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Peacebuilding Commission Background Guide 2020

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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2020 National Model United Nations New York Conference (NMUN•NY)! We are pleased to introduce you to our committee, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC). This year's staff is: Directors Kyle Roberts (Conference A) and Laila Fouad (Conference B). Kyle holds a BA in Philosophy and English from John Jay College and is currently pursuing an MS in Statistics at Baruch College. Currently he works as an Anti-Money Laundering Analyst at K2 Intelligence. Laila holds a BA in Economics from the American University in Cairo and is currently pursuing her Master of Public Administration in Economic Policy at Columbia University.

The topics under discussion for the Peacebuilding Commission are:

1. Empowering Youth as Agents of Peacebuilding
2. Sustaining Peace through Partnerships

Acting as an advisory body for the United Nations (UN) General Assembly and the Security Council, the PBC plays a unique role in supporting peace efforts in conflict-impacted countries around the world. As such, the PBC is responsible for bringing together relevant actors and proposing strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery efforts. The PBC fills a unique role in the UN system in the relief-to-development continuum, bringing together the government of a particular country with all appropriate international and national actors to establish long-term peacebuilding strategies.

This Background Guide serves as an introduction to the topics for this committee. However, it is not intended to replace individual research. We encourage you to explore your Member State's policies in depth and use the Annotated Bibliography and Bibliography to further your knowledge on these topics. In preparation for the Conference, each delegation will submit a Position Paper by 11:59 p.m. (Eastern) on 1 March 2020 in accordance with the guidelines in the [Position Paper Guide](#) and the [NMUN•NY Position Papers](#) website.

Two resources, available to download from the [NMUN website](#), that serve as essential instruments in preparing for the Conference and as a reference during committee sessions are the:

1. [NMUN Delegate Preparation Guide](#) - explains each step in the delegate process, from pre-Conference research to the committee debate and resolution drafting processes. Please take note of the information on plagiarism, and the prohibition on pre-written working papers and resolutions. Delegates should not start discussion on the topics with other members of their committee until the first committee session.
2. [NMUN Rules of Procedure](#) - include the long and short form of the rules, as well as an explanatory narrative and example script of the flow of procedure.

In addition, please review the mandatory [NMUN Conduct Expectations](#) on the NMUN website. They include the Conference dress code and other expectations of all attendees. We want to emphasize that any instances of sexual harassment or discrimination based on race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, or disability will not be tolerated. If you have any questions concerning your preparation for the committee or the Conference itself, please contact the Under-Secretaries-General for the Peace and Security Department, Natalie Keller (Conference A) and Martina Vetrovcova (Conference B), at usg.ps@nmun.org.

We wish you all the best in your preparations and look forward to seeing you at the Conference!

Sincerely,

Conference A
Kyle Roberts, *Director*

Conference B
Laila Fouad, *Director*

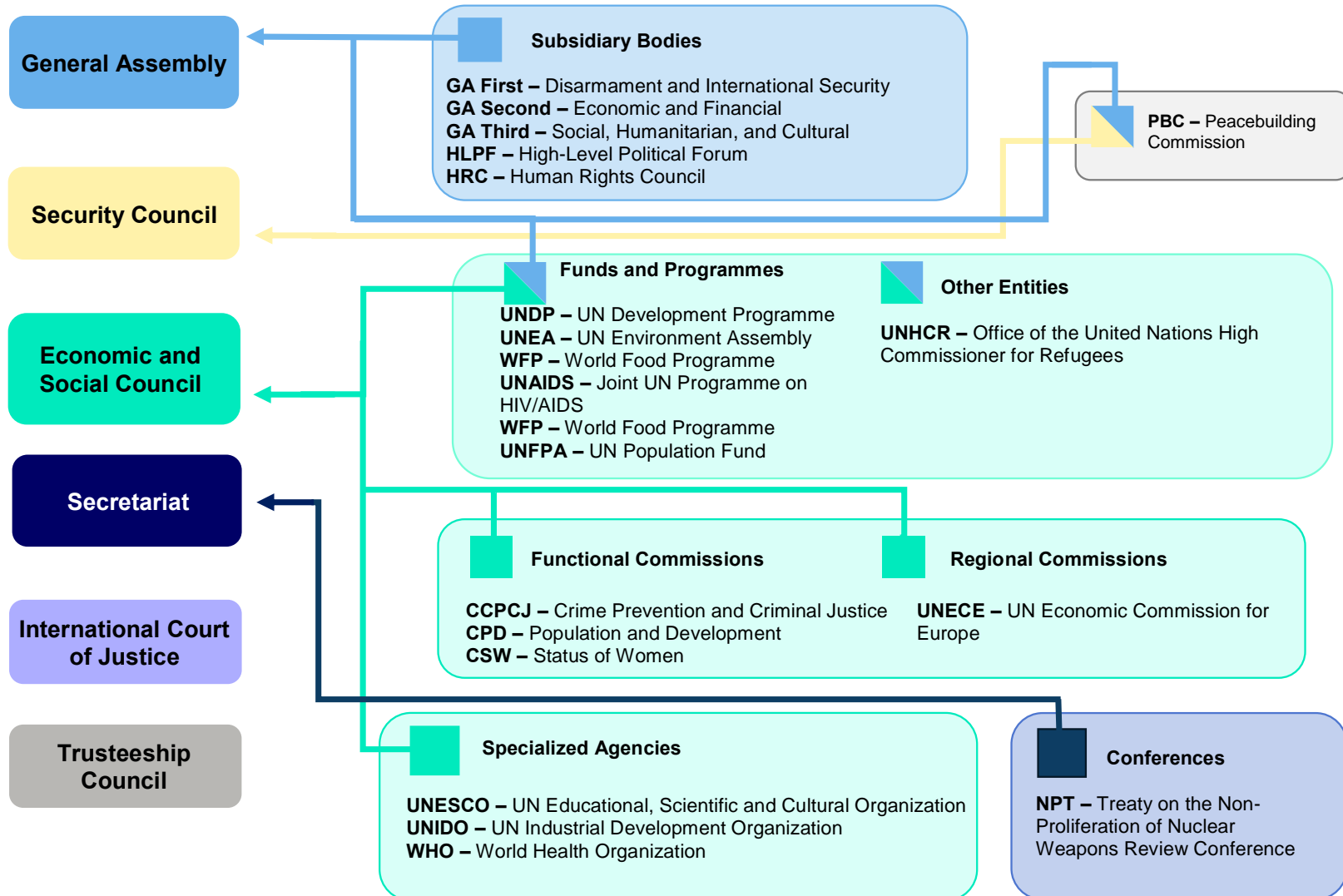


Table of Contents

United Nations System at NMUN•NY.....	2
Committee Overview.....	3
Introduction	3
Governance, Structure, and Membership.....	3
Mandate.....	5
Recent Sessions and Current Priorities.....	6
Conclusion	7
Annotated Bibliography.....	8
Bibliography	9
I. Empowering Youth as Agents of Peacebuilding	12
Introduction	12
International and Regional Framework.....	13
Role of the International System	14
The Impact of Youth in Sustainable Peacebuilding	16
Obstacles for Youth as Agents of Peacebuilding	17
Violence, Peacebuilding, and Youth.....	18
Conclusion	19
Further research	19
Annotated Bibliography.....	20
Bibliography	21
II. Sustaining Peace Through Partnerships.....	24
Introduction	24
International and Regional Framework.....	24
Role of the International System	26
Inclusive Partnerships for Sustainable Peace	28
Adequate and Sustainable Financing of Partnerships for Effective Peacebuilding	29
The Role of Regional Actors in Sustaining Peace.....	30
Conclusion	32
Further Research.....	32
Annotated Bibliography.....	32
Bibliography	33

United Nations System at NMUN•NY

This diagram illustrates the UN system simulated at NMUN•NY and demonstrates the reportage and relationships between entities. Examine the diagram alongside the Committee Overview to gain a clear picture of the committee's position, purpose, and powers within the UN system.



