

**Mr. Morales López (Colombia)** (spoke in Spanish): I thank you, Sir, for inviting us to today's open debate, and for the concept paper (S/2017/692, annex), which provides the background for today's important discussion.

My country shares the vision surrounding the need to adjust the structure of peacekeeping missions to ensure that they are effective and can provide an appropriate response to the current dynamics of armed conflicts. The majority of conflicts are no longer international; they now have diverse origins and connotations, as outlined by resolution 2282 (2016).

Like those who spoke before me, in particular Ambassador Gert Rosenthal, I would like to reiterate our belief that we are moving in the right direction in the crucial task of pooling our efforts to contribute to international peacebuilding and security. In a very different and specific context and with the support of the Security Council and of the entire Organization, my country has focused all of the Government's political will on achieving sustainable and lasting peace. The lessons learned in brokering the peace agreement and from its first special political mission, now nearing completion, which the Security Council approved in January 2016, allow us to categorically state that the success of such a major undertaking depends on a mission whose concept, structure and development consistently responds to the political and social situation on the ground, and not on predetermined formulas to which everyone must conform.

We also believe that, in our case, national ownership has been a determining factor in achieving success, which today's concept paper deems to be essential. As mentioned on other occasions at the Security Council and in other forums, the process conducted in Colombia, through a new tripartite mechanism with regional support from the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, the United Nations, the guerrilla armed forces and the Government, along with participation of communities, victims, young people and women, provides lessons that we believe can be analysed and considered in other contexts with complexities that require bold structures, which are underpinned by greater national capacities, possess a clear exit strategy, involve all stakeholders concerned and demand that a more relevant and effective role be played by the Peacebuilding Commission, which requires the tools necessary to carry out such a critical mission. Only in this way will their design not be reduced to the containment of conflicts but to the prevention of their recurrence.

As Secretary-General António Guterres has repeatedly said, conflict prevention must be one of the fundamental pillars of the work of the United Nations, and it is essential to incorporate aspects of economic development, social cohesion, gender equality and human rights, among others, in such a way that they translate into a culture of conflict prevention, based on risk management, to achieve sustainable peace.

In conclusion, the work of prevention and sustainable peace, which are two principles that we have been able to take from the three reports; the joint Security Council resolution 2282 (2016) and General Assembly resolution 70/262; as well as the Secretary-General's proposals for

reform should result in a strengthened budget that provides the necessary tools to execute this task to which we are all committed.