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**Peacebuilding Commission**

**Eighteenth session**

**Organizational Committee**

**Summary record of the 1st meeting**

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 2 February 2024, at 3 p.m.

*Chair:* Mr. Šimonović..... (Croatia)  
*later:* Mr. França Danese ..... (Brazil)

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*The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.*

**Adoption of the agenda (PBC/18/OC/1)**

1. *The agenda was adopted.*

**Draft report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its seventeenth session (PBC/17/OC/L.1)**

2. **The Chair** said that the draft report had been provisionally approved by the Organizational Committee through a no-objection procedure. He took it that there was no objection to formally adopting the report before its processing and translation into all the official languages of the United Nations.

3. *It was so decided.*

**Election of officers**

4. **The Chair** said that, in view of prior consultations among regional groups and members of the Organizational Committee, it was his understanding that the Committee was prepared to elect the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission for its eighteenth session.

5. *Brazil was elected Chair by acclamation for a term ending on 31 December 2024.*

6. **The Chair** said that the Group of African States had endorsed Kenya for the position of Vice-Chair of the Commission for its eighteenth session.

7. *Kenya was elected Vice-Chair by acclamation for a term ending on 31 December 2024.*

8. **The Chair** said that members had been informed of the interest of Croatia in the position of Vice-Chair of the Commission for its eighteenth session.

9. *Croatia was elected Vice-Chair by acclamation for a term ending on 31 December 2024.*

10. *Brazil was re-elected as Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration; Morocco was re-elected as Chair of the Central African Republic configuration; and Sweden was re-elected as Chair of the Liberia configuration, for terms ending on 31 December 2024.*

**Other matters**

*Statement by the outgoing Chair*

11. **The Chair** said that the difficulties of 2023 – deepening divisions, including in the Security Council, and conflicts old and new – had in fact had a positive impact on the Peacebuilding Commission, in that they had stimulated it to explore how it could play an even bigger role in preventing conflict and building sustainable peace. Indeed, strengthening of the

Commission had been emphasized in the 2023 report of the High-level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism, the policy brief entitled “A New Agenda for Peace” and discussions on the Summit of the Future and its outcome document. There was growing recognition of the Commission’s unique role at the intersection of peace and security and development and its potential to bring the three pillars of the Organization’s work closer together.

12. In 2023, the Commission had engaged in 10 country- and region-specific settings, broadening the geographical scope of its work. It had engaged with new countries and countries not affected by conflict, thereby underlining the universality of peace and peacebuilding. Countries not affected by conflict could still benefit from national prevention strategies. He hoped that the Governments with which he had discussed national prevention strategies would present their strategies to the Commission soon, and that more countries would use the Commission as a forum for presenting their strategies, in order to enable peer learning and potentially facilitate the mobilization of resources.

13. In addition to strengthening its structural prevention work, the Commission could also contribute to operational prevention by recommending, or, given adequate authority, potentially authorizing and supervising the deployment of light footprint civilian missions to help countries, upon their request, to transition from peacekeeping to peacebuilding or to prevent conflict and instability. Systematic cooperation with international financial institutions and multilateral development banks was important as financial muscle was needed to address the root causes of fragility. In March 2023, the Commission had held a meeting with the World Bank and in June 2023, he had met with representatives of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. In the future, the Commission should seek to increase its cooperation with such institutions.

14. The Commission had also strengthened its regional cooperation with Africa, including through a visit to the headquarters of the African Union focused on enhancing cooperation between the two bodies. At the sixth annual informal consultative meeting of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and the Peacebuilding Commission, held in November 2023, the bodies had agreed to hold an annual expert group meeting prior to the annual ambassadorial meeting. The Bureau had also proposed to increase the involvement of the African Union in meetings of the Commission and in the Commission’s provision of advice to the General Assembly and the Security Council. The Commission should continue to build relationships with regional organizations from other regions with a view to

establishing a “sustainable peace network”. Such outreach would be easier in 2025, when the Commission would have four Vice-Chairs, representing all the United Nations regional groups. Having four Vice-Chairs would also strengthen follow-up to the Commission’s recommendations; for instance, it might make it possible to establish a stronger United Nations presence in Mozambique in the run-up to the national elections.