Committee Overview

Introduction

Peacebuilding as a concept first emerged in the 1970s with Norwegian sociologist Johan Galtung, who urged for the creation of peacebuilding structures that remove causes of conflicts to promote sustainable peace.¹ In a report issued in 1992 by former United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, “An Agenda for Peace”, peacebuilding is defined as the “action to identify and support structures which will tend to strengthen and solidify peace in order to avoid a relapse into conflict.”² Boutros-Ghali emphasized that in cases where preventive diplomacy fails and conflict erupts, the UN must respond through the combined mechanisms of peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding.³

The definition of these concepts was further detailed in the 2000 *Report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations*, referred to as the Brahimi Report, which outlined the findings of a high-level panel chaired by former Algerian foreign minister Lakhdar Brahimi to review UN peacekeeping and security activities.⁴ According to the report, peacemaking focuses on attempting to end conflicts through diplomacy and mediation, while peacekeeping refers to a “primarily military model” of ceasefires as well as military and civilian cooperation to build sustain peace in the aftermath of conflict.⁵ Peacebuilding, meanwhile, denotes rebuilding the foundations of peace and providing the tools to do so in post-war environments.⁶ The report notes that the scope of peacebuilding activities should be: holding “free and fair elections” to ensure the legitimacy of a post-conflict government, building governmental institutions, “upholding the rule of law and respect for human rights,” and promoting national reconciliation.⁷

In response to calls from both the Brahimi Report and the 2004 *Report of the High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change* to develop a body to facilitate and streamline peacebuilding activities, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) was established in 2005 through General Assembly resolution 60/180 (2005) and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005).⁸ Created during the General Assembly’s reform process initiated in its 60th session as part of the 2005 World Summit Outcome, the PBC acts as an intergovernmental advisory body for the promotion and support of peacebuilding efforts and the broader international peace agenda.⁹

Governance, Structure, and Membership

The work of the PBC is carried out by the PBC Organizational Committee, a consensus building body which includes 31 Member States.¹⁰ Seven Member States are elected by the UN General Assembly, seven are elected by the Security Council, and seven are elected by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).¹¹ The remaining ten Member States are comprised of five of the top providers of military personnel and civilian police to UN missions, as well as the five top providers of assessed contributions to

¹ Peacebuilding Initiative, *History*, 2013.

² UN General Assembly & UN Security Council, *An Agenda for Peace: Preventive Diplomacy, Peacemaking and Peace-keeping (A/47/277-S/24111)*, 1992, p. 6.

³ Ibid.

⁴ UN General Assembly & UN Security Council, *Report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (A/55/305-S/2000/809)*, 2000.

⁵ Ibid., p. 2.

⁶ Ibid., p. 3.

⁷ Ibid., pp. 6-7.

⁸ UN General Assembly, *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*, 2005; UN Security Council, *Post-Conflict Peacebuilding (S/RES/1645(2005))*, 2005; UN General Assembly & UN Security Council, *Report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (A/55/305-S/2000/809)*, 2000; UN High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change, *A More Secure World: Our Shared Responsibility: Report of the Secretary-General's High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change*, 2004, pp. 83-85.

⁹ UN PBC, *The Peacebuilding Commission*, 2017.

¹⁰ UN General Assembly, *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*, 2005.

¹¹ Ibid.

UN budgets and of voluntary contributions to UN funds, programs, and agencies.¹² Members of the Organizational Committee serve for renewable terms of two years in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/180 (2005) and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005).¹³ At the same time, resolution 60/180 and resolution 1645 outline that the European Union (EU), the International Monetary Fund, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and the World Bank can participate in all PBC meetings in a “manner suitable to their governing arrangements.”¹⁴

Currently, the Chair of the PBC is held by Colombia, while the vice-chair positions are held by Romania and Egypt.¹⁵ The Organizational Committee, which adopts all decisions by consensus, is responsible for determining the agenda.¹⁶ If the Committee deems that a country is on the verge of conflict, it may establish a Country-Specific Configuration (CSC) to carry out peacebuilding efforts in that specific country.¹⁷ Membership in the CSCs is made up of the members of the Organizational Committee as well as: the country under consideration; countries in the region engaged in the post-conflict process; the major financial, troop, and civilian police contributors involved; relevant UN representatives; and regional and international financial institutions as deemed relevant.¹⁸

The PBC works alongside several entities to ensure the promotion of peace efforts around the world. The Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) was established with the purpose of assisting the PBC with strategic advice, administering the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), and coordinating with UN agencies in peacebuilding efforts.¹⁹ Funding for peacebuilding efforts, like country-specific missions, comes chiefly from the PBF, the UN’s global multi-donor trust fund; it fills a critical gap in supporting countries between conflict and recovery for which no other funding mechanism provides.²⁰ From 2006 to 2017, the PBF supported 41 countries with \$772 million.²¹ The PBC and PBF act in close coordination with each other, with the PBC receiving briefings from the Chair of the PBF’s Advisory Group on PBC-specific country priorities and missions.²² The 2019 provisional annual workplan of the PBC highlights the need for increased synergy between the PBC and PBF, calling upon convenings to identify practical ways for engagement and to ensure the PBC is knowledgeable about the actions of the PBF.²³

Additionally, the PBC collaborates with external stakeholders such as the International Peace Institute, a non-profit think tank dedicated to conflict resolution both between and within states through strengthening international peace and security institutions.²⁴ The PBC also works with various UN missions in countries where it plays a role in peacebuilding efforts, such as the UN Mission in Liberia, the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone, and the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel.²⁵

¹² Ibid.

¹³ UN PBC, *Membership*, 2018.

¹⁴ UN General Assembly, *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*, 2005; UN Security Council, *Post-Conflict Peacebuilding (S/RES/1645(2005))*, 2005.

¹⁵ UN PBC, *Membership*, 2018.

¹⁶ UN General Assembly, *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*, 2005.

¹⁷ Peace Portal, *Country-Specific Configurations*, 2018.

¹⁸ UN PBSO, *UN Peacebuilding: An Orientation*, 2010, p. 37.

¹⁹ Ibid.; UN PBSO, *Peacebuilding Support Office*, 2018.

