

**Peacebuilding Commission**  
**Informal meeting of the Organizational Committee**  
**1 June 2011**

**Chairperson's Summary of the Discussion**

**Background**

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On 1 June 2011, the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) convened an informal meeting. The meeting was chaired by the Permanent Representative of Ukraine, Vice-Chair of the PBC, and addressed the following agenda items: (1) Role of the PBC in resource mobilization; and (2) Other matters.

**Practical approaches to the role of the PBC in resource mobilization:**

1. The Vice-Chair noted that the meeting is convened in the context of the implementation of the actions contained in the document entitled: "Chairperson's Roadmap for Actions in 2011" designed to take forward the identified priority areas emanating from the Co-Facilitators' Report on the Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture. He also noted that resource mobilization and national capacity development have been identified as key priorities in the PBC Roadmap for Actions in 2011. While stressing that Country configurations are the primary vehicles through which the PBC will ultimately deliver on these two critical tasks, the Vice Chair affirmed that the respective roles of the Working Group on Lessons and the Organizational Committee will be crucial to support the country configurations as they attempt to take forward these tasks. In this connection, he invited the Chair of the Working Group on Lessons Learned to share with the Committee the initial findings from the meeting of the WGLL entitled "Resource Mobilization for Peacebuilding Priorities and Improved Coordination among Relevant Actors" which took place on 6 April 2011.

2. On behalf of the Chair of the WGLL, Ambassador Sumi of Japan noted that the initial findings from the meeting on 6 April included steps and recommendations for the PBC to improve its work on two fronts namely (A) resource mobilization and advocacy; and (B) improved coordination among relevant actors as follows:

**(A) Resource mobilization and advocacy**

- [1] To provide a platform for rallying various forms of international support;
- [2] To engage in discussions to devise mechanisms for flexible, predictable, rapid-response financing;
- [3] To use the PBF strategically for needs that may not be covered by other resources;
- [4] To enhance collaboration between the PBF/PBC and the World Bank in the field;
- [5] To reach out to the African Development Bank and other international and regional financial institutions; and

- [6] To organize occasions for advocacy to attract more resources.

**[B] Improved coordination among relevant actors**

- [1] To provide support and facilitate integration and alignment behind a common vision and actions;
- [2] To encourage programmatic and operational integration with costing;
- [3] To find a practical context within various strategic instruments;
- [4] To remain targeted and focused with a limited set of priorities and proper sequencing;
- [5] To focus on the short term (1-3 years) to maximize the PBC's comparative advantage;
- [6] To urge enhanced programming capacity on the ground;
- [7] To synchronize reporting and progress assessment; and
- [8] To re-establish the working relationship with the field

3. Following the briefing by Ambassador Sumi, while expressing broad agreement to the content of the initial findings, , some of the Chairs of the PBC Country Configurations shared their reflection , as well as their perspectives on the role of and the challenges facing the PBC in resource mobilization, as follows:

(a) The Chair of the **Central African Republic Configuration** pointed to the way the Configuration played its role as a platform for resource mobilization mainly in respect to two priority areas, namely the DDR process and elections, for which it mobilized US\$ 10 million and US\$ 7.5 million respectively. In both cases, a UNDP-administered basket fund approach was used and provided oversight and single budget administration. The Configuration mobilized several NGOs and developed a mapping document for resources and gaps. The Chair of the CAR Configuration also pointed to enhanced collaboration between the PBF/PBC and the World Bank in the field which is extended to areas such as socio-economic reintegration of communities affected by conflict and also fed into the preparation of the CAR's second-generation Poverty Reduction Strategy. He also recalled that in September 2010, the CAR Configuration and the World Bank co-organized a high-level event in the margins of the MDG Summit to sensitize partners on the peacebuilding and development needs of the CAR. The Chair also noted that the planned visit by the PBC Chairs' Group to the AfDB's headquarters in Tunis will also be a useful step to initiate a more structured relationship. He emphasized that the PBC should indeed urge the AfDB and the UN to institutionalize their relationship in the field with a view to facilitating coordination and joint programming. In general, he suggested that the PBC could focus its role for resource mobilization on the following aspects:

