

Peacebuilding Commission
Informal meeting of the Organizational Committee
10 September 2012

Chairperson's Summary of the Discussion

Background

On 10 September 2012, the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) convened an informal meeting. The meeting was chaired by the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, Chair of the PBC, and addressed the following agenda items: (1) Follow-up to the Security Council open debate and interactive dialogue on the PBC's annual report (12, 13 July 2012): Discussion of issues and recommendations; (2) Preparations for the High-level Event on "Peacebuilding: way towards sustainable peace and security" (25 September 2012); (3) Planned visit of the PBC Chairs' Group to the World Bank; (4) Other matters.

Follow-up to the Security Council open debate and interactive dialogue on the PBC's annual report:

1. The Chairperson recalled that, following the Security Council debate and interactive dialogue on the PBC's annual report of 12 and 13 July, he had promised to prepare a summary highlighting the many and important perspectives and recommendations presented by Member States. The draft summary shared with Member States ahead of this meeting covers two broad aspects: 1) the policy orientation and institutional issues related to the work of the PBC; and 2) the relations with the Security Council. The overall outcome could be considered as complementary to and reinforcing relevant recommendations emanating from the 2010 Review, as well as the findings of the mid-year assessment of the PBC 2012 Roadmap of Actions. The Chair invited Member States to reflect on the content of the document and to make recommendations on how to further take forward some of these recommendations in the context of the implementation of the Roadmap of Actions and the envisaged end-of-year assessment of progress made.

2. Members welcomed the Chair's summary and their comments focused on the following issues:

- The PBC has to strive to strengthen its role as a platform for promoting coherence and coordination of peacebuilding activities among UN and non-UN actors.
- In order to strengthen its support in resource mobilization, the Commission should engage the private sector and philanthropic organizations. Stronger relations with the World Bank and the African Development Bank are also important. In this regard, Members welcomed the forthcoming visit of the PBC Chairs' Group to the World Bank on 13 September.
- A number of Member States suggested having a discussion on the relations between PBC and G7+. Other Members, however, noted that the PBC should primarily focus on

strengthening the UN system's response to peacebuilding challenges in post-conflict countries.

- Members generally agreed that the Commission should strive to enhance its relations with the Security Council in specific areas, such as: 1) monitoring peacebuilding-related activities and objectives that are mandated in UN missions deployed in countries on the PBC agenda and linked to priority areas identified in instruments of engagement with these countries; 2) support to transition processes of UN missions in order to ensure that peacebuilding priorities and objectives remain in focus of UN presence; 3) galvanizing international support to long-term peacebuilding objectives in countries on its agenda; and 4) mapping of and identifying gaps in international support to peacebuilding objectives.
- In this connection, members also emphasized that relations between CSC Chairs and E/SRSG should be further clarified.

The Chair welcomed comments on and inputs from Member States to the summary ahead of sharing it with the Security Council.

Preparations for the High-level Event on "Peacebuilding: way towards sustainable peace and security"

3. The Chairperson updated Member States on the ongoing preparations for the High-level event organized by the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, in her capacity as Chair of the PBC, scheduled for 25 September 2012. He welcomed the constructive spirit with which delegations approached the first informal/informal meeting of the PBC to discuss the draft political declaration. The Chair noted that delegations should aim at affirming key principles and political messages to reaffirm the membership's collective political commitment to peacebuilding and to the central role of the PBC and the UN peacebuilding architecture in support of the aspirations of people in post-conflict countries. The Chair also appealed to members to remain constructively engaged in the consultations on the declaration.

Planned visit of the PBC Chairs' Group to the World Bank

4. The Chair noted that, in pursuing the work of the PBC on resource mobilization, partnerships and coherence, and in following-up on the meeting with the Board of Directors of the World Bank on the occasion of the UN launch of the World Development Report of 2011 which took place in April 2011, the PBC Chairs' Group is planning a visit to the World Bank on Thursday, 13 September. He added that, by meeting with key Executive Directors and senior official of the World Bank, the PBC Chairs' Group hopes that it will be able to identify with the Bank specific areas of cooperation which the PBC and the Bank can practically and jointly pursue at the country level.

3. Member States welcomed the initiative of the Chairs' Group and highlighted the importance they attach to the partnership between PBC and WB. In particular, it was noted that improving the alignment of the PBC's and the World Bank's activities in the countries

on the PBC agenda is critical for catalyzing broader and more coherent approach to supporting national peacebuilding priorities.