²⁰ UN PBSO, *UN Peacebuilding: An Orientation*, 2010, p. 37.

²¹ UN PBF, *United Nations Peacebuilding Fund*, 2018.

²² Peace Portal, *PBF Overview*, 2018.

²³ UN PBC, *Provisional Annual Workplan of the Peacebuilding Commission*, 2019.

²⁴ International Peace Institute, *Mission & History*, 2017.

²⁵ Security Council Report, *The Peacebuilding Commission and the Security Council: From Cynicism to Synergy?*, 2017, p. 3-4.

Mandate

As an intergovernmental advisory body, the PBC is mainly responsible for providing support to peace efforts in conflict-affected countries.²⁶ Through General Assembly resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645, the PBC is mandated with: coordinating between all relevant actors to organize resources, providing advice on and propose integrated strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery, focusing on reconstruction and institution-building efforts for post-conflict recovery while laying the groundwork for sustainable development, and, offering recommendations and information to improve the coordination of all relevant actors both within and outside the UN.²⁷ The PBC also monitors progress, gathers financial support for peacebuilding, and works with partners within the UN system.²⁸

Functions and Powers

General Assembly resolution 70/262 (2016) and Security Council resolution 2282 (2016) emphasize the significance of the PBC in fulfilling several functions with regards to its mandate:

- To bring long-term international attention to sustaining peace and to provide political support and advocacy to countries affected by conflict, with their consent;
- To promote an integrated, strategic, and coherent approach to peacebuilding, noting that security, development, and human rights are closely interlinked and mutually reinforcing;
- To serve a bridging role among the principal organs and relevant entities of the UN by sharing advice on peacebuilding needs and priorities, in line with the respective competencies and responsibilities of these bodies;
- To serve as a platform to convene all relevant actors within and outside the UN to provide recommendations and information to improve their coordination, to develop and share good practices in peacebuilding, and to ensure predictable financing for peacebuilding.²⁹

Further, the PBC's Organizational Committee can establish CSCs to look at peacebuilding issues in particular countries.³⁰ Bringing together both local and regional representatives as well as a representative of the Secretary-General, the CSC drafts a Strategic Framework, created 6 to 9 months after a peace agreement is signed, for the focus country to establish peacebuilding priorities, objectives, and risks.³¹ Based on the principles of national ownership, coordination, and commitment among all partners, the Strategic Framework serves as an action plan for UN bodies to carry out PBC recommendations.³²

The resolutions establishing the PBC dictate that a country can be included in the PBC's agenda via requests for advice from the Security Council or the Secretary-General, and via requests for advice from the ECOSOC, the General Assembly, or, in exceptional circumstances, Member States that are on the verge of conflict and not on the agenda of the Security Council.³³

The PBC holds a unique connection between the General Assembly, the Security Council, and the ECOSOC. The General Assembly and the Security Council can emphasize the actions and highlight additional roles of the PBC, as previously shown in the 2016 expansion of the PBC mandate which tasks the PBC to promote integrated and strategic approaches to peacebuilding, advising relevant organs and

²⁶ UN General Assembly, *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*, 2005.

²⁷ UN PBC, *Mandate*, 2018.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ UN General Assembly, *Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture (A/RES/70/262)*, 2016; UN Security Council, *Post-Conflict Peacebuilding (S/RES/2282(2016))*, 2016.

³⁰ Peace Portal, *Country-Specific Configurations*, 2018.

³¹ UN PBC, *UN Peacebuilding: An Orientation*, 2010, p. 37.

³² Ibid.

³³ UN General Assembly, *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*, 2005; UN Security Council, *Post-Conflict Peacebuilding (S/RES/1645(2005))*, 2005.

entities of the UN on peacebuilding strategies, and to serve as a platform to convene all relevant actors for peacebuilding recommendations.³⁴ This expansion empowered the PBC to have a more involved and participatory role in peacebuilding affairs by engaging the PBC in all conversations and issues regarding peacebuilding. On 19 June 2017, the Security Council convened an informal interactive dialogue with the PBC to provide an opportunity to discuss ways to strengthen coordination, coherence, and cooperation between the Security Council and the PBC, and envisioned the PBC to act in an advisory role for the Security Council.³⁵ Similarly, the General Assembly and the ECOSOC have called on the PBC to increase in its advisory role on topics that involve peacebuilding, and to improve collaborative efforts by identifying new partnerships that can arise through peacebuilding.³⁶ On 28 June 2017, the PBC convened a joint event with the ECOSOC to focus on ways to overcome multi-dimensional challenges in the Sahel by addressing economic and social root causes of the crisis, while also highlighting the need for continued coordinated partnerships between the PBC and the ECOSOC.³⁷

Recent Sessions and Current Priorities

In 2015, the PBC undertook a comprehensive review of the UN peacebuilding architecture that was a two-part process intended to review the role of the PBC, the PBF, and the PBSO.³⁸ According to the report released in 2015 by a seven-member Advisory Group of Experts, one of the biggest challenges facing the UN peacebuilding architecture is the existence of deep fragmentation within the UN system, which can be seen, for example, in the differing mandates between relevant UN peacebuilding entities.³⁹ In its recommendations, the report emphasizes the importance of coherence at the intergovernmental level to strengthen partnerships in peacebuilding, provide more predictable peacebuilding funding, and broaden inclusion in peacebuilding efforts to eliminate fragmentation.⁴⁰

In light of the review, the PBC has made strides to address existing challenges and priorities. In September 2016, the PBC became the first UN intergovernmental body to adopt a Gender Strategy.⁴¹ The Gender Strategy, reaffirmed as an important call for the PBC by General Assembly resolution 70/262 (2016) and Security Council resolution 2282 (2016), is a uniquely tailored approach that uses gender-responsive peacebuilding as a way to consider the ways conflict affects persons different depending on sex, age, ethnicity, and enhances women's participation and leadership in peacebuilding activities.⁴² Taking into account the call for gender inclusion in the review of the UN peacebuilding architecture, the Gender Strategy highlights priority areas of strategic action for the PBC's gender-responsive engagement at the country, regional, and global levels.⁴³ In 2017, the Chair of the PBC participated in the high-level meeting convened by the President of the General Assembly, which included the President of the Security Council and the President of the ECOSOC, concerning sustainable development and sustainable peace.⁴⁴ This meeting was held to eliminate fragmentation and promote coordination and coherence across peace and development efforts within the UN system.⁴⁵ The Gender Strategy document concludes with general objectives of the initiatives, including a consideration of gender dimensions in all areas of peacebuilding, convene a bi-annual expert-level meeting to further discusses

³⁴ UN PBC, *Mandate*, 2018

³⁵ UN PBC, *Peacebuilding Commission's Engagement in the Sahel*, 2018; UN PBC. *The Advisory Role of the PBC to the Security Council*, 2019.

³⁶ UN PBC, *The Advisory Role of the PBC to the Security Council*, 2019.

³⁷ UN PBC, *Peacebuilding Commission's Engagement in the Sahel*, 2018, p. 2.

