

Statement attributable to the Spokesman for the Secretary-General on the situation in Guinea-Bissau

The Secretary-General is deeply concerned over the situation in Guinea-Bissau following the President of the Republic's decision to appoint a new Prime Minister and the subsequent protests in opposition to the appointment. He urges all political stakeholders and their supporters to act responsibly, refrain from violence and avoid an escalation of the situation by settling their concerns through dialogue.

The Secretary-General notes that the prolonged political crisis in Guinea-Bissau is gravely affecting the functioning of the country's institutions and undermining prospects for socio-economic development. He calls on all political stakeholders to urgently bring the ongoing impasse to an end in the interests of the people of Guinea-Bissau on the basis of the country's constitution.

The Secretary-General welcomes the professionalism of the national armed forces-in the fulfilment of their duties and urges them to continue to act responsibly.

New York, 27 May 2016