

## **PRESS STATEMENT**

### **Peacebuilding Commission Ambassadorial-level Meeting on Peacebuilding in Honduras**

New York, 26 June 2023

1. On 26 June, the Peacebuilding Commission held a meeting on Honduras, which included the participation of a high-level delegation of the Government of Honduras led by Mr. Rodolfo Pastor, Minister of the Presidency; and briefings by Country Representative at the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), Maria Jose Jarquin; the UN Resident Coordinator in Honduras, Alice Shackelford; and Co-Director of the Women Study Center (CEM-H), Suyapa Martinez; and Director of Americas Division, UN DPPA, Laura Flores, speaking on behalf of Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, Elizabeth Spehar.
2. The Chair welcomed the engagement of the Government of Honduras with the Commission on efforts to secure peaceful environment without violence for all citizens, strengthening the rule of law, human rights and building social cohesion from different perspectives in Honduras. Minister Pastor, speaking on behalf of Foreign Minister Reina, highlighted the multiple actions and priorities that the Government of President Xiomara Castro is implementing to establish a humanist government based on solidarity and participatory democracy to build peace and fulfill the sustainable development goals, as well as the challenges faced in fighting corruption and impunity. IADB Country Representative briefed on IADB's efforts to support the Government in reducing social vulnerabilities and improving service delivery. The UN Resident Coordinator underscored how the UN system in Honduras was supporting the Honduran Government through the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. Director Flores noted that as a country eligible for funding of the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) since 2020, the UN DPPA supports Honduras with a portfolio of seven PBF projects, which represents an investment of almost US\$13 million. CEM-H Co-Director emphasized the need to protect women and ensure their education, and political participation at all levels of governance.
3. The Peacebuilding Commission welcomed the engagement of the Government of Honduras and its dedication to establish an impartial, independent and autonomous international mechanism against impunity and corruption and encouraged the United Nations to support the Government in these efforts.