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**General Assembly  
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Agenda item 61  
Peacebuilding and sustaining peace****Security Council  
Seventy-ninth year****Letter dated 31 May 2024 from the Permanent Representative of  
Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to transmit herewith, in my capacity as the President of the Security Council for the month of March 2024, the Chair's summary of the Security Council open debate at its 9574th meeting on "Promoting conflict prevention – empowering all actors including women and youth" under the agenda item "Peacebuilding and sustaining peace" (see annex).

I hope that the present summary will serve as a reference to further advance discussions and actions of the Security Council, of Member States and within and beyond the United Nations, including as an input to the 2025 review of the peacebuilding architecture, to further promote conflict prevention.

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* Kazuyuki Yamazaki  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations



**Annex to the letter dated 31 May 2024 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

**Summary of the open debate held by the Security Council on 13 and 19 March 2024 on the theme: “Peacebuilding and sustaining peace: promoting conflict prevention – empowering all actors including women and youth”**

1. The Security Council convened, at its 9574th meeting, an open debate on “Promoting conflict prevention – empowering all actors including women and youth” under the agenda item “Peacebuilding and sustaining peace” at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 13 and 19 March, as a signature event of the Council under the presidency of Japan.
2. In addition to briefings by 4 briefers, 82 Member States and groups delivered statements in the debate, including 19 minister-level participants. They shared ideas on how to promote conflict prevention: preventing conflicts from erupting, escalating, spreading and recurring.
3. Prior to the debate, the Security Council signatories of the shared commitments for the principles of women and peace and security conducted a joint press stakeout, stressing the role of women in conflict prevention and the importance of developing conflict prevention measures with a gender perspective.
4. After the morning session of the debate on 13 March, 67 Member States stressed their collective commitment at a joint press stakeout to promote conflict prevention, working together to effectively incorporate recommendations made into the Council’s activities and further advance discussions and actions towards the Summit of the Future and the 2025 review of the peacebuilding architecture.
5. During the debate, almost all the participating Member States and groups reiterated the need for effective and collective conflict prevention by highlighting some of the key factors for success and proposing concrete actions for United Nations entities to strengthen their capacity and mechanisms to support nationally led comprehensive conflict prevention:
  - (a) Key factors for successful conflict prevention
    - (i) National ownership led by an accountable Government committed to conflict prevention and to fulfilling people’s needs and priorities;
    - (ii) Inclusive approach that ensures full, equal, effective, meaningful and safe participation of all stakeholders including women and youth in political and socioeconomic activities;
    - (iii) Promotion of dialogues for national reconciliation, cohesion and unity;
    - (iv) Institution-building and capacity-building at all levels;
    - (v) Close partnership beyond sectors, e.g. public and private sectors and civil society, at both the regional and international level;
    - (vi) Adequate, predictable and sustainable financing;
    - (vii) Comprehensive approach addressing root causes of conflicts;

- (viii) Situational awareness and early warning for prompt and effective actions;<sup>1</sup>
  - (ix) National prevention strategies<sup>2</sup> as well as regional ones, to promote necessary structural reforms.
- (b) Proposed actions for United Nations entities to strengthen their conflict prevention functions
- (i) The Security Council should:

*General*

- a. Adopt a resolution updating its resolution [2171 \(2014\)](#);
- b. Encourage the development of national prevention strategies;
- c. Request the Secretary-General to establish a group of experts to develop guidelines for national and regional strategies and assess the United Nations system's capacities to support conflict prevention;
- d. Support the establishment of a group of friends of conflict prevention;
- e. Call on Member States to consider ratifying the instruments of international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law;
- f. Urge Member States and all other stakeholders to implement the women and peace and security and youth and peace and security agendas;
- g. Request the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Security Council on prevention;

