

Written submission
Peacebuilding Commission advice to the Security Council during the Ministerial
open debate on the topic *‘Integrating Effective Resilience-Building in Peace
Operations for Sustainable Peace’*

3 November 2022

The Commission welcomes the opportunity to share its observations on 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 missions’ mandates, 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 UN Peacekeeping Operations.
- The Commission stresses that the design and deployment of UN 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 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 level 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 prevention from relapse back into conflict and 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-centered, 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, SSR should incorporate principles of good governance, professional, 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 and engagement of civil society and the local population and recalls that inclusivity, as also mentioned by Security Council 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 UN-World Bank report “Pathways for Peace”, 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, 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 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 women in peacebuilding efforts, by systematically hosting them in the Commissions’ 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 levels discussions. As highlighted in SCR 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 proved 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 to support their contributions to peacebuilding and strengthen its support for more meaningful youth participation and this has resulted in the participation of young peacebuilders in nearly half of the Commission 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, peace and security, in line with SCR 2535 (2020).
- The Commission emphasizes that importance for peace operations to work closely with a wide range of partners including UN Country Teams, UN Special Political Missions, UN agencies funds and programmes, international and regional financial institutions, and regional and sub-regional organizations. This is particularly critical in preparation for sustainable peace operations’ transitions. The Commission highlights the importance of relevant analysis to identify national peacebuilding priorities where assistance is required. In this regard, the Commission encourages the Security Council to consider how UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks inform peacebuilding activities of peace operations, to strengthen the complementarity with the work of UN 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 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 the UN Peacekeeping operations in environmental management of the host country as and where mandated. In this regard, the Commission encourages to intensify efforts aimed at reducing the overall environmental footprint of Peacekeeping Operations as mentioned in the General Assembly 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 in support of the CAR and MINUSCA in addressing the root causes of conflict in the country. Following the recent engagement of the Government of South Sudan to brief, for the first time, the Commission 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 accompanying South Sudan in its nationally led peacebuilding efforts at all levels.
- Finally, the Commission underscores the need to elaborate options for ensuring adequate resourcing of the mandated peacebuilding activities of United Nations peacekeeping operations. Recalling the 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.