15. In 2023, the Commission had strengthened its advisory and bridging role by making its advice to the Security Council short, strategic, action-oriented and more timely. The Commission had also provided advice to the General Assembly and held an event with the Economic and Social Council focused on how the Sustainable Development Goals could be a tool for sustaining peace. The Commission had achieved a breakthrough in peacebuilding financing, with the General Assembly agreeing to establish an annual grant of \$50 million for the Peacebuilding Fund (see Assembly resolution [78/257](#)). Although \$50 million from assessed contributions was not enough, the political import of the decision was far-reaching. In addition to continuing to mobilize voluntary contributions, the Commission must explore innovative sources of financing.

16. The Commission had discussed a number of cross-cutting themes in 2023, including transitional justice, reconciliation, the rule of law, the impact of climate change and the engagement of women and young people in the peace process. In the future, it should also focus on the role of artificial intelligence and other new technologies in conflict-prevention and peacebuilding. Almost all the Commission’s advice to the Security Council and the General Assembly had benefited from the gender lens. Ongoing initiatives to revive and reform the Commission on the Status of Women, and the 2025 review of the peacebuilding architecture, should be used to harness women’s full potential for conflict-prevention and sustaining peace.

17. The Commission had convened its first ministerial meeting in 10 years during the high-level week in September 2023, giving more than 30 ministers the opportunity to discuss ways to further strengthen the Commission in the context of the Summit of the Future. Another such meeting during the 2024 high-level week could pave the way for the success of the review of the peacebuilding architecture.

18. *Mr. França Danese (Brazil) took the Chair.*

*Statement by the incoming Chair*

19. **The Chair** said that geopolitical tensions and growing rivalry among major Powers had narrowed the

space for diplomacy, and polarization and division were prevailing over cooperation, overshadowing critical debates on global issues related to peace and sustainable development. Since the Commission’s establishment, Brazil had been committed to placing peacebuilding at the intersection of United Nations security and development policy, which was essential in the current times of crisis.

20. As a diplomatic platform that brought together key regional and global actors, the Commission was well placed to improve collective conflict-prevention efforts and responses to post-conflict challenges. Brazil intended to coordinate the work of the Commission with an open mind and a strong sense of responsibility, aided by its extended diplomatic network and its friendly relationships with the entire community of nations. Priorities for Brazil included broadening the impact of the Commission’s work; fostering dialogue on conflict-prevention; reinforcing the nexus between strong institutions, sustainable development, human rights and peace and security; strengthening collaboration with the Security Council; and promoting inclusivity as a central pillar for stable and peaceful societies. Brazil would encourage the sharing of success stories and good practices, encouraging countries all over the world to promote peace by example. Moreover, it would continue to emphasize the voluntary nature and national ownership of countries’ relationships with the Commission, and would highlight all forms of cooperation in order to demonstrate that progress did not depend on financial resources alone. Existing bilateral, triangular and multilateral cooperation might be potent instruments for tangible results in countries that desperately needed them. Brazil would also seek to further enable South-South and triangular cooperation.

21. Along with the Vice-Chairs, Brazil would engage with States, international organizations, international financial institutions and private sector and civil society partners to tackle the challenges that lay ahead. The Commission would cooperate closely with the Peacebuilding Fund and would continue to rely on key multilateral financial partners, while also seeking new partners. Those countries that chose to seek assistance from the Commission should find in it a suitable environment for the discussion of effective solutions to their social, economic and security challenges, where they had full national ownership and genuine attention was paid to their priorities and needs.

22. In the lead-up to the Summit of the Future and the 2025 review of the peacebuilding architecture, Brazil would work to strengthen the role of the Commission as a convenor of discussions on cross-pillar issues that affected peace and security. In that regard, a holistic

approach to sustainable development was in order, as it was increasingly clear that peace, security and development could be sustainable only when they were mutually supportive and environmental justice, inclusivity and gender equality were given priority. As Chair, Brazil would continue to work with Member States to promote the fundamental contribution of women to lasting peace and to implement the women and peace and security agenda. Lastly, Brazil would work closely with the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council in order to find synergies in their agendas, increase dialogue and strengthen the Commission's contribution to their discussions.