³⁸ UN General Assembly & UN Security Council, *Challenge of Sustaining Peace: Report of the Advisory Group of Experts on the Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture (A/69/968-S/2015/490)*, 2015.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Lebada, *PBC Adopts First Gender Strategy for Intergovernmental Body*, 2016.

⁴² UN PBC, *Peacebuilding Commission's Gender Strategy*, 2016, p. 1.

⁴³ Ibid., p. 2.

⁴⁴ UN General Assembly & UN Security Council, *Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace: Report of the Secretary-General (A/72/707-S/2018/43)*, 2018.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

matters and recommendations involving a gender dimension, and to include a section on the implementation of the Gender Strategy in the Annual Report.⁴⁶

PBC's 2018 annual session, hosted on 12 November 2018, first stressed the importance of PBC acting as a platform to convene with relevant actors both within and outside the UN in order to mobilize commitment and partnerships.⁴⁷ The meeting further highlighted the importance of national ownership, which is a collective ownership made of different viewpoints for a common goal, and using coordinated approaches in order to efficiently address multifaceted peacebuilding challenges in the Sahel.⁴⁸ The UN Support Plan for the Sahel introduced six priority areas for successful peacebuilding efforts, including: (1) promoting cross-border and regional cooperation for stability and development; (2) preventing and resolving conflicts while promoting access to justice and human rights; (3) promoting inclusive and equitable growth and quality access to basic services; (4) building resilience to climate change and improving management of natural resources and decreasing malnutrition and food insecurity; (5) promoting access to renewable resources; (6) and empowering women and youth for peace and development in the Sahel.⁴⁹ Each of the six priority areas are further broken down into key objective points to be targeted in order to successfully achieve sustainability in the Sahel.⁵⁰ Further, each objective point is connected to a relatable Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) that further guides and connects the Support Plan for the Sahel to the UN's general priorities.⁵¹ The annual session noted that the SDGs and African Union Agenda 2063 are at the core of the collective actions to be undertaken.⁵²

The 2019 provisional annual workplan of the PBC highlights four key themes to be addressed in the 2019 annual session.⁵³ The first considers the implementation of the resolutions on the peacebuilding architecture which calls for informal consultation on a 2020 review of the Peacebuilding Architecture.⁵⁴ Current discussions about the PBC appear to be focused on sustaining peace and preventing conflict reoccurrence, as detailed in the report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, and is often considered a relevant topic for the upcoming 2020 review.⁵⁵

Conclusion

The PBC is a key player in post-conflict reconstruction and development as well as peace and security, both in terms of the UN's peacebuilding architecture and in its efforts with the countries on its agenda.⁵⁶ As an intergovernmental advisory body, the PBC, alongside other relevant entities such as the PBF and PBSO, is crucial in providing advice and support for peacebuilding activities.⁵⁷ It has also made strides in promoting gender inclusion and equality in the context of peacebuilding efforts.⁵⁸ The 2019 workplan expands on the current work of the PBC, seeing to increase the capacity and efficiency in addressing critical peacekeeping missions and better utilize resources and stakeholders for such initiatives.⁵⁹ The PBC, however, is not without its challenges. Its review of the UN peacebuilding architecture has shown the need to address deep fragmentation within the UN system as well as the need to promote more partnerships and inclusion in peacebuilding efforts.⁶⁰

⁴⁶ UN PBC, *Peacebuilding Commission's Gender Strategy*, 2016, p. 7-11.

⁴⁷ UN PBC, *PBC Annual Session*, 2018, p. 1.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 1-2.

⁴⁹ UN PBC, *UN Support Plan for the Sahel*, 2018, p. 11-15.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*

⁵¹ *Ibid.*

⁵² UN PBC, *PBC Annual Session*, 2018, p. 2.

⁵³ UN PBC, *Provisional Annual Workplan of the Peacebuilding Commission*, 2019.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵⁵ IISD, *UNGA-PBC Dialogue Considers Implementation of "Sustaining Peace"*, 2019.

⁵⁶ UN General Assembly, *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*, 2005.

⁵⁷ UN PBC, *The Peacebuilding Commission*, 2017.

⁵⁸ UN PBC, *Peacebuilding Commission's Gender Strategy*, 2016.

⁵⁹ UN PBC, *Provisional Annual Workplan of the Peacebuilding Commission*, 2019.

⁶⁰ UN General Assembly & UN Security Council, *Challenge of Sustaining Peace: Report of the Advisory Group of Experts on the Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture (A/69/968-S/2015/490)*, 2015.

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This report, prepared by a seven-member Advisory Group of Experts, is the first part of a two-stage review of the role and positioning of the PBC, PBF, and PBSO. The report, part of the UN's "Peacebuilding Architecture" review, presents an overview of peacebuilding in the global context, offers an assessment of UN peacebuilding activities, and outlines proposals for coherence in sustainable peacebuilding. This report critically points out that solving the deep fragmentation of the UN is the key to building sustainable peace. Delegates should turn to this resource to understand what the UN has done so far to achieve sustainable peacebuilding.

United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. (2019). *Provisional Annual Workplan of the PBC*. Retrieved 21 July 2019 from:

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/20190129_provisional_annual_workplan_of_the_peacebuilding_commission_-_adopted.pdf

This document identifies the five main topics to be addressed by the PBC in 2019. The PBC is an elastic organization, adapting to emerging changes in conflict resolution, and is thus enhancing its role in partnerships and engagements with stakeholders, while maintaining an advisory role for the General Assembly, Security Council, and ECOSOC in order to provide peacebuilding recommendations in applicable conversation and strengthening synergies between the PBC and the PBF. This document is useful for delegates to identify the direction of the PBC and identify areas for policy growth. Further, delegates can use the explanatory points under each of the five topics to best tailor their recommendations towards specific goals.

United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. (2018). *PBC Annual Session "Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace in the Sahel Region"*. Retrieved 23 August 2019 from:

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/concept_note_pbc_annual_session_sahel_draft_6_november_2018.pdf

This report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its annual session focused on UN strategic attempts to promote sustainability in the Sahel region. The Sahel region is a rich environment that flourishes in culture and natural resources, however better integration is needed in order to maximize on the current resources in the region. The annual session notes that peacebuilding efforts need to be diversified in order to better build and support sustainable peace in the region. Furthermore, the role of youth and women are an important topic in this session as peacebuilding continues to emerge as an inclusive process that bridges the expertise of all relevant actors. Delegates should use this resource to identify some of the key issues regarding the Sahel region and to identify emerging concepts and strategies of peacebuilding.

United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. (2018). *Lessons Learned*. Retrieved 20 September 2019 from: <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/policy-issues-and-partnerships/policy/lessons-learned>

This website provides information about how the PBC served in a coordinating capacity in various peacebuilding situations in the past. Topics cover security sector reform and peacebuilding; disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration; monitoring peace consolidation; and operationalizing national ownership in post-conflict peacebuilding. Delegates are encouraged to explore this webpage to gain knowledge regarding what the PBC has done in the past as well as to understand remaining issues.

