Mr. President,

This is the first major decision that we have taken in the follow-up of the decisions of our leaders at the 2005 Summit. And yes we have been able to respect the timelines, which were indicated by leaders i.e. to operationalize the Peacebuilding Commission by the end of this year.

2. Pakistan attaches great importance to this decision given the fact that the concept of acting together of the three principle organs and of all relevant actors involved in post conflict situations was a concept which was first tabled by Pakistan in the Security Council in the form of our proposal for Ad Hoc Composite Committees. We are very grateful to you Mr. President and the two Co-Chairs who have worked very hard on evolving the draft resolution and we have tried through the negotiations and in the informal consultations to present our contribution to the evolution of this decision.

3. We have accepted the draft resolution, Mr. President, because it has been adopted on the basis of consensus and we believe that the principle of consensus must be applied to all decisions that will be taken in the reform exercise. Indeed we have several difficulties with the provisions of the text that has been adopted and I would like to take this opportunity to clarify our position with regard to some important aspects of this resolution.

Mr. President,

4. Firstly, as regards the establishment of the Peacebuilding Commission we continue to maintain that the Summit had already established the Peacebuilding Commission and we therefore interpret Operative paragraph 1 which provides for a decision to act concurrently with the Security Council as only being designed to operationalize the Peacebuilding Commission rather than to establish it and we believe it is an important, if technical, differentiation.

5. Secondly, we continue to maintain that the roles and interaction of the principal organs of the United Nations e.g. the Security Council, the General Assembly and ECOSOC must be equitable, balanced and simultaneous. Each post-conflict situation has security dimensions, peace dimensions, and developmental dimensions and each organ of the United Nations and each agency of the United Nations which has a role to play, must be enabled to play that role in an equitable and full manner rather than be constrained or constricted by the jurisdictions established by for example the Security Council. Indeed it is only such common action that is the value addition that will be provided by the Peacebuilding Commission. If the Security
Council or any other principal organ were to establish exclusive jurisdiction over the activities of this body, this body in our view would be superfluous. It is only by acting together that we can develop the synergies of the entire system to advance the goal of post-conflict reconstruction and peace. Therefore, we believe that there is tension between paragraph 16 of the draft resolution and the rest of the provisions of this document, para 13 and 14 in particular, as well as the spirit and the letter of the Summit’s decision.

6. **Thirdly**, Mr. President, with regard to the composition of the organizational committee, we had started from the presumption that this composition would be functional in nature; therefore, it would include the membership of the Security Council but this would include permanent and non-permanent members. Secondly it would include membership of the ECOSOC to bring in the developmental dimension and it would include representation of the top troop-contributing countries and financial contributing countries.

7. In response to the concerns of some of our colleagues with regard to the possibility of regional under-representation, we have agreed to the inclusion of membership from the General Assembly as well in order to balance functional representation with equitable regional representation. And, secondly, Mr. President, I must state with all possible vehemence that we have consistently argued against permanent membership of Peacebuilding Commission and indeed of any other organ of the United Nations but we have been made aware of the actions that have been tabled in the Security Council where the additional draft resolution clearly contradicts the spirit of this resolution which we have adopted in the General Assembly and which would provide for permanent membership of the 5 Permanent members of the Security Council. We consider that this development at the very outset of the operationalization of the Peacebuilding Commission will be a most unfortunate development. But if there is insistence on part of the 5 Permanent members to be permanently represented in the organizational committee of the Peacebuilding Commission, I would submit that other countries which contribute in other ways e.g. by putting the lives of their sons and daughters in harms way by providing troops for United Nations Peacekeeping, perhaps they too would deserve equal treatment with the Permanent members of the Security Council.

9. In any case, Mr. President, we would urge you to reconcile the spirit of this resolution with the actions which are underway in the Security Council so that we start our work on this Commission with the right foot forward and not distort the important consensus decision which we have adopted in this hall today.

I Thank You, Sir,