*Statements by the outgoing Vice-Chairs*

23. **Mr. Muhith** (Bangladesh) said that in 2023 the Commission had managed to remain focused on its forward-looking agenda, often in challenging circumstances. In addition to broadening the geographical scope of its work and improving the quality of its advice to the Security Council, the Commission had enhanced its engagement with international financial institutions, strengthened its advocacy for the women and peace and security agenda and the youth and peace and security agenda, and had reinvigorated its partnerships with regional and subregional organizations. His delegation also welcomed the increase in the number of Vice-Chairs, which was to take effect in 2025. The successful field visits undertaken by the Commission in 2023 and its in-person meeting with the Peace and Security Council of the African Union had added new perspectives on how to further improve the outcomes of the Commission's work.

24. Throughout its eighteenth session, the Commission should continue to emphasize national ownership of peacebuilding and peacekeeping processes, which was critical to achieving sustainable results. Although the recent agreement by the General Assembly to introduce assessed contributions for the Peacebuilding Fund was positive, the need for funding was growing and the Commission must continue to explore new financing options. It should also focus on the links between peacebuilding and peacekeeping activities with a view to facilitating smooth transitions, in line with Security Council resolution [2594 \(2021\)](#), in which the Council had encouraged the Commission "in particular, to facilitate the development of joint objectives and priorities prior to transitions". The Commission should strengthen its relationships with regional and subregional organizations and financial institutions, as well as its partnerships with other United

Nations bodies, in order to enhance the coherence of United Nations support. Lastly, the Commission should continue to promote the women and peace and security agenda and the youth and peace and security agenda, in coordination with the relevant United Nations entities.

25. The countries under consideration by the Commission were facing pressing challenges, including climate change, humanitarian emergencies, the digital divide and shrinking windows for financing. The Commission should seek to better help countries to address those challenges, including by preparing to leverage the 2025 review of the peacebuilding architecture and the negotiations on the Pact for the Future, to strengthen its role. Bangladesh remained committed to strengthening the peacebuilding activities of the United Nations, whose value was increasingly recognized.

26. **Mr. Zahneisen** (Germany) said that as a result of the efforts of the outgoing Chair and the Peacebuilding Support Office, Canada, Honduras, Nepal, Norway and Mozambique had presented their prevention and peacebuilding approaches to the Commission and had sought its advice for the first time. His delegation hoped that the Commission would continue to work with those countries, which, although they were in different regions and faced different challenges, taken together exemplified the universality of peacebuilding. The ambitious, forward-looking agenda contained in the report on the Commission's seventeenth session was encouraging. Lastly, his delegation hoped that the new Chair would be a strong voice for peacebuilding in the negotiations at the Summit of the Future.

*Statement by the Assistant-Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support*

27. **Ms. Spehar** (Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support) said that, in his policy brief entitled "A New Agenda for Peace", the Secretary-General had recalled the need to reinforce global solidarity and rebuild trust between and within nations. He had advocated a holistic approach to the three pillars of the Organization's work, highlighting that peacebuilding could help to remove the obstacles hindering progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In that context, there was growing recognition of the value of the Peacebuilding Commission.

28. The Commission's attraction was clear. It operated with full respect for national ownership and served as a space where Member States could speak with, and not merely about, the countries under consideration. It was a platform for the exchange of experiences and best

practices where all Member States could contribute and support one another, and it enabled Member States to strengthen their partnerships with a diverse group of stakeholders, including international financial institutions, regional organizations and civil society, in support of their national priorities. Lastly, and importantly, the Commission was a key mechanism that assisted Member States in addressing critical issues at the intersection of peace and development.

29. Assessed contributions for the Peacebuilding Fund, as agreed upon by the General Assembly in its resolution [78/257](#), would allow for more predictable and sustained resourcing. Although the funds would not become available until 2025, planning would soon begin; a preliminary step would be the revision of the Fund's terms of reference. The first-ever meeting of the Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund Advisory Group, in 2023, had provided an opportunity to improve mutual understanding of the Commission's and the Fund's respective work and mandates. Along with the Commission, Member States should take forward that dialogue in order to explore ways to deepen synergies between the two entities. The Peacebuilding Support Office continued to prioritize strengthening partnerships: it worked closely with resident coordinators, United Nations country teams and peace operations at the field level, and it also had a team dedicated to working with international financial institutions, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and, increasingly, regional development banks.