*Utilizing United Nations preventive tools*

- h. Make and call for the greater and more effective use of the tools in Chapter VI of the Charter of the United Nations<sup>3</sup> for conflict prevention, including Article 34;
- i. Encourage Member States and the Secretary-General<sup>4</sup> to assess and promptly bring early warning indications<sup>5</sup> to the Security Council's attention and ensure preventive action collaboratively and systematically in the United Nations system;
- j. Utilize the Peacebuilding Commission as a hub to spot and share early warning indications,<sup>6</sup> emerging threats and advise the Council;

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<sup>1</sup> Examples raised by the participating Member States: serious abuses of equality including sexual and gender equality; completion of international law including human rights or humanitarian law; inter alia, from ethnic, religious and territorial disputes; poverty; suffering severe economic, environmental, security and political strains, including refugees and its host; lack of development; and more.

<sup>2</sup> Secretary-General's recommendation in action 3 of the New Agenda for Peace. Available at [www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/our-common-agenda-policy-brief-new-agenda-for-peace-en.pdf](http://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/our-common-agenda-policy-brief-new-agenda-for-peace-en.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> Examples raised by the participating Member States: negotiation; enquiry; dialogue and mediation; conciliation; arbitration; judicial settlement; and resort to regional and subregional organizations and arrangements, as well as the good offices of the Secretary-General.

<sup>4</sup> Article 99 of the Charter of the United Nations.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.; footnote 1.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.; footnote 1.

k. Call for enhanced cooperation with regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with Chapter VIII and international financial institutions on prevention, including through their early warning mechanisms;

l. Make stronger efforts and call on all related actors to implement United Nations sanctions, which have a crucial role in preventing the escalation and deterioration of conflict;

m. Request and make good use of Peacebuilding Commission<sup>7</sup> advice and meetings to mobilize political and financial resources;

*Developing and implementing peace operations*

n. Support promoting dialogue, building local and national capacities and building institutions, including through the mandate of peace operations and in collaboration with the other United Nations agencies;

o. Reflect women and peace and security and youth and peace and security perspectives in the Council's work at all stages of conflict prevention;

p. Encourage the entire United Nations system to support civil society initiatives and to strengthen the relationship between them to promote conflict prevention;

q. Enhance peace operations' assessment and analysis capabilities, to prevent relapse into conflict, and their coordination with United Nations bodies and agencies;

*Transition*

r. Develop a more advanced, holistic planning structure across the United Nations agencies in consultation with host Governments and other relevant actors for smoother and more sustainable transitions.

(ii) The General Assembly should:

Organize a high-level discussion on conflict prevention during the Summit of the Future.

(iii) The Peacebuilding Commission should:

a. Strengthen its efforts in conflict prevention and bring attention to good practices and knowledge in conflict prevention;

b. Function as a hub to spot and share early warning indications<sup>8</sup> and emerging threats and advise the Council;

c. Mobilize and explore options for more funding for prevention including from regional organizations and international financial institutions and the private sector and utilize the Peacebuilding Fund as seed money to catalyse related investments;

d. Facilitate smooth transitions of peace operations;

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<sup>7</sup> Its advisory, bridging and convening roles and twin resolutions, General Assembly resolution 75/201 and Security Council resolution 2558 (2020).

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.; footnote 1.

e. Continue to provide Member States with the political space to discuss their prevention strategies<sup>9</sup> and related plans.

(iv) The Secretary-General should:

Continue to enhance the use of his good offices and engagement to support durable, inclusive and comprehensive prevention at the earliest stage.

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<sup>9</sup> Remarks by the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission to the Security Council open debate on “Promoting conflict prevention: empowering all actors including women and youth”. Available at [www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/pbc-chairs-remarks-security-council-open-debate-promoting-conflict-prevention-empowering-all](http://www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/pbc-chairs-remarks-security-council-open-debate-promoting-conflict-prevention-empowering-all).

## Enclosure I

The concept note for the Security Council open debate on the theme “Peacebuilding and sustaining peace: promoting conflict prevention – empowering all actors including women and youth”, held on 13 March 2024, is available as document [S/2024/210](#).