United Nations, Peacebuilding Support Office. (2010). *UN Peacebuilding: An Orientation*. Retrieved 20 September 2019 from:

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/peacebuilding_orientation.pdf

This report, based on the Report of the Secretary-General on Peacebuilding in the Immediate Aftermath of Conflict of June 2009, outlines the multifaceted characteristics of peacebuilding and the relevant UN and external entities that play a key role in global peacebuilding efforts. Recognizing that peacebuilding is a long-term process, this paper draws attention to the scope, resources, and evolution of peacebuilding. Delegates will find this paper useful for gaining an overview of peacebuilding around the world as well as the role of various UN entities in peacebuilding efforts.

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International Peace Institute. (2017). *Mission & History*. Retrieved 20 September 2019 from: <https://www.ipinst.org/about/mission-history>

Jinga, I. (2018, January 31). *Peacebuilding Commission Formal meeting 31 January 2018 Statement of the Chair*. Retrieved 20 September 2019 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/51704877_statement_of_the_incoming_pbc_chair.pdf

Jinga, I. (2018, June 29). *Security Council Briefing on the PBC Annual Report 29 June 2018 Statement of the Current Chair of the PBC*. Retrieved 20 September 2019 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/20180618_statement_of_the_current_pbc_chair_-_final.pdf

Lebada, A. M. (2016, September 19). *PBC Adopts First Gender Strategy for Intergovernmental Body. International Institute for Sustainable Peace*. Retrieved 20 September 2019 from: <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/pbc-adopts-first-gender-strategy-for-intergovernmental-body/>

Peacebuilding Initiative. (2013). *History*. Retrieved 20 September 2019 from: <http://www.peacebuildinginitiative.org/index34ac.html>

Security Council Report. (2017). *The Peacebuilding Commission and the Security Council: From Cynicism to Synergy?*. Retrieved 20 September 2019 from: https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7b65BF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7d/research_report_peacebuilding_commission_2017.pdf

Tae-yul, C. (2018, May 24). *General Assembly Debate on the PBC and PBF Annual Reports 24 May 2018: Statement of the Former Chair of the PBC*. Retrieved 20 September 2019 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/20180514_statement_of_the_former_pbc_chair_-_final.pdf

United Nations, Department of Global Communications. (2017, June 30). *Peacebuilding Commission Reaffirms Strong Commitment to United Nations-World Bank Partnership Framework for Crisis-Affected Situations (PBC/124)*. Retrieved 20 September 2019 from: <https://www.un.org/press/en/2017/pbc124.doc.htm>

United Nations, Department of Peacekeeping Operations. (2010) *IMPP Guidelines*. Retrieved 20 September 2019 from: http://pksoi.armywarcollege.edu/default/assets/File/RAF_Documents/Day%202020UN%20MCP%20Unit%203%20part%201/Readings/IMPP%20Guidelines%20Role%20of%20the%20field.pdf

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United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session. (2016). *Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture (A/RES/70/262)*. Adopted without reference to a Main Committee (A/70/L.43). Retrieved 20 September 2019 from: <http://undocs.org/A/res/70/262>

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I. Empowering Youth as Agents of Peacebuilding

“Around the world, young women and men are at the forefront of efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism and promote peace.”⁶¹

Introduction

Peacebuilding is defined by the United Nations (UN) as: “a range of measures targeted to reduce the risk of lapsing or relapsing into conflict by strengthening national capacities at all levels for conflict management, and to lay the foundation for sustainable peace and development. Peacebuilding strategies must be coherent and tailored to the specific needs of the country concerned, based on national ownership, and should comprise a carefully prioritized, sequenced, and relatively narrow set of activities aimed at achieving the above objectives.”⁶² In the context of peacebuilding, youth have a role in the creation of the peacebuilding foundation in post-conflict areas.⁶³

Youth represent the future of a nation; therefore, engaging them in peace processes and socializing them into the role of peacebuilders early on is important.⁶⁴ There are different definitions of youth among the international community; specifically, Member States and international organizations have a differing age range that they define as youth.⁶⁵ While Security Council resolution 2250 (2015) on “The Maintenance of International Peace and Security” defines youth as persons aged 18-29, the UN General Assembly defines youth as persons aged 15-24, and the African Union’s (AU) *African Youth Charter* defines youth as 18-35 years old.⁶⁶ Despite the variations of the definition of who youth are, the current generation of youth is proportionally the largest in history.⁶⁷

Within this generation of youth, 1 in 4 are affected by conflict, with an estimated 408 million youth living in an area where conflict and organized violence occur.⁶⁸ Within conflict areas, youth face gender-based violence, recruitment efforts by violent and extremist groups, and disenfranchisement from their communities.⁶⁹ Furthermore, youth that do want to take part in peacebuilding processes are often met with exclusion and are dismissed because they are considered children without relevant input to the situation.⁷⁰

Amidst these obstacles, youth have made positive impacts to peacebuilding and have been peacebuilding leaders in their communities.⁷¹ Youth-led peacebuilding initiatives on all levels have shown to be the most impactful for youth, creating a positive cycle that emboldens peacebuilding efforts.⁷² For example, most youth-led peacebuilding organizations are composed of 97% volunteers and have been able to operate despite limited support.⁷³ While most youth-led peacebuilding efforts face many obstacles, the international community is heavily involved with building youth into agents of peacebuilding.⁷⁴

⁶¹ UN Secretary-General, *UN Secretary-General’s Remarks at “Investing in Youth to Counter Terrorism” on 12 April 2018, in New York, 2018.*

⁶² UNPF, *What is Peacebuilding*, 2019.

⁶³ UN Security Council, *Maintenance of International Peace and Security (S/RES/2250 (2015))*, 2015, p. 1.

⁶⁴ Peacebuilding Initiative, *Empowerment: Children & Youth: Children, Youth & Peacebuilding Processes*, 2019.

⁶⁵ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 9.

⁶⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 9-10.

⁶⁷ UNFPA, *10 Things you Didn’t Know About the World’s Population*, 2015

⁶⁸ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 12.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.*, pp.15, 28,48.

⁷⁰ Youth4Peace, *Young Peoples Participation in Peacebuilding: A Practice Note*, 2016, p. 10

⁷¹ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 32.

⁷² *Ibid.*, p. 11.

⁷³ *Ibid.*, p. 41.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 52.