30. In November 2023, approximately 70 civil society organizations had participated in a first-of-its-kind peacebuilding dialogue with the United Nations, an initiative of the Peacebuilding Support Office. The Office was also committed to unlocking the potential of the private sector to contribute much more to peace, including by way of new financing mechanisms and multi-stakeholder initiatives. In addition, the Office was increasingly seeking to align its efforts with those of regional and subregional organizations, including by providing support for the relationship between the Commission and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union. The Office's main objective was to contribute to specific, positive peacebuilding impact on the ground. The newly launched Peacebuilding Impact Hub would contribute to the harnessing of data-driven analysis, the sharing of knowledge, the communication of peacebuilding impact and support for convening and capacity-building in the area of impact analysis, all of which would inform and strengthen the work of the Commission.

31. Her Office stood ready to support the Commission in 2024, when the Summit of the Future would provide an opportunity for enhancing multilateralism and Member States would also have the chance to consider ways in which the Commission could be further strengthened in advance of the 2025 review of the peacebuilding architecture.

*Statement by the incoming Vice-Chair*

32. **Mr. Kiboino** (Kenya) said that, as Vice-Chair, Kenya would work with all the members of the Commission to support the Chair, particularly in the run-up to the Summit of the Future. His delegation applauded the many initiatives of the outgoing Chair aimed at strengthening the role of the Commission. The fact that five new countries had presented their peacebuilding strategies to the Commission and sought its advice for the first time underscored the Commission's significance as a vital platform for peer review aimed at fostering peacebuilding across regions. Kenya stood ready to brief the Commission on its peacebuilding priorities and experiences once a meeting for that purpose was scheduled. Kenya welcomed the formalization of regular meetings between the Commission and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, which underscored the importance of aligning peacebuilding efforts with regional frameworks and leveraging the expertise of key stakeholders. Lastly, it was important for the Commission to forge strategic partnerships with international financial institutions, which were critical to finding innovative financing solutions.

33. **The Chair** invited the Chairs of the country-specific configurations to share their plans and priorities for 2024.

34. **Ms. Eneström** (Sweden), speaking as the Chair of the Liberia configuration, said that Sweden would like to see strong, forward-looking and operative proposals regarding the role of the Commission in the Pact for the Future. Sweden welcomed the Commission's decision to expand the number of Vice-Chairs in order to improve regional representation.

35. Liberia had made remarkable peace gains in recent years. The peaceful elections and transfer of power in 2023 were true milestones. In 2024, the configuration would focus on consolidating the country's long-term peacebuilding gains. Liberia had a great deal of experience in the areas of sustaining peace, development, social cohesion, women and peace and security, youth and peace and security, and reconciliation. She looked forward to engaging with the

newly elected Government, which was to take office in the coming weeks.

36. The configuration would continue to engage with civil society, international financial institutions and regional actors including the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States and the Mano River Union in order to foster effective partnerships between all stakeholders. Sweden stood ready to support the Commission's effort to build on its previous gains, including in its role as an advisory body to the Security Council.

37. **Mr. Kadiri** (Morocco), speaking on behalf of the Permanent Representative of Morocco as Chair of the Central African Republic configuration, said that the Summit of the Future, the Pact for the Future and the 2025 review of the peacebuilding architecture should serve as opportunities to strengthen the pioneering and central role of the Commission in the global architecture for peacebuilding and sustaining peace. His delegation welcomed the decision of the General Assembly to establish a fund of \$50 million, to be launched in 2025, and the efforts already made to operationalize it.

38. During his visit to the Central African Republic from 7 to 11 November 2023, the Permanent Representative of Morocco, as Chair of the Central African Republic configuration, had met with the Prime Minister of the Central African Republic, other members of the Government and representatives of national institutions, civil society, international financial institutions and the diplomatic corps in Bangui to discuss the many positive developments in the country, national priorities and projects requiring the support of the international community.

39. Among the three priorities identified during the visit was the need to further the policy of decentralization and re-establish State authority in all regions of the country. The efforts made by the Central African Republic to ensure national ownership of the peace process were welcome. However, sustained commitment from international and regional partners was needed to create an environment conducive to the full implementation of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic, including the disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation programme and the restoration of State authority. The configuration would therefore focus on rallying the international community to provide the political support and financial resources needed to ensure the Agreement's implementation.

