respect of legislation and rules as well as the physical protection of populations and their goods.	RES 1719
	2.5. Immediate support to disarmament of civilian populations and the fight against proliferation of small arms and light weapons.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government has developed a strategy to fight the proliferation of small arms and light weapons and to disarm civilians. This campaign in favor of the disarmament of civilian populations has to start as soon as possible. • However, to succeed, such a programme will have to be preceded by a solid awareness campaign which would prepare the population to its effective implementation. This project will contribute to the change of attitude necessary to the success of the collection campaign, which is scheduled for later in 2007. 	Arusha Accords Accord Global de Cessez-le-feu CSLP RES 1719
III. Strengthening of Justice, promotion of Human Rights, Reconciliation and the fight against impunity			
	3.1. Rehabilitation of the basic judiciary system with the aim of reducing conflicts within communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lack of access to justice has fostered among the population a feeling of distrust towards the judiciary leading to citizens taking justice into their own hands, even if it meant committing violent crimes. • Much of the judicial infrastructures, notably the local level “tribunaux de residence”, have been destroyed and magistrates have not been in a position to exercise their mandate in proximity with the population. 	Arusha Accords CSLP RES 1719
	3.2. Decrease of violence and suppression of self-justice through the launch of the national programme of reporting and execution of judgments delivered by courts and tribunals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the past years a large number of judgments have not been implemented by the justice in Burundi. • The population demands concrete proof that rule of law works before deciding to give up violent extra-judiciary practices. 	Arusha Accords CSLP RES 1719
	3.3. Translation into Kirundi, and dissemination of specific and essential codes and laws to solve conflicts within communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce frustrations within the population with regards to a “distant State” and a justice that seems to have lost touch with the people, laws need to be translated and widely disseminated to increase knowledge of all laws by the people. • The concrete and visible application of law, notably as it concerns the protection of minors and alternative punishments will show the population that post-conflict Burundi is moving towards the rule of law. • This intervention will complement ongoing efforts in this area by international partners. 	Arusha Accords CSLP RES 1719
	3.4. Setting up of the Commission Nationale Indépendante des Droits de l’Homme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the context of support to the strengthening of the rule of law, it is more than ever necessary to establish national institutions for the promotion and protection of Human Rights, which would complement the institutions created after the democratic elections, in order to ensure the protection of and respect for Human 	Arusha Accords CSLP RES 1719

		Rights in Burundi, a pre-condition to durable peace.	
	3.5. National ownership of the national reconciliation process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The various peace accords foresee the establishment of mechanisms of Transitional Justice, taking into consideration that the open wounds of the past decades of violence in all corners of society have been identified as the source of violence and constitute a latent danger to peace in Burundi. • Consultations will allow the Government of Burundi to initiate the work of setting up mechanisms of Transitional Justice. 	Arusha Accords CSLP RES 1719
IV. Support to the land reform, notably in the context of reintegration of the affected			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the return of peace, numerous returnees hope to reclaim their property. According to the relevant ministry, some 260,000 returnees are without land. • To establish a solid base for prevention and resolution of land questions, the commission will need the resources to elaborate a data base and to lead an information and awareness campaign, which will set the stage for a durable and peaceful resettlement. • In the context of resettling the affected their problems of reintegration in those Provinces that have returned to peace (Bujumbura rural, Bubanza, Cititoke) will be supported as a matter of priority. 	Arusha Accords CSLP RES 1719