International and Regional Framework

The Global Forum on Youth, Peace and Security, a youth conference hosted by the Kingdom of Jordan in Amman, established the *Amman Youth Declaration on Youth, Peace and Security* in 2015, which is the most recent significant international framework related to peacebuilding.⁷⁵ The *Amman Youth Declaration* stands out as an international declaration created by youth for youth that directly led to the adoption of UN Security Council resolution 2250, a major resolution for youth and peacebuilding.⁷⁶ The declaration proposes four policy action points that need to be achieved in order to bring youth into peacebuilding processes successfully, which are: global peacebuilding policy regarding youth, violence and youth in peacebuilding, gender equality and youth, and investing in youth.⁷⁷ It also outlines what youth, government, and intergovernmental organizations must do to include and enable youth participation in peacebuilding and provides action plans for promoting youth peacebuilding and specifies what levels of government are needed for each of its points.⁷⁸ For example, section 2 of the declaration suggests: “international agencies, national governments and local authorities urgently need to establish policy dialogue processes.”⁷⁹ The declaration actions recommend best practices for addressing local, national, and international types of government’s potential regarding youth peacebuilding.⁸⁰ As with many youth-peacebuilding initiatives, the *Amman Declaration* endorses an all-encompassing approach to youth-led peacebuilding.⁸¹ It provides action points like the creation of inclusive environments that enable youth to counter the largest obstacle to youth peacebuilding: violent extremism and attractiveness to world youth.⁸²

While having a wider focus than the *Amman Declaration*, the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* is a fundamental document for promoting youth as agents of peacebuilding, especially Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions).⁸³ Each target of this SDG provides guidelines to reduce youth violence and extremism and the promotion of youth-led peacebuilding.⁸⁴ For example, youth in areas where peacebuilding is needed, can feel disillusioned with local and regional governments due to corruption and lack of political participation; goal indicators 16.3, 16.5, 16.6, and 16.8, each address this issue.⁸⁵ Furthermore, a program to help at-risk youth find work would fall under SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth).⁸⁶ The 2030 Agenda acts as the foundational document used most often in the creation of international frameworks regarding youth and peacebuilding.⁸⁷ Due to the variety of the SDGs, most actions taken by youth-led peacebuilding efforts fall under a goal, providing them with access to SDG resources, such as the SDG Fund.⁸⁸

Regional organizations have also created frameworks that promote and encourage youth empowerment. The AU’s *Agenda 2063*, akin to the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, is a foundational document for youth empowerment and peacebuilding with a focus on Africa.⁸⁹ Africa has a disproportionate amount of modern conflict, due to post-colonialism and other historical factors.⁹⁰ Due to

⁷⁵ Global Forum on Youth Peace and Security, *Amman Declaration*, 2015, p. 1.

⁷⁶ Global Forum on Youth Peace and Security, *Final Report*, 2015, p. 4; UN Security Council, *Maintenance of International Peace and Security*, (S/RES/2250 (2015)), 2015 p. 2.

⁷⁷ UN Security Council, *Maintenance of International Peace and Security (S/RES/2250 (2015))*, 2015, p. 2.

⁷⁸ Global Forum on Youth Peace and Security, *Amman Youth Declaration*, 2015, pp. 2-3.

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 2.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 3.

⁸¹ Global Forum on Youth Peace and Security, *Final Report*, 2015, p. 1-4.

⁸² Global Forum on Youth Peace and Security, *Amman Youth Declaration*, 2015, p. 4.

⁸³ UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015, p. 28.

⁸⁴ *Ibid.*

⁸⁵ *Ibid.*

⁸⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 21.

⁸⁷ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 14.

⁸⁸ UNDF, *Sustainable Development Goals Fund*, 2019.

⁸⁹ African Union Commission, *Agenda 2063: The Africa we Want*, 2015, p. 3.

⁹⁰ Roser, *War and Peace*, 2019.

such amount of conflict, African youth and organizations have a vested interest in promoting sustainable peace and youth empowerment.⁹¹ Several action items within *Agenda 2063* promote youth empowerment by endorsing youth to be agents of peacebuilding in their region.⁹² These action items are regional goals set by the AU to be realized by 2063.⁹³ For instance, points 53 and 54 focus on political and social empowerment through the *African Youth Charter*.⁹⁴ The Charter is an example of a regionally focused initiative promoting local youth agency, ability and power for building peace.⁹⁵ Through regionally focused documents, targeted tasks and plans, regional organizations are important players in youth-led peacebuilding.⁹⁶ Regional organizations have better local and regional knowledge about the conflict and therefore are able to put in place the most efficient mechanisms for youth-peacebuilding activities to work.⁹⁷

Both international and regional frameworks have acted as a base and motivator for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to research about youth-peacebuilding actions.⁹⁸ As such, several papers and guides have been produced for youth-led peacebuilding initiatives.⁹⁹ For example, the *Guiding Principles for Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding* is a document written by Search for Common Ground (SfCG), a peacebuilding NGO.¹⁰⁰ Like many reports, the paper calls for a multifaceted approach to the inclusion of youth in peacebuilding.¹⁰¹ The paper has a "do no harm" approach to the participation of youth.¹⁰² This means a focus on actively avoiding unintended consequences when attempting youth participation through an emphasis on free will.¹⁰³ According to the "do no harm" approach, youth should not be forced into the peacebuilding process.¹⁰⁴ Moreover, solutions that include youth should have their own support in order to prevent youth alienation and ensure effective peacebuilding efforts.¹⁰⁵ Otherwise, actions can alienate the group that the process is trying to help, making peacebuilding efforts less effective.¹⁰⁶

Role of the International System

There are many UN organs and initiatives, such as the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), the UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) and *Youth4Peace*, which currently take part in actions focused on youth-led peacebuilding.¹⁰⁷

Youth4Peace is a UN partnership among the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the PBSO, SfCG and the United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY).¹⁰⁸ The project has produced several reports and case studies on youth-peacebuilding efforts.¹⁰⁹ The *Youth4Peace* reports provide regional and national specific youth peacebuilding information and suggestions.¹¹⁰ These reports have resulted in the creation of a number of youth peacebuilding initiatives by the European Union (EU) and

⁹¹ African Union Commission, *Agenda 2063: The Africa we Want*, 2015, p. 3.

⁹² Ibid.

⁹³ Ibid., p. 1.

⁹⁴ Ibid., p. 9.

⁹⁵ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 17.

⁹⁶ UN DGC, *Crucial Role of Regional Organizations in Resolving Africa's Conflicts Highlighted, as Fourth Committee Concludes Peacekeeping Debate*, (GA/SPD/268), 2003.

⁹⁷ Ibid.

⁹⁸ UN Security Council, *Maintenance of International Peace and Security (S/RES/2250 (2015))*, 2015, p. 5.

⁹⁹ Youth4Peace, *Homepage*, 2019.

¹⁰⁰ Search for Common Ground, *What we Do*, 2019.

¹⁰¹ Search for Common Ground, *Guiding Principles for Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding*, 2014, p. 1.

¹⁰² Ibid., p. 2.

¹⁰³ Ibid., p. 1.

¹⁰⁴ Ibid., p. 4.

¹⁰⁵ Ibid.

¹⁰⁶ Search for Common Ground, *Guiding Principles for Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding*, 2014, pp. 2-4.

¹⁰⁷ Youth4Peace, *Homepage*, 2019.

¹⁰⁸ Ibid.

¹⁰⁹ Ibid.