(1) **Advocacy:** This could include organizing or supporting events which could help the country market its achievements and attract additional resources;

(2) **Policy Formulation:** The PBC could guide the PBF towards needs that may not be covered by other resources;

(3) **Encourage partnership with and outreach** to the World Bank, the African Development Bank and other potential donors;

(b) The Chair of the **Sierra Leone Configuration** highlighted that resource mobilization remains one of the main challenges and concern of the PBC. In the case of Sierra Leone the PBC focuses on specific resource mobilization tasks as they emerge and on supporting coordination efforts.

In his view, the PBC can make contributions to resource mobilization in four broad areas:

[1] **Advocacy**: help change perception and “re-branding” which could attract investors; approach non-traditional donors; and promote more focus on technical assistance;

[2] **Coordination**: help ongoing efforts within the UN in the field including through pointing to structural difficulties which hinder coordination;

[3] **Policy formulation**: influence and help linking UN efforts in the countries on the agenda with global efforts aimed at addressing systemic challenges to supporting peacebuilding [e.g. WDR 11 operationalization; International Dialogue on peacebuilding and Statebuilding; implementation of the Review of Civilian Capacity]; and

[4] **Mobilisation of funds** aimed at addressing specific gaps in critical peacebuilding priorities.

(c) The representative of the Chair of the Guinea-Bissau Configuration highlighted the importance of strengthening the collaboration between the PBC and PBF, as well as between the PBC and the IFIs including in the area of debt relief, from which Guinea-Bissau benefited most recently. He emphasized that the role of the PBC should focus on:

[1] **Bringing existing and potential actors together including South-South cooperation**, while striving to foster national ownership.

[2] **Supporting national authorities to identify priority areas** which could facilitate resource mobilization efforts.

(d) The Chair of the **Burundi Configuration** suggested that the PBC should focus on supporting the countries on the agenda in their efforts to mobilise resources. He added that the PBC might wish to focus its resource mobilization efforts within its membership, since each individual member has the moral responsibility to support the countries on the agenda. He also noted that the alignment between PBC and PBF has been recently improved, but more could still be done.

4. Member States’ interventions highlighted the following points:

(a) The “re-branding” role of the PBC for countries on its agenda is linked to the extent to which the country requesting the support of the PBC is committed to take certain difficult decisions with political and socio-economic implications. Some speakers noted that

fundraising is reinforced if there is sufficient trust in the commitment of national actors and backed by concrete steps to deliver on such commitment.

(b) There has been notable improvement in the WB – PBC collaboration in certain countries. Active follow-up is needed to the recently convened Special Event of the PBC on the launch of the World Bank World Development Report 2011 (WDR) which took place in April 2011.

[c] There is need to work on improving the communications with actors in the field and in New York. This will contribute to managing the expectations of the PBC's role more generally.

(d) The PBC should also help facilitate a conducive environment for the activities of the private sector in the countries on the agenda.

(e) The PBF should prioritize among the various requests it receives. One member suggested that the Fund should be considered a major source of catalytic funding in the countries on the PBC agenda, cautioning that donors who contribute to the PBF are no longer stepping up to fund peacebuilding priorities in the countries on the agenda .

5. In wrapping up the discussion, Ambassador Sumi, on behalf of the Chair of the WGLL, appreciated the comments made by the Chairs of country configurations and other members , and expressed his intention to revise, as necessary, the text on the findings of the WGLL work on resource mobilization for the final submission at the end of the year.

6. The Assistant-Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support (ASG PBSO) provided factual updates on the status of the Peacebuilding Fund of which total commitment amounts to USD 433 million to date and which maintains its focus on twenty countries. She noted that 63.6% of funding is allocated to PBC countries. She noted that the PBF also contributes to the UN delivering as one in the field as it aligns its funding to PBC priorities per country. Finally, while agreeing that there is room for further improving the PBC / PBF alignment, ASG PBSO stressed the significant progress achieved in this regard.

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