## **Enclosure II\***

### **Security Council, 9574th meeting, 13 March 2024**

#### **List of speakers**

##### **Speakers participating in accordance with rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council**

1. Rosemary DiCarlo, Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
2. Sérgio França Danese, Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations, in his capacity as Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission
3. Abiodun Williams, Professor of the Practice of International Politics, Tufts University
4. Sharon Bhagwan Rolls, Programme Manager, the Pacific Women Mediators Network and International Steering Group Gender Liaison of Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict

##### **Council members**

5. Japan (President)
6. Algeria – Kaoutar Krikou, Minister of Solidarity, the Family and the Status of Women
7. Ecuador – Arianna Tanca, Minister of Women and Human Right Affairs
8. Guyana – Vindhya Persaud, Minister of Human Services and Social Security
9. China – Huang Xiaowei, Minister and Deputy Head of the National Working Committee on Children and Women of the State Council
10. United States of America – Linda Thomas-Greenfield, Permanent Representative of the United States and Member of President Biden’s Cabinet
11. Sierra Leone – Piagie Alghali, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
12. Russian Federation
13. Switzerland
14. Mozambique
15. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
16. Republic of Korea
17. Slovenia
18. France
19. Malta

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**Speakers participating in accordance with rule of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council**

20. Czechia – Jan Lipavský, Minister for Foreign Affairs
21. Denmark – Marie Bjerre, Minister for Digital Government and Gender Equality
22. Uganda – Betty Amongi, Minister for Gender, Labour and Social Development
23. Luxembourg – Yuriko Backes, Minister for Gender Equality and Diversity
24. Tonga – Lord Vaea, Minister for Internal Affairs
25. Namibia – Doreen Sioka, Minister of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare
26. Panama – Juana Herrera Araúz, Minister of Women
27. Colombia – Elizabeth Taylor Jay, Vice Minister for Multilateral Affairs
28. Greece – Maria Alexandra Kefala, Deputy Minister for Social Cohesion and Family
29. Georgia – Khatuna Totladze, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs
30. Fiji – Eseta Nadakuitavuki, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection
31. Philippines – Maria Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga, Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources
32. Ukraine – Iryna Borovets, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs
33. Armenia
34. Croatia
35. Egypt
36. Austria
37. Costa Rica
38. South Africa
39. New Zealand
40. Romania
41. Mexico
42. Malaysia
43. Indonesia
44. El Salvador
45. Latvia
46. Spain
47. Germany
48. Türkiye
49. Thailand
50. Yemen
51. Guatemala
52. Italy



53. Qatar
54. Morocco
55. Liechtenstein
56. Poland

**Speaker participating in accordance with rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council**

57. Stavros Lambrinidis, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations

**Speakers participating in accordance with rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council**

58. Brazil
59. India
60. Azerbaijan
61. North Macedonia
62. Lebanon
63. Syrian Arab Republic
64. Rwanda
65. Peru
66. Timor-Leste
67. Democratic Republic of the Congo
68. Israel
69. Bangladesh
70. Kenya
71. Myanmar

**Security Council, 9574th meeting (resumption), 19 March 2024**

**List of speakers**

**Speakers participating in accordance with rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council**

1. Ireland
2. Lithuania
3. Paraguay
4. Bulgaria
5. Ghana
6. Albania
7. Viet Nam
8. Chile

9. United Arab Emirates
10. Portugal
11. Haiti
12. Argentina
13. Cambodia
14. Sri Lanka
15. South Sudan

## Enclosure III\*

### **Women and peace and security shared commitments, joint press stakeout statement, 13 March 2024**

We, the Security Council signatories of the Shared Commitments for the principles of Women, Peace, and Security – Ecuador, France, Guyana, Malta, the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States, and my own country Japan – reaffirm our strong commitment to ensuring the full, equal, meaningful, and safe participation of women at all stages of conflict prevention and their political, social and economic empowerment, in order to ensure their full representation at all levels of decision-making in the prevention of conflict and in all elements of peacemaking.