40. The second priority was to organize local elections that were inclusive, credible, transparent and peaceful in October 2024 and January 2025. Originally scheduled

for 2022, the local elections had been postponed twice for financial reasons. Postponing them again could lead to an overlap with the subsequent electoral cycle, beginning in 2025. The configuration would therefore continue to urge multilateral and bilateral partners of the Central African Republic to remain engaged in supporting the holding of the elections.

41. The third priority was to bring about a paradigm shift from humanitarian assistance to investment in development and economic recovery. The many advances made by the Central African Republic in recent years towards socioeconomic recovery and the current stability enjoyed by the country provided an opportunity to work differently. The configuration would mobilize technical and financial partners to redouble support for the longer-term vision of the Central African Republic for effective and sustainable investment in socioeconomic development.

42. The configuration would also keep a spotlight on developments in access to justice, the strengthening of the rule of law and transitional justice, including in coordination with the Reference Group on the Special Criminal Court in the Central African Republic.

43. **The Chair** said that, during its term as Chair of the Commission, Brazil would preside over the meetings on Guinea-Bissau and hoped to continue its engagement with that country with a view to promoting its institutional strengthening, its long-term stability and its sustainable development.

#### *General discussion*

44. **Mr. Amorín** (Uruguay) said that, as a troop-contributing country, Uruguay was committed to preventing conflicts and addressing their root causes with a view to building lasting peace, while promoting the inclusion of all sectors of society and actively supporting efforts towards reconciliation.

45. The United Nations peacekeeping system was going through a trying period, contending with increasing tensions on the ground, fewer missions, more complex mandates that were difficult to implement, bigger risks to United Nations staff and humanitarian personnel, and a deterioration in respect for human rights. The Organization must therefore continue to implement initiatives to strengthen its strategic presence in conflict zones.

46. The Commission should continue to strengthen its key role in fostering an integrated, coherent and coordinated approach to post-conflict peacebuilding efforts within the United Nations system. The Commission must be aligned with the specific needs of

the countries requesting assistance. Tailoring programmes and building trust among the parties involved were crucial elements for the success of peacebuilding efforts. It was also important to strengthen regional, subregional and local partnerships. Regional collaboration was key to effectively addressing peacebuilding challenges and promoting stability in different contexts.

47. The effective participation of women before, during and after conflicts improved outcomes and reduced the likelihood of renewed conflict. The meaningful participation and leadership of women in peace processes resulted in agreements that tended to last longer and in greater satisfaction with the outcomes.

48. **Ms. Brattested** (Norway) said that the Commission had expanded its geographical and thematic scope, made its advice to the Security Council more succinct and engaged with a broader array of stakeholders. The year 2024 would be important for both the Commission and peacebuilding in general, with important upcoming processes such as the Summit of the Future, the follow-up to the New Agenda for Peace and the preparations for the review of the peacebuilding architecture. For her country, an increased focus on conflict prevention, broader engagement with civil society and efforts to address climate change as a root cause of conflict would be important. Her delegation would also continue to place emphasis on women and peace and security. Norway stood ready to share with the Commission its national efforts and challenges in peacebuilding and prevention.

49. **Mr. García Toma** (Peru) said that the report of the Commission on its seventeenth session was rigorous and coherent, and reflected the idea that lasting peace and genuine security rested on good faith and justice. The Commission had a key role to play in the implementation of the New Agenda for Peace, aimed at promoting and consolidating peace and preventing conflict. History had shown that those objectives could be achieved only through reconciliation and with the right intention.

50. Strengthening prevention and mediation efforts was a priority for Peru. The origin of disputes should be assessed objectively with a view to preventing their intensification or recurrence. Focus should be placed on investing in prevention by building robust and resilient institutions, with the support of civil society, the private sector and international financial institutions.

51. The work of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission should contribute significantly to the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture to be conducted in 2025. The

causes of all forms of aggression and collective punishment must be clearly identified to strengthen trust and support efforts towards peaceful coexistence grounded in a reduction of poverty, hunger and inequality, the achievement of gender equality and the establishment of adequate health and education systems.

