

## **Brief by the PBC Chair on PBC annual report at the Security Council briefing on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace**

**10 am, 27 July 2022**

**Mr. President,**

I thank the President of the Security Council for convening this meeting on peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

At the outset I wish to congratulate Egypt, and Ambassador Osama Abdelkhalek in particular, for the excellent work done as the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission in 2021. As manifested in its annual report, the Commission has indeed made significant progress in strengthening the Commission's role during its 15<sup>th</sup> session, particularly its bridging, advisory and convening role.

Building on this upward trajectory, in 2022 Bangladesh as the Chair, aimed to adopt a more ambitious and forward-looking agenda for the Commission. To that end, an ambassadorial level meeting was convened prior to the drafting of its programme of work, which was attended by the PBC members as well as representatives of the countries and region who engage or seek to engage with the PBC. Based on feedbacks and requests made in the meeting, the programme of work focused on ensuring effective implementation of the Commission's mandate as articulated in the successive twin resolutions on peacebuilding and sustaining peace. The formulation was also guided by the relevant recommendations contained in the Secretary-General's report on Our Common Agenda as they pertain to the requests of specific countries and regions.

**Mr. President,**

Allow me to share some highlights of the PBC's 2022 programme of work and its implementation status in last six months:

**First:** PBC continues to **emphasize on delivery** – by responding to the demands in a timely manner. This year, the Commission planned to engage with at least 12 different countries and 05 different regions, in addition to its ongoing thematic priorities. Till date, PBC held 13 (thirteen) Ambassadorial level meetings and a field visit by the Chair of Liberia configuration. Country specific meetings have been held at the requests of Colombia, Central African Republic, Guinea Bissau, Liberia and Burkina Faso, while regional meetings took place on Sahel, Lake Chad Basin, and Pacific Islands to discuss specific peacebuilding challenges and priorities of those countries and regions.

At the thematic front, a meeting on Youth Peace and Security has been organized and preparation is underway for meetings including on women, peace and security. The Commission is also preparing for its annual session.

**Second:** This year's PoW prioritized **focusing on national ownership, and inclusivity**. In this regard, before organizing the meetings, the Commission engaged with an array of relevant national and regional stakeholders to ensure that PBC responds to the real needs on the ground. For instance, ahead of the meeting on Sahel,

the PBC, with the support from DPPA held extensive consultations with local and regional representatives of Sahel and its international partners. Building on FAO and IOM cross-border initiative on transhumance in the Sahel region, which has been successfully implemented with PBF's support under the auspices of UN Integrated Strategy for Sahel (UNISS), the meeting created an opportunity to generate additional political, technical and financial support to address the specific peacebuilding challenges in that region.

Good strides have been made so far in promoting inclusive approaches to peacebuilding, including by engaging with a greater number of local actors, particularly women and youth briefers. The percentage of national and local actors who briefed at PBC meetings is 43%. Participation rate of women briefers in the PBC meeting so far has been 80% and the participation rate of young peacebuilders 60%. The Chair is committed to maintaining the trend with a view to increasing participation rate in all three categories by the end its Chairpersonship.

**Third:** Greater attention to **United Nations coherence** has remained a priority this year. So far, the Commission has given due attention to promote integrated, strategic and coherent approaches to peacebuilding and placed emphasis on synergy with the PBF. In June, the Commission held a meeting with the Chairs of the Country Specific Configurations to receive updates on the progress achieved and upcoming activities. The Commission also received updates on PBF activities from the PBSO.

In addition, the Commission is planning to organize dedicated meeting with the agencies, funds and programmes involving the Executive Boards as well to further consolidate UN nations coherence, especially at the field level.

**Fourth:** The Commission has been pursuing **effective partnerships** with regional organizations and international and regional financial institutions. So far this year, a wide variety of partners, including AU, EU, African Development Bank, ECOWAS, Lake Chad Basin Commission, G5 Sahel, Pacific Islands Forum, and the Pacific Community, participated in the meetings of the PBC.

This year's annual informal consultative meeting between the PBC and the African Union Peace and Security Council (PSC) is expected to take place in November, during the AU PCR week. The Commission is also working to enhance the South-South and triangular cooperation in support of peacebuilding and sustaining peace and exploring opportunities to further strengthen its relationships with international and regional financial institutions.

**Fifth:** Peacebuilding **financing** continued to remain in focus this year, particularly in the context of high-level meeting of the General Assembly on peacebuilding financing held on 27-29 April. As articulated in its Programme of Work, PBC prioritized its advocacy for ensuring adequate, predictable and sustained financing for peacebuilding, and ahead of the HLM, the Commission sent a comprehensive input to the President of the General Assembly, reiterating that peacebuilding financing remains a critical challenge, and encouraged the General Assembly to consider in its high level meeting all options for enhanced peacebuilding financing, including voluntary, assessed and innovative.

The process now continues under the leadership of the Permanent Representatives of Sweden and Kenya as co-facilitators for the inter-governmental consultations on peacebuilding financing.

**Finally, and most importantly,** the Commission continued its efforts to enhance its **advisory and bridging role** with the General Assembly, Security Council, and ECOSOC.

The Commission for the first time shared its Programme of Work with the General Assembly and Security Council through formal communications from the Chair. This has been a major step towards institutionalization of the advisory relations between PBC and other organs of the UN. Another significant progress was exchange of letters between the PBC Chair and the President of the Security Council that requested the Secretary-General to liaise with the Commission in advance of relevant reporting to the Security Council. In this connection, the PBC is receiving the SG's reports in advance.

In addition to that for the first time, an informal coordinator has been appointed to liaise with ECOSOC in line with the existing practice vis a vis General Assembly and Security Council.

So far, during this 16<sup>th</sup> session of PBC, The Commission sent 08 advisories and delivered 7 statements in different meetings including meetings of General Assembly, Security Council, and ECOSOC. This year's submissions and statements have focused on the country, regional, and thematic contexts where the PBC has previously engaged, which include, submissions to the Security Council on Burkina Faso; Central Africa; Great Lakes; women, peace, and security; and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on peacebuilding; briefing to the Security Council on the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) and a submission to the General Assembly on peacebuilding financing.

PBC is working with ECOSOC to organize its Annual ECOSOC-PBC Joint Meeting will be held in late November or early December.

**To conclude Mr. President,** the Chair wishes to thank all the members of the Peacebuilding Commission, the Chairs of the Country Specific Configurations, the informal coordinators, the countries and regions who engage with the PBC, and the PBSO for their support in the implementation of PBC's programme of work for 2022.

I thank you Mr. president.

---