¹¹⁰ Ibid.

the UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF).¹¹¹ Along with reports and studies, *Youth4Peace* put in place the 16x16 Initiative, which is a project to identify and support 16 youth-led peacebuilding efforts focusing on SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions).¹¹²

Furthermore, the UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development (UNIANY), an agency under the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), focuses on high-level engagements on youth, curates several youth-focused sub-working groups, and produces reports on youth-related issues such as youth employment, social media, and inclusive youth volunteering.¹¹³ The UNIANY has established several high-level initiatives regarding youth development, such as the International Year of Youth in 2011, which focused on the inclusion of youth in decision-making processes and empowering youth as agents of peace.¹¹⁴ In addition, the agency promotes youth network connections among governments, UN agencies, and NGOs.¹¹⁵ The UNIANY is vital for high-level work centered on empowering youth to become agents of peacebuilding and uses working groups as the primary way to create international undertakings regarding youth.¹¹⁶ The working groups address areas such as youth political participation and youth employment.¹¹⁷

The UN youth agenda is guided by the *World Programme of Action for Youth* (WPAY), which was adopted by the General Assembly in 1995 and “provides a policy framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve the situation of young people around the world.”¹¹⁸ Within the WPAY, the *Youth-System Wide Action Plan* (Youth-SWAP) acts as the unified UN plan for implementing the WPAY.¹¹⁹ A report produced by the Youth-SWAP outlines the progress made by the UN and its partnerships on WPAY on five themes: employment and entrepreneurship, protection of rights and civic engagement, political inclusion, education, and health.¹²⁰

As mandated by Security Council resolution 2250, the UN took part in a study on how conflict affects youth and current youth peacebuilding initiatives and their effects.¹²¹ While not the first study on youth-led peacebuilding, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security* is one of the first actioned by the UN.¹²² This study is important as it acts as an agenda-setting document and provides concrete examples of how to implement Security Council resolution 2250.¹²³ In addition, the study recorded and consulted youth in conflict zones worldwide and studied current youth-led and focused peacebuilding efforts.¹²⁴ An example of the efforts analyzed by the Progress Study is the *Ugandan Reformed Warriors Program* where youth-peacebuilding activities created trust-building between former cattle raiders and their communities.¹²⁵ Moreover, the Progress Study identifies several obstacles faced by youth in peacebuilding, gives data and examples of youth peacebuilding, and further recommendations for youth peacebuilding.¹²⁶ Notable recommendations include: prioritizing the creation of Youth Peace and Security (YPS) coalitions to ensure a collective impact on YPS at the local, national, regional and global levels by diverse international actors; the integration by national governments of SDGs targets related to peace, justice and inclusivity (“SDG16+”) into national development strategies;

¹¹¹ Youth4Peace, *UNSCR 2250 | Implementation*, 2019.

¹¹² Youth4Action, *Apply to participate in UNDP's '16 x 16' initiative!*, 2019.

¹¹³ UN DESA, *UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development*, 2019.

¹¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁸ UN DESA, *World Programme of Action for Youth*, 2010, pp. 65-73.

¹¹⁹ UNIANYD, *United Nations Youth Systems Wide Action Plan for Youth Report*, 2018, p. 4.

¹²⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 2.

¹²¹ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 1.

¹²² *Ibid.*

¹²³ Youth4Peace, *Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2019.

¹²⁴ *Ibid.*

¹²⁵ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 46.

¹²⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 117.

and the inclusion of youth into context and conflict analyses carried out by the new UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs.¹²⁷

Several NGOs also lend their support to UN programs or promote proprietary youth peacebuilding initiatives.¹²⁸ The UN also relies heavily on NGOs for recollecting youth peacebuilding data as most data for the Progress Study came from the report *Mapping a Sector: Bridging the evidence gap on Youth-driven peacebuilding*, which was produced by youth-led NGOs working on peace and security.¹²⁹ Examples of NGOs who work with the UN on youth-led peacebuilding efforts are the United Network of Young Peacebuilders and SfCG, who were also part of Mapping a Sector.¹³⁰ The goal of this report was to increase the amount of research on youth-led peacebuilding efforts.¹³¹ It has helped display the makeup of youth-led peacebuilding actions worldwide and has outlined the following trends: youth-led peacebuilding is very local and focuses on other youth and most youth-led peacebuilding efforts work with very little support and with under US \$10,000 in funding.¹³² SfCG has also created several youth-focused peacebuilding documents on the topics of how to communicate effectively during peacebuilding and how to increase youth participation in peacebuilding efforts.¹³³

Like the previous reports, *Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict* is a data-focused report by the World Bank on how to best prevent violent conflict overall.¹³⁴ Both a research report and best practices paper, it has several youth-focused sections and includes motivators of violence.¹³⁵ Significantly, it found that low youth participation in socio-economic and political elements of society can be a major motivator for conflict when there is a large “youth-bulge” (large youth population) in a region’s population.¹³⁶ This motivation comes from lack of economic or political opportunities, which leads to frustration and grievances in youth with society, increasing the attractiveness of conflict.¹³⁷ Considering youth represent almost half of the world’s population, the benefits of youth inclusion in peacebuilding are not limited to conflict prevention and peacebuilding, but also offer economical and societal benefits.¹³⁸

The Impact of Youth in Sustainable Peacebuilding

The primary goal of peacebuilding is to make peace sustainable.¹³⁹ Thus, long-term peacebuilding initiatives need to include youth.¹⁴⁰ The inclusion of youth into peacebuilding has several real-world positive effects that may be lacking in traditional peacebuilding.¹⁴¹ For example, youth peacebuilding efforts in Nigeria have been able to work in areas seen as conflict hot spots and strongholds of the terrorist organization Al-Shabas.¹⁴² Thus most peacebuilding organizations refuse to go into these areas for safety concerns but youth-led peacebuilding efforts have been able to operate there.¹⁴³ The issue of

¹²⁷ Ibid., pp. 126-128.

¹²⁸ Ibid., p. 42.

¹²⁹ Ibid., p. 130.

¹³⁰ UNOY Peacebuilders & Search for Common Ground, *Mapping a Sector: Bridging the Evidence Gap on Youth-Driven Peacebuilding*, 2017, p. 2.

¹³¹ Ibid., p. 6.

¹³² Ibid., 2017, p. 22.

¹³³ Search for Common Ground, *Communication for Peacebuilding: Practices, Trends and Challenges*, 2014, p. 2; Search for Common Ground, *Guiding Principles on Young People’s Participation in Peacebuilding*, 2014, p. 1.

¹³⁴ World Bank, *Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict*, 2018, p. xvii.

¹³⁵ Ibid., pp. xvii-xx.

¹³⁶ Ibid., p. 120.

¹³⁷ Ibid.

¹³⁸ Ibid., p. 287.

¹³⁹ UNPF, *What is Peacebuilding*, 2019.

¹⁴⁰ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 16.

¹⁴¹ Ibid., p. 42.

¹⁴² Ibid.

