Mr. President,
I thank you, Mr. President, for organizing this important and timely joint debate on the Annual Report of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund. This is a good opportunity for Member States to exchange views and reflect their ideas on the work of the Commission as well as that of the Fund.

I take this opportunity to congratulate and welcome HE Mr. Olof Skoog as the Chair of the PBC for 2015 and pledge my Delegation’s support in his constructive work ahead. I also wish to put on record my Delegation’s appreciation to Ambassador Antonio de Aguiar Patriota of Brazil for his dynamic role and constructive contribution as Chair of the PBC in 2014.

I also thank Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-Moon for his comprehensive report.

Mr. President,
Nepal attaches great significance to the work of the UN peacebuilding architecture and has been deeply involved in its work in different capacities. As a member of the Commission’s Organizational Committee and as one of the top troop contributing countries to UN peacekeeping, and with our own experiences in post-conflict management at home, Nepal is committed to further contribute to the work of the Commission.

Mr. President,
My delegation welcomes the analytical approach taken in the report of the PBC. The report has analyzed our challenges, gaps and the way forward in the peacebuilding architecture. The report mentions that the overall utilization of operation and activities of the Peace Building Fund has been at a satisfactory level, and shows why the much-needed technical, developmental and financial support should be provided to those countries that are in conflict situations.

The report of the Peacebuilding Commission has rightly underscored the centrality of sustainable peace and security through a coherent and coordinated response, as well as the need to ensure national ownership, inclusive national processes, gender mainstreaming, youth employment and job creation, the marshalling of adequate resources for peacebuilding and the sharing of experiences and lessons learned, in particular through South-South and triangular cooperation.

The report also clearly demonstrates the importance of partnership in the peace process. Nepal believes that partnership among PBC, international financial institutions, regional and sub-regional organizations including with the south-south cooperation and triangular cooperation and other relevant international actors, is indeed critical in harmonizing their support to make the peacebuilding efforts more effective. The strategic development framework must be prepared with a wider consultation to ensure better reflection of national priorities. The report rightly focuses on having a single overall planning document around which all international support must revolve.

Mr. President,
In its resolution 2086 (2013), the Security Council highlighted and reaffirmed the important interlinkage in the context of multidimensional peacekeeping missions, and expressed the Council’s continued willingness to make use of the advisory, advocacy and resource mobilization roles of the Commission in peacebuilding activities, and also emphasized the need for further harnessing these
roles in advancing and supporting an integrated and coherent approach with respect to multidimensional peacekeeping mandates in the countries on its agenda.

Mr. President,
We recall with appreciation the support the UNMIN provided in the peace process of Nepal as well as the continued contribution of the UN Peace Fund in Nepal. The Peace Fund has contributed to implement, among others, the UN Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820 through a dedicated National Plan of Action, which is the first of its kind in South Asia. This Plan intervenes in key areas including participation, protection and prevention; promotion, relief and recovery; resources management; and monitoring and evaluation. An inter-ministry implementation committee coordinates its execution, and a ministerial steering committee ensures its oversight. This is one of the pioneer works of the Government of Nepal with positive impact on the country’s peace process. Encouraged by the continuing positive results, as also shown by the NAP’s 2014 mid-term monitoring report, the Government is effortful to ‘localize’ the NAP to sub-national levels.

In this context, holding of first ever annual session of the Commission on 23 June 2014, back to back with the Peacebuilding Fund’s annual Stakeholders’ meeting was an important step forward. The annual session of PBC enabled closer interaction and engagement among relevant stakeholders in UNHQ and in the field, as well as in the capitals of Member States. My Delegation underlines the importance of institutionalizing the annual session of the PBC, with the aim of reinforcing the coherence and relevance of its work and offering a forum for engaging substantive discussions on its selected theme and guiding the PBC policy orientation. My delegation looks forward to this year’s annual session of PBC to be held on 23 June 2015, on the theme of “Predictable financing for peacebuilding – breaking the silos” as an opportunity for us all to show requisite political will and score a real breakthrough from the silos.

Mr. President,
This year, 2015, is important for PBC, particularly in view of the review of the peacebuilding architecture to improve the peacebuilding capacity of the United Nations system, inter alia, by strengthening the performance and impact of peacebuilding architecture so as to realize its full potential in line with the agreed terms of reference. As mandated by the General Assembly and the Security Council, a comprehensive review will be held throughout this year by both organs, in which it is expected to take stock of challenges faced by the Commission. We must find ways to improve its relationship with the Security Council, the General Assembly and ECOSOC, for effective functioning of PBC with visible result.

In this context, my delegation is of the view that the review of the peacebuilding architecture should go hand in hand with the review of the UN peace operations that is underway. My Delegation emphasizes that all reform measures should be implemented in a system-wide, coordinated, complementary and holistic manner.

Despite our numerous contexts varying from country to country, we see many commonalities in the approaches to and building blocks of peacebuilding. We have to learn from our past experiences. In this context, the Working Group on Lessons Learned must be developed and fully utilized as a learning and disseminating platform of the best practices and lessons learned in the country configuration as well as in the wider peacebuilding community. We believe that a better follow up and stronger integration of the findings throughout the peace-building activities help enhance our effectiveness on the ground significantly.

Mr. President,
I wish to conclude with a fervent call on all to reflect on the opportunity the year 2015 offers in our work, and to redouble our effort for making the UN peacebuilding architecture more effective and efficient to meet the aspirations of conflict-stricken people for peace, stability and sustained economic growth.

I thank you, Mr. President.