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Letter dated 11 April 2024 from the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission addressed to the President of the Security Council

In accordance with the mandate of the Peacebuilding Commission, as articulated in General Assembly resolutions 60/180, 70/262 and 75/201 and Security Council resolutions 1645 (2005), 2282 (2016) and 2558 (2020), I wish to share with the Council the provisional programme of work of the Peacebuilding Commission for 2024 (see annex). Pursuant to the exchange of letters between the Commission (S/2023/277) and the Council (S/2023/278), and recognizing that the advisory role of the Commission has benefited from the Council's decision to share the advance unedited versions of relevant reports of the Secretary-General, the Commission would appreciate continuing to receive the advance unedited versions of the reports of the Secretary-General to the Council on the following countries and issues considered by the Commission:

- Central African Republic
- Activities of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel
- United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia
- Situation in South Sudan
- United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Situation in Central Africa and the activities of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa
- Implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region
- Promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
- Strengthening the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union on issues of peace and security in Africa, including the work of the United Nations Office to the African Union
- Women and peace and security
- Youth, peace and security

I look forward to our continued collaboration to further strengthen the advisory role of the Peacebuilding Commission.

(Signed) Sérgio **França Danese**Chair
Peacebuilding Commission





Annex

Provisional programme of work of the Peacebuilding Commission for 2024

Guidelines for the programme of work

- 1. The present programme of work was prepared pursuant to the recommendation in the annex to the annual report of the Peacebuilding Commission according to which the Commission is to adopt an annual workplan based on the forward-looking agenda contained in the Commission's annual report and reflecting the Commission's country-specific, regional and thematic priorities. It is aimed at ensuring effective implementation of the Commission's mandate as articulated in General Assembly resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005); Assembly resolution 70/262 and Council resolution 2282 (2016); and Assembly resolution 75/201 and Council resolution 2558 (2020). It was prepared pursuant to the priorities for 2024 presented by the representatives of the Commission and of countries and regions considered by the Commission, at the first formal meeting, at the ambassadorial level, of the eighteenth session of the Commission, held on 2 February 2024.
- 2. In 2024, the Commission will build on good practices and lessons learned in carrying forward its activities. Its work will be guided primarily by its mandate, as reflected in the twin resolutions, taking into account feedback and requests from the countries and regions that seek the Commission's support. It will also consider outcomes of the discussions of the members of the Commission of the relevant recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on Our Common Agenda and the Secretary-General's policy brief on A New Agenda for Peace as they pertain to the requests received from countries and regions considered by the Commission.
- 3. Recognizing that peacebuilding is an inherently political process aimed at preventing the outbreak, escalation, recurrence or continuation of conflict, and further recognizing that peacebuilding encompasses a wide range of political, development and human rights programmes and mechanisms, the Commission will adopt a demand-driven approach, which, in accordance with its mandate and based on national ownership, requires continuing consultations with the countries and regions that consider sharing their peacebuilding experiences.
- 4. The Commission will also continue to explore opportunities for strengthening its visibility and showcasing its work, as appropriate, in accordance with its mandate, including in the context of discussions related to the Secretary-General's policy brief on A New Agenda for Peace, the Summit of the Future and the review of the peacebuilding architecture in 2025.
- 5. To further reinforce its work, the Commission will hold meetings on working methods, as outlined in the annex to its annual report, to consider action areas whose implementation can contribute to the efficiency and effectiveness of the Commission.

Focus on broadening geographical scope of work

6. Consultations are ongoing on the continuation of engagements with at least 15 countries in 2024, including the Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Mauritania, Mozambique, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, South Sudan and Timor-Leste. The focus will range from mobilizing political, financial and technical support for context-specific and nationally owned peacebuilding priorities and projects, to

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sharing experiences and lessons learned from peacebuilding trajectories. Consultations are also ongoing in follow-up to past and new commitments in support of regional peacebuilding activities, including in the Great Lakes region, the Gulf of Guinea, the Lake Chad basin and the Sahel. All the above-mentioned and other possible engagements will take into account and contribute to the principles and commitments set out below, as defined in the twin resolutions pertaining to the mandate of the Commission.