52. **Mr. Wood** (United States of America) said that the Commission had expanded and made considerable progress in its prevention and peacebuilding work in 2023. In December, the General Assembly had approved \$50 million in assessed funding for peacebuilding. His delegation welcomed such prioritization of investment in conflict prevention and was proud to have played a constructive role in achieving that shared goal. The United States contributed directly to conflict prevention and peacebuilding through its strategy to prevent conflict and promote stability, which complemented the efforts of the United Nations and the Peacebuilding Fund in priority areas such as Haiti, Libya, Mozambique, Papua New Guinea and coastal West Africa.

53. The preparations for the Summit of the Future and efforts towards the Pact for the Future could serve as vehicles for the implementation of important and overdue changes and improvements in peacebuilding and conflict prevention. Owing to the reticence of just a few, the Commission had at times missed important opportunities to deliver briefings or provide concrete advice to the Security Council and the Human Rights Council. The Commission must expand its role in cross-cutting areas such as human rights, the women and peace and security agenda, the youth and peace and security agenda, institution-building, transitional justice and the rule of law, displacement and climate change. The Commission must use the preparations for the 2025 review of the peacebuilding architecture to ensure mutually reinforcing interlinkages between security, development and human rights.

54. **Mr. Raguttahalli** (India) said that the outcome of the Summit of the Future could have an impact on the Commission and its functioning. Until then, the current mandate of the Commission should be respected and should not be stretched through creative interpretations. The Commission could do more to support countries during the post-conflict phase by promoting national ownership and synergies with bilateral and regional initiatives, and mobilizing international financial institutions and development banks. The Commission could also explore a role for peacebuilding during the peacekeeping phase. The Commission should strive to go beyond academic discussions and support the efforts of post-conflict countries on the ground. The Commission should play a more active role in the

activities of the Peacebuilding Fund, including exercising oversight.

55. **Mr. Greco** (Italy) said that the gap between societies and the United Nations bodies entrusted with their peace and security must be filled to restore trust. The needs, aspirations and proposals of the countries and communities that turned to the Commission must be respected. The Commission needed to engage with societies beyond their political leaders; to promote peaceful, just and inclusive societies centred on human rights and the rule of law; to address the devastating effects of climate change on peace and security; to use its convening role to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; to collaborate and coordinate with international financial institutions and other bodies; to integrate a gender perspective into all its policies; and to advance the participation and protection of women, young people and marginalized groups or communities, while prioritizing the protection of their rights. Italy would continue to work to bridge the increasingly devastating divide and restore trust to find common ground.

56. **Ms. Shino** (Japan) said that, at the Security Council Arria-formula meeting the previous week, her country had invited participants to share ideas on how to implement a comprehensive approach to sustaining peace with a longer-term vision. Many countries had reiterated the need to ensure coherent cooperation among United Nations entities, including by maximizing the role of the Commission.

57. The importance of ownership in conflict prevention had been echoed by many countries during the debate. The Commission could help to promote and support ownership by conflict-affected countries by convening a diverse group of actors and assisting the countries in identifying and tackling the underlying causes of conflict.

58. The Commission could also promote close partnerships with, and mobilize financing from, international financial institutions and the private sector for conflict prevention and peacebuilding. The Peacebuilding Fund had an important role to play in complementing such efforts by funding projects aimed at addressing the root causes of conflict. Her country had recently contributed \$3.7 million to the Fund.

59. Efforts to optimize collaboration between the Security Council and the Commission should continue. The Commission should provide substantial and clear advice in a timely manner to enrich the discussions and outcomes of the Council. Such advice should reflect and take advantage of the diverse opinions and experiences of the Commission's members. The informal dialogues

involving members of the Commission and the Council held in 2023 were a good initiative that should be continued.

60. **Ms. Stage** (Denmark) said that the Commission contributed to peace by bringing together partners, listening to national and regional peacebuilding priorities, mobilizing resources and promoting peacebuilding across the United Nations system. In 2024, the Commission should enhance efforts to implement and follow up on its gender strategy and action plan, not least by increasing the number of briefings to the Commission by women peacebuilders. The demands of countries for the Commission to take into account the consequences of climate change for peacebuilding efforts should be heeded. Her delegation stood ready to continue working together towards prioritizing and increasing investment in prevention and peacebuilding.

