



Security Council

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Letter dated 3 November 2022 from the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission addressed to the President of the Security Council

I thank you for inviting the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission to submit written advice, under rule 39 of the Security Council's provisional rules of procedure, in connection with the open debate on the topic "Integrating effective resilience-building in peace operations for sustainable peace", scheduled for Thursday, 3 November 2022 (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(Signed) Muhammad Abdul **Muhith**
Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission



Annex to the letter dated 3 November 2022 from the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission addressed to the President of the Security Council

Peacebuilding Commission's advice to the Security Council for the ministerial-level open debate on the topic "Integrating effective resilience-building in peace operations for sustainable peace"

The Commission welcomes the opportunity to share its observations for the Security Council open debate on the topic "Integrating effective resilience-building in peace operations for sustainable peace". Recognizing the importance of synergies and complementarity between peacebuilding and peacekeeping and the need for greater collaboration between the Commission and the Security Council, in particular when the Council is considering the mandates of missions, the Commission wishes to share the following observations:

As countries' peacebuilding gains and transition to stability and development are increasingly challenged by new risks and threats, often with a regional dimension, the Commission is committed to supporting a collective focus on ensuring that peace operations are fit for purpose, including by strengthening their impact on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, in line with the Declaration of Shared Commitments on United Nations Peacekeeping Operations.

The Commission stresses that the design and deployment of United Nations peacekeeping operations must take into account the prevailing dynamics in the host countries and effectively contribute to the pursuit of sustainable political solutions by, inter alia, supporting processes, within their abilities and capabilities, to address the root causes and drivers of conflict, which are important in peacebuilding and in post-conflict reconstruction and development. This approach could serve as a vital measure to prevent the recurrence of conflict.

The Commission notes that effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at the national and local levels are critical to reducing vulnerability, strengthening the social contract, protecting and empowering citizens and fostering trust in society. Peacebuilding and sustaining peace requires a holistic and comprehensive view as it relates to the prevention of relapse back into conflict and to post-conflict reconstruction and development. In particular, the Commission wishes to point to the importance of context-specific and nationally driven security sector reform processes that are inclusive and people-centred, informed by the needs of all members of society, including those in vulnerable situations. Security sector reform forms an integral part of transitioning from conflict to peacebuilding and sustaining peace. In this respect, security sector reform should incorporate principles of good governance, professional and effective management of public resources, the rule of law and respect for human rights. The Commission also wishes to point to the importance of prioritizing social service delivery and access to justice, including at the local level.

The Commission underscores the importance of inclusion of and engagement with civil society and the local population and recalls that inclusivity, as also mentioned by the Security Council in its resolution [2282 \(2016\)](#), is key to advancing national peacebuilding processes and objectives in order to ensure that the needs of all segments of society are taken into account. The Commission also refers to the joint report of the United Nations and the World Bank, *Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict*, which highlights the importance of inclusion to help to address economic, social and political grievances and inequalities.

The Commission recognizes the importance of the women and peace and security agenda in contributing to peace operations that create conditions for stability and lasting peace. Facilitating the participation of local women in peacebuilding and peacekeeping settings can help address the barriers to women's participation in such processes, including the structural and attitudinal aspects of political, social and economic sectors of society. The Commission recognizes that the combined contributions of women peacekeepers and local women's networks and organizations ensure that women's concerns are part of conflict prevention and resolution efforts. The Commission's gender strategy, adopted in 2016 and reviewed in 2020, and its associated action plan, promotes the participation of women in peacebuilding efforts, by systematically hosting them in the Commission's discussions, supporting the participation of women-led peacebuilding organizations in planning and stabilization efforts in post-conflict reconstruction and recovery, and ensuring that gender dimensions of peacebuilding are mainstreamed into its country- and regional-level discussions. As highlighted by the Security Council in its resolution [2594 \(2021\)](#), the Commission encourages the Council to continue ensuring that comprehensive gender analysis and technical gender expertise are included in all stages of mission planning, mandate implementation and review, and transitions.

The Commission stresses that youth can play a critical role in conflict prevention and it has been proven that when young people are fully, effectively and meaningfully engaged in peace processes, the outcomes are usually more lasting and sustainable. The Commission has adopted a strategic action plan on youth and peacebuilding to support the contributions of young people to peacebuilding and to strengthen its support for more meaningful youth participation, which resulted in the participation of young peacebuilders in nearly half of the Commission's meetings in 2021. The Commission encourages the Security Council to consider the perspectives of youth in its deliberations. The Commission also underscores the importance of ensuring that peace operations develop and implement context-specific strategies on youth, and peace and security, in line with Security Council resolution [2535 \(2020\)](#).

The Commission emphasizes the importance of peace operations working closely with a wide range of partners, including United Nations country teams, special political missions of the United Nations, United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes, international and regional financial institutions and regional and subregional organizations. This is particularly critical in preparation for sustainable transitions of peace operations. The Commission highlights the importance of relevant analysis to identify national peacebuilding priorities for which assistance is required. In this regard, the Commission encourages the Security Council to consider how United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks inform the peacebuilding activities of peace operations, in order to strengthen the complementarity with the work of country teams based on the priorities and strategies identified by host Governments.

The Commission wishes to stress the relevance of the peacebuilding architecture to support national ownership and leadership in peacebuilding, particularly with respect to nationally led efforts to transition out of conflict to stability, development and sustained peace. It also encourages countries to make use of the Peacebuilding Commission for South-South and triangular cooperation for peacebuilding, including for training and capacity-building, sharing best practices and gathering lessons from countries that have hosted peace operations and have made progress in addressing complex peacebuilding challenges.

The Commission wishes to highlight the important role of United Nations peacekeeping operations in environmental management in the host country, as and where mandated. In this regard, the Commission encourages the intensification of

efforts aimed at reducing the overall environmental footprint of peacekeeping operations, as mentioned by the General Assembly in its resolution [76/274](#).

The Commission is committed to enhancing the impact of peace operations by convening host countries and partners of the countries on the Commission's agenda around peacebuilding efforts and challenges. Through its work in the Central African Republic, among other country-specific agendas, the Commission expresses its intention to contribute towards addressing the root causes of conflict in the country, in support of the Central African Republic and the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic. Following the recent engagement of the Government of South Sudan to brief the Commission, for the first time, on its peacebuilding challenges and the efforts to establish a peacebuilding architecture despite significant security, political, humanitarian and development challenges, the Commission expressed its commitment to accompany South Sudan in its nationally led peacebuilding efforts at all levels.

Finally, the Commission underscores the need to elaborate options for ensuring the adequate resourcing of the mandated peacebuilding activities of United Nations peacekeeping operations. Recalling General Assembly resolution [76/305](#) on financing for peacebuilding, the Commission stresses the importance of sufficient funding to support peacebuilding activities during transitions and throughout the life cycle of peacekeeping operations.