Focus on national ownership and inclusivity

- 7. In pursuing country, regional and cross-cutting engagements in accordance with its mandate and based on national ownership, the Commission will place strong emphasis on delivering results and meeting the needs of the countries that seek its support, with a continuous focus on results and impact. Peacebuilding challenges risk reversing gains that the Commission has been supporting in countries and regions under its consideration. The situation calls for recalibrated action and more effective support to peacebuilding and sustaining peace in countries and regions that engage with the Commission. Guided by action-oriented analysis, the Commission will ensure the active engagement of all its members in support of countries under its consideration.
- 8. The Commission will continue to support inclusive approaches in countries and regions under its consideration in support of national peacebuilding initiatives and peace processes at the request of concerned Governments and in line with national ownership, including by offering its platform to civil society and private sector representatives and by empowering women and youth peacebuilders from different contexts to share their experiences. It will also build cooperative relationships with academic and scientific communities to receive research, data and information relevant to its mandate.
- 9. The Commission will continue to support the preparation of national strategies for conflict prevention and peacebuilding and their implementation, both in line with national ownership.

Attention to United Nations coherence and follow-up

- 10. The Commission will continue to promote integrated, strategic and coherent approaches to peacebuilding in countries and regions under its consideration, noting that peace and security, development and human rights are closely interlinked and mutually reinforcing. The Commission, in line with its mandate, will continue to bring together all relevant parts of the United Nations system, including agencies, funds and programmes, with a focus on its representatives in the field, who are leading United Nations efforts to support national peacebuilding priorities, address conflict risks and enhance the capacity of national institutions. They will be invited to provide follow-up and assess the impact on the ground of the recommendations and actions points provided by the Commission.
- 11. The Commission will remain seized of the discussions and recommendations pertaining to resolutions 76/305 and 78/257 and will continue to place emphasis on synergy with the Peacebuilding Fund and to engage on a regular basis with the Peacebuilding Support Office within the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, the Peacebuilding Fund Advisory Group and the countries that receive Fund support to ensure that it is informed of the activities of the Fund.
- 12. The Commission will leverage the positive footprint of peacekeepers, where the peacekeeping missions exist, and support the implementation of the peacebuilding dimensions of relevant peacekeeping operations, including during their transition and after their withdrawal, as appropriate.

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13. The Commission will engage in the preparations and processes for the 2025 review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture.

Effective partnerships

- 14. In consultation with countries and regions under its consideration, the Commission will pursue more effective partnerships with regional and subregional organizations, with a focus on coherent support to conflict-affected countries and regions, based on shared analysis. In doing so, it will also build on suggestions made during past consultative meetings with the African Union Peace and Security Council. The Commission will organize the annual meeting with the African Union Peace and Security Council and promote cooperation with other regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate. The Commission will also consider formalizing the participation of the African Union in its meetings, in line with that of like institutions.
- 15. The Commission should ensure a more efficient and coherent approach to peacebuilding by fostering closer cooperation with all relevant State, local, regional and global organizations. The Commission will also seek to foster closer partnerships with civil society organizations from countries and regions under its consideration, including those at the grass-roots level, in order to support their participation in peacebuilding and in meetings of the Commission, including their role in the implementation of the targets of the Commission's Gender Strategy Action Plan and Strategic Action Plan on Youth and Peacebuilding.
- 16. The Commission will continue to pursue opportunities for stronger engagement with international financial institutions and regional financial institutions, including multilateral development banks, to address the peacebuilding needs of countries and regions under its consideration. This effort should be further streamlined by the Commission's visits to their headquarters and the regular engagement of international financial institutions and regional financial institutions, including multilateral development banks, in the Commission's discussions. The Commission will continue to support a strengthened United Nations-World Bank partnership, including building on successful initiatives supported by the United Nations and the Humanitarian-Development-Peacebuilding and Partnership Facility. The Commission will also consider stronger engagement with the private sector, as appropriate, to support peacebuilding initiatives.
- 17. The Commission will offer its platform for the promotion of South-South and triangular cooperation in support of peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