61. **Mr. Cho** Hyunwoo (Republic of Korea) said that the annual report of the Commission contained a forward-looking agenda that would guide the Commission towards engaging in a more structured and effective manner with various actors, expanding its geographical scope, and promoting and mainstreaming the women and peace and security agenda.

62. The proposals made at the first meeting between the Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund Advisory Group, including those to hold more regular meetings and to invite recipient countries to share their experiences, merited further consideration by the Commission. His delegation welcomed the informal engagement of the Commission with regional and subregional organizations, international financial institutions and regional development institutions. His delegation supported the broader role of the Commission as a convener of thematic discussions with a focus on the nexus between peace and development, as recommended in the New Agenda for Peace.

63. The Commission should give more attention to ensuring smooth transitions after the withdrawal of peace operations and should play an important role in garnering the political and financial support needed for the post-withdrawal phase. With the Summit of the Future and the review of the peacebuilding architecture on the horizon, the year 2024 presented an opportunity for the Commission to revisit lessons learned from its meetings and country visits, identify gaps and contribute to a comprehensive and holistic strategy for sustaining peace.

64. **Mr. Douglas** (Guyana) said that, as the international community grappled with conflicts and climate change, the Commission was more vital than



ever, serving as a testament to the collective commitment to fostering durable peace and security in post-conflict societies. As a new member of the Commission, Guyana was steadfast in its commitment to supporting the Commission's work and looked forward to navigating the complex landscape of peacebuilding.

65. **Ms. Alnesf** (Qatar) said that her Government's foreign policy vision and strategy was based on peacebuilding and sustaining peace as a key priority. Her Government had been carrying out comprehensive humanitarian and development efforts to assist communities and countries in post-conflict situations and humanitarian crises through various strategic partnerships with the United Nations system. Qatar had signed an administrative agreement with the United Nations Development Programme on supporting the Peacebuilding Fund in the period 2023–2024 and had contributed \$400,000 to the Fund.

66. The Commission needed to secure political, financial and technical support to enable it to strengthen its capacities and play a central role in the face of current changes, developments and challenges. The Commission also urgently needed to strengthen coordination with the Peacebuilding Fund and to expand partnerships with international financial institutions to secure sustained and predictable funding. Despite the progress made by the Commission in fulfilling its advisory role and serving as a bridge between international agencies and institutions, a more pragmatic and efficient approach was needed to enhance the Commission's advice to the Security Council, the General Assembly and States, especially in the light of the current threats to peace and security.

67. **Ms. Gilmutdinova** (Russian Federation) said that her delegation welcomed the emphasis in the New Agenda for Peace on the primacy of national ownership and the need to consider national priorities in the delivery of peacebuilding assistance. Respect for the sovereignty and interests of the recipient country and the strengthening of its capacities remained key to the success of efforts to build and sustain peace. However, her delegation did not agree that the interlinkages between climate and security should be addressed, nor that they should be taken into consideration in peacebuilding efforts. Climate change issues and their potential impact on security should be examined on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the full range of socioeconomic problems, to avoid the risk of reaching false conclusions.

68. The consideration by the Commission of generic issues through a peacebuilding lens made sense only

when linked to a specific country or region on its agenda, not as a general thematic discussion. The range of topics considered by the Commission should not be expanded by duplicating discussions on topics that were already considered by specialized bodies. The strength of the United Nations system lay precisely in the division of work among its main bodies; mixing of work would lead only to duplication and a reduction in the overall effectiveness of the Organization.

69. Her delegation welcomed the meeting that had been organized between the Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund Advisory Group. Such contacts should be maintained as they would help to increase coordination and synergies between the Commission and the Fund and would thus help to bridge the gap in peacebuilding assistance, prevent duplication of efforts and increase the transparency of the Fund. Transparency and accountability in the use of financial resources would have a positive impact on attracting more donor funds.

70. Her delegation welcomed the adoption by the General Assembly in December 2023 of its long-awaited resolution concerning the allocation of funds from the United Nations budget to the Peacebuilding Fund. Crucially, an understanding had been reached that Member States themselves would have control over the allocation of those resources.