Despite our continued efforts, the world is faced with multiple conflicts which gravely endanger people's lives. Conflicts tend to disproportionately affect women. Realizing a world where the human dignity of every individual is upheld and no one is left behind should be our common goal. To this end, achieving sustainable peace by preventing conflict and relapses into conflict is crucial.

Against this backdrop, today, the Security Council will hold an Open Debate on promoting conflict prevention through empowering all actors, especially women and youth. We will discuss challenges and opportunities in promoting participation of women in the prevention of conflict and its recurrence, as well as the importance of empowering them across a wide spectrum of activities in this endeavor.

Regrettably, women's participation in conflict prevention is far from equal, meaningful, or safe. We believe more efforts need to be undertaken to recognize and elevate women's engagement at all levels, to integrate gender equality, and to shape strategies based on the priorities of women's rights constituencies in relation to conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

These areas include effective early warning systems to collect and analyze open-source information, preventive diplomacy and mediation, prevention efforts that tackle the root causes and drivers of conflict and violence, as well as robust and effective regulation of the arms trade, and electoral and security sector reforms, among others.

This underlines the necessity to build these areas on a gender-responsive analysis. Prevention measures cannot adequately predict and prevent conflict without a gender perspective. We cannot afford to leave half of the population out of the decision-making of conflict prevention.

We therefore urge Member States and all other stakeholders to reinforce and actively support women's formal and informal conflict prevention efforts by creating safe and enabling environments for them, and to address threats, harassment, violence, and hate speech against them. We also urge them to ensure women's full, equal, meaningful, and safe participation in national, regional and international organizations, as well as in informal, local or community-based processes charged with preventive diplomacy.

We also emphasize the importance of empowering and investing in women to ensure their active participation in conflict prevention efforts. In this regard, we underline that young, adolescent women and girls face unique challenges and

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circumstances. Support and empowerment initiatives must be tailored to their specific needs.

In conclusion, as we near the 25th anniversary of Resolution 1325, it is crucial to boost women's full, equal, meaningful, and safe participation and their political, social and economic empowerment to make conflict prevention more effective. We remain fully committed to this effort.

## Enclosure IV\*

### **Joint press stakeout statement after the morning session of Security Council open debate on “Peacebuilding and sustainable peace: promoting conflict prevention – empowering all actors including women and youth”, 13 March 2024, 1 p.m.**

We, Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Italy, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Türkiye, UAE, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, and Japan reaffirm our strong commitment to prevention, peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

The world can avoid the human tragedy and devastating consequences of conflicts when we concentrate on preventing them from erupting, preventing their escalation and spread once when they do occur, and preventing their recurrence once they have ended. This is also significantly more cost-effective, considering the political, socio-economic, and financial costs.

Effective and collective prevention is needed to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, as envisioned in the UN Charter.

The Security Council needs to proceed with and fulfill its determination to enhance the effectiveness of the UN in preventing armed conflicts.

With this in mind, the Security Council, under Japan’s presidency, convened the open debate today to hear ideas from all Member States on the role that the Security Council is expected to play in supporting nationally led efforts in prevention. More than 80 countries and groups have inscribed to speak.

During the debate this morning, the importance of conflict prevention was reiterated by the briefers and Member States. They also affirmed the need for a comprehensive approach based on national ownership, to prevent conflicts, and address local needs and the root causes.

For such a comprehensive approach, the relevant UN bodies and agencies would need to collaborate, and all members of society engaged in the peacebuilding and conflict prevention efforts.

Concrete proposals were made today, including the utilization of the myriad of Security Council tools, close cooperation between the Council and other agencies, and leveraging the use of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC).

We hereby commit to working together as responsible Member States to effectively incorporate proposals and recommendations made by various countries and regions into the Council’s activities to further promote conflict prevention.

We also call upon Member States to further advance discussions and actions towards the Summit of the Future and the 2025 Review of Peacebuilding Architecture

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and encourage them to promote conflict prevention from their own perspectives and areas of expertise.

Today's Debate showed the collective commitment of Member States to do our utmost to promote conflict prevention.

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