Advocacy for peacebuilding financing

- 18. The Commission will continue to advocate adequate, predictable and sustained financing for peacebuilding through voluntary, innovative and assessed contributions. The Commission will also continue to implement General Assembly resolutions 76/305 and 78/257.
- 19. The Commission will also explore ways to encourage flexible funding for local peacebuilding organizations, including those led by women and youth, and continue to develop approaches to foster innovative financing for peacebuilding. It recognizes the need to enhance financing to ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and involvement of youth in peacebuilding. Finally, the work of the Commission would benefit from improved awareness of Peacebuilding Fund investments.

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Enhanced advisory, bridging and convening role

- 20. The Commission will continue to improve the quality and timeliness of its submissions and briefings to principal organs and relevant United Nations entities and peacebuilding forums, providing them with broad peacebuilding perspectives, anchored in substantive and diverse engagements, including to the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, as mandated. The appointment of informal coordinators will facilitate this effort, including by better aligning the Commission's programme of work to those of the Assembly and the Security Council, as appropriate, and strengthening the Commission's bridging role with the Economic and Social Council. In relation to its bridging role, the Commission will continue to foster greater coherence in the United Nations system, including between the Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, and within and across the United Nations Secretariat, peacekeeping operations, special political missions, and agencies, funds and programmes. While pursuing this goal, the Commission should also explore innovative formats of work that would enable more outreach and interaction, ensuring that its working methods are most effective, and the sharing of good practices while providing timely advice to the Security Council, upon its request, ahead of the renewal or expiration of missions' mandates.
- 21. In its resolution 75/327, the General Assembly acknowledged the importance of the Commission's advice on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa. As encouraged by the Assembly in the said resolution, the Commission will maintain this practice.
- 22. The Commission will convene informal interactive dialogues with the Security Council and will submit advice at its request, as appropriate, for consideration. The Commission will also take action in response to Council resolution 2594 (2021), in which the Council strongly encouraged the Commission to facilitate the development of joint objectives and priorities prior to transitions.
- 23. The Commission will convene joint events with the Economic and Social Council and will further enhance informal cooperation with the Council, its advisory bodies and the executive boards of the agencies, funds and programmes in accordance with its mandate in the areas of peacebuilding and sustaining peace.
- 24. Moreover, the Commission will continue to leverage its convening role to provide an effective and diverse platform to bring together Governments, United Nations entities, partners and other stakeholders related to peacebuilding on country-specific, regional or thematic issues.

Emphasis on accountability

- 25. The Commission will keep track of its results and good practices and improve the outward communication of these results. The Commission welcomes the compilation by the Peacebuilding Support Office of factual and verified analysis in the annual reports of the Commission and encourages the continuation of this practice.
- 26. During and after its meetings, the Commission will seek to highlight recommendations agreed to by Member States for the way forward and areas for follow-up to the discussions in order to further strengthen its effectiveness.
- 27. At its meetings, the Commission will mainstream the women and peace and security agenda and the youth, peace and security agenda, including through the implementation of the Commission's Gender Strategy (2016), Gender Strategy Action Plan (2021) and Strategic Action Plan on Youth and Peacebuilding. The

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Commission also requests the Peacebuilding Support Office to continue to bring to its attention annual updates on the implementation of its Gender Strategy and Action Plan, and its Strategic Action Plan on Youth and Peacebuilding.

28. Lastly, in implementing the programme of work for 2024, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Chairs of country-specific configurations will meet regularly to share updates and discuss challenges that require collective action regarding the respective configurations, with a view to further strengthening coherence in the Commission.

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