71. Her delegation welcomed the willingness of States to share their national experiences in peacebuilding and stressed the need to involve post-conflict countries in the Commission's meetings. Following such meetings, the Commission could provide information to the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council about the peacebuilding priorities of Governments, the views and expectations of civil society, and assessments by representatives of the United Nations system and other national and international actors.

72. **Ms. Carlsson Szlezak** (Representative of the European Union, in its capacity as observer) said that 2024 would be a crucial year with the Summit of the Future, which would be an important building block for the review of the peacebuilding architecture in 2025. The cross-regional discussions in the Commission could contribute to broader coalitions for the important negotiations in the General Assembly.

73. In 2023, the Commission had broadened its geographic scope, showing that it was already endorsing the idea put forward in the Secretary-General's New Agenda for Peace that the need for peacebuilding was universal. When new countries came forward to be discussed by the Commission, they contributed to

destigmatizing the concept of peacebuilding. Peacebuilding was most successful when accompanied with strong national ownership.

74. **Mr. Remaoun** (Algeria) said that his delegation wished to assure the Organizational Committee of the Commission of its full support in the particularly challenging international context and ahead of the two forthcoming United Nations milestones, namely, the Summit of the Future and the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture.

75. **Mr. Yao Jialiang** (China) said that the Commission should continue to carry out its work in accordance with the twin resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly (Council resolution [1645 \(2005\)](#) and Assembly resolution [60/180](#)), balance its due functions in the areas of political security and development, and support capacity-building efforts towards the early achievement of lasting peace and sustainable development, while respecting the ownership of the countries concerned. The Commission should enhance its convening and bridging roles, and should strengthen its interactions with the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, including by providing more briefings and written advice. China would continue to actively support the development of conflict-affected and post-conflict countries through bilateral and multilateral channels and to contribute to the achievement of lasting peace.

76. **Ms. Paolini** (France) said that the Commission should focus on specific geographical situations and promote inclusive dialogue. France supported the Commission's work on transitional contexts and post-conflict situations. The Commission should support drawdowns of peacekeeping operations by mobilizing the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations and all development partners. Its support for the transition of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo had been crucial in building lasting peace in the eastern part of the country.

77. The Commission's operational contribution should be increased, in particular with regard to the Security Council. Its advice to the Council should be more complementary, targeted and operational, in line with the mandates of both bodies. Anticipation and dialogue with the Council penholders were essential ahead of the renewal of peacekeeping mandates. The Commission's role in the work on the Pact for the Future should be strengthened.

78. The Commission had shown that it was able to generate funding, contribute to a comprehensive United Nations response and work with all actors on the ground.

Sustainable financing for peacebuilding should therefore be ensured. France welcomed the decision to finance part of the Peacebuilding Fund through assessed contributions from 2025. France would maintain its level of support for the Fund, having been the seventh-largest contributor in 2023.

79. **Mr. Eldahshan** (Egypt) said that, in the light of the New Agenda for Peace and the forthcoming Summit of the Future, the Commission should review its strategies to ensure that they were in line with the renewed vision for peace and security. To elevate its effectiveness, the Commission should promote a comprehensive understanding of peace that went beyond traditional frameworks to incorporate conflict prevention and address the root causes of conflict and economic disparities. A peacebuilding strategy that respected national ownership was needed to balance immediate peacebuilding needs with long-term strategic goals. To optimize national ownership, the Commission should support self-led peace initiatives and ensure that the dynamics of host nations were taken into consideration in both the design and the execution of peace operations.

80. The achievement of the General Assembly in allocating \$50 million in assessed funding for the Peacebuilding Fund should be recognized. The Commission should build upon that achievement by seeking additional avenues of support and ensuring that those resources were used effectively in preventing conflicts. Active engagement with non-traditional donors, including the private sector and international financial institutions, was crucial to diversifying funding resources.

81. Given the need to strengthen multilateralism, the Commission should seek to enhance its cooperation with regional and subregional organizations. To improve its work, the Commission should adopt a more inclusive approach to peacebuilding by scaling up its efforts to engage women, young people and local communities in all stages of peace processes. Linking peacebuilding and peacekeeping, which was integral to conflict resolution and sustainable peace, should be a focus of the Commission. Ahead of the Summit of the Future, the Commission should set tangible and time-bound goals for advancing peace, justice and inclusion.

*The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.*