¹⁴³ Ibid.

safety concerns applies to many areas prone to conflict.¹⁴⁴ Most youth-led peacebuilding initiatives are highly localized and able to work in areas using local knowledge that most peacebuilding organizations do not have access to.¹⁴⁵ The use of this knowledge leads to higher participation and incorporates cultural knowledge to understand the roots of local conflict.¹⁴⁶ Youth-led peacebuilding efforts are also largely made up of local volunteers.¹⁴⁷

One of the ways that youth can positively impact and be agents of peacebuilding is through their use of local knowledge and connectivity of social media.¹⁴⁸ Peacebuilding benefits greatly from social media.¹⁴⁹ Two-thirds of the world's internet users are under the age of 35.¹⁵⁰ This level of access to a population like youth provides an increased ability to engage youth in peacebuilding efforts.¹⁵¹ Technology like messaging apps, SMS, and social media give youth more access to information and knowledge about human rights.¹⁵² As the world is becoming more and more connected, even in remote regions of the world, youth are at the forefront of the technology revolution.¹⁵³ Youth have used social media as a way to connect and create activism in their communities to be part of the decision-making process where formal networks do not exist.¹⁵⁴ Where the initiatives are social media-based, the youth-led peacebuilding efforts can reach more of the youth population.¹⁵⁵ While social media has been shown to include and empower youth as agents of peacebuilding, social media can also attract youth to violent and extremist groups and be an obstacle to including youth in peacebuilding.¹⁵⁶ Moreover, while youth are heavily invested in technology, there is a lack of technology access in lower developed areas.¹⁵⁷

Obstacles for Youth as Agents of Peacebuilding

Two primary obstacles to youths' meaningful and continuing involvement in peacebuilding are their lack of participation at the processes' early stages and their inability to contribute.¹⁵⁸ The inability for youth to contribute is due to exclusion at the political level.¹⁵⁹ Exclusion can occur due to discrimination by political actors.¹⁶⁰ This exclusion is increased by the negative stereotypes of youth, such as that youth are troublemakers.¹⁶¹ Also, peacebuilding efforts need to see past the negative stereotypes of youth and let them be brought into the peacebuilding process.¹⁶² One way youth participation obstacles can be addressed is the promotion of youth agency within their communities.¹⁶³ Promoting youth agency allows youth to grow and become peacebuilding agents of their own accord.¹⁶⁴ The UN PBF sees the political participation of youth as the first step in engaging youth in the peacebuilding process.¹⁶⁵ By giving youth political agency, the ability for youth to improve and carry out part of the peacebuilding process is,

¹⁴⁴ Ibid.

¹⁴⁵ Ibid., p. 41.

¹⁴⁶ Ibid., p. 51.

¹⁴⁷ UNOY Peacebuilders and Search for Common Ground, *Mapping a Sector: Bridging the Evidence Gap on Youth-Driven Peacebuilding*, 2017, p. 21.

¹⁴⁸ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 55.

¹⁴⁹ Search for Common Ground, *Communication for Peacebuilding: Practices, Trends and Challenges*, 2014, p. 25

¹⁵⁰ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 24.

¹⁵¹ Ibid.

¹⁵² Search for Common Ground, *Communication for Peacebuilding: Practices, Trends and Challenges*, 2014, p. 10; Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 48.

¹⁵³ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 55.

¹⁵⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵⁵ Search for Common Ground, *Communication for Peacebuilding: Practices, Trends and Challenges*, 2014, p. 10.

¹⁵⁶ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 29.

¹⁵⁷ World Bank, *Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict*, 2018, p. 54.

¹⁵⁸ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 60.

¹⁵⁹ Ibid., p. xii.

¹⁶⁰ Ibid., p. 84.

¹⁶¹ Ibid., p. 18.

¹⁶² Ibid., p. 30.

¹⁶³ Ibid., p. 57.

¹⁶⁴ Ibid., p. 118.

¹⁶⁵ UN DPPA, Peacebuilding Support Office, *PBF Guidance Note: Youth & Peacebuilding*, 2016, p. 6.

therefore, opened.¹⁶⁶ By increasing youth agency, youth can break the negative stereotypes that they face and are able to contribute in a meaningful way to the peacebuilding process.¹⁶⁷

There is historical push back to including youth in peacebuilding.¹⁶⁸ Youth are not included in peacebuilding efforts as they are often considered not to have significant contributions to the topic.¹⁶⁹ Evidence found in the report *Mapping a Sector: Bridging the evidence gap on Youth-driven peacebuilding* shows that youth are challenged by an absence of education, lack of skills, training, confidence and awareness of the importance of participating in peace processes.¹⁷⁰ This, in turn, leads youth to become “inactive or hesitant” to engage as agents of peace.¹⁷¹ Youth-led peacebuilding organizations see their exclusion from the political and peacebuilding processes as both “the most challenging aspect of their work” and the biggest threat to peacebuilding.¹⁷²

Violence, Peacebuilding, and Youth

Youth in conflict areas are vulnerable to violent and extremist groups as they can be an attractive option for vulnerable youth in conflict regions.¹⁷³ When there is a lack of socio-economic opportunities, youth can turn to extremism.¹⁷⁴ Often, youth will see poverty and socio-economic disparity as a major limiter and use violence and adhering to extremist groups as an option to change their socio-economic status.¹⁷⁵ The inclusion of youth through meaningful participation is a recommended form of peacebuilding and is a vehicle for countering youth involvement into violent extremism as it often gives youth a sense of duty or fulfillment.¹⁷⁶ However, it is important to note that poverty is not the singular cause of youth violence but often acts as a catalyst.¹⁷⁷ Youth also join extremist or violent groups to find a sense of purpose or belonging.¹⁷⁸ Grievances, lack of social support, and feelings of exclusion are all social problems that can lead youth to violent groups.¹⁷⁹ Being inclusive is vital for youth as they have been historically marginalized and often a forgotten group in conflict and post-conflict regions.¹⁸⁰ If youth feel that they are being excluded from society, these feelings can turn youth to violent and extremist groups.¹⁸¹

Systematic violence can also be harmful to youth.¹⁸² Youth violence affects both males and females differently.¹⁸³ Young boys are attracted to systematic violence in conflict and urbanized areas.¹⁸⁴ In contrast, most female youth join violent groups in the form of support roles (i.e. lookouts and drug mules), while some have a more direct violent role in the group.¹⁸⁵ However, female youth still suffer from discrimination and violence while in violent groups.¹⁸⁶ In general, female youth suffer from increased

¹⁶⁶ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 105.

¹⁶⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 59.

¹⁶⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 17.

¹⁶⁹ Youth4Peace, *Young Peoples Participation in Peacebuilding: A Practice Note*, 2016, p. 10.

¹⁷⁰ UNOY Peacebuilders and Search for Common Ground, *Mapping a Sector: Bridging the Evidence Gap on Youth-Driven Peacebuilding*, 2017, p. 33.

¹⁷¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁷² *Ibid.*, p. 35.

¹⁷³ World Bank, *Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict*, 2018, pp. 60,121.

¹⁷⁴ UN General Assembly, *Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, (A/70/674)*, 2015, p. 6.

¹⁷⁵ Youth Power, *Promising Practices in Engaging Youth in Peace and Security and P/CVE: Summary of key Interventions and Examples*, 2017, p. 2.

¹⁷⁶ UN Security Council, *Maintenance of International Peace and Security (S/RES/2419 (2018))*, 2018, p. 2.; Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 81.

¹⁷⁷ Gratius, et al., *Youth Identity and Security*, 2012, p. 12.

¹⁷⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁷⁹ World Bank, *Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict*, 2018, p. 119.

¹⁸⁰ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 18.

¹⁸¹ *Ibid.*, p. 29.

¹⁸² Gratius, et al., *Youth Identity and Security*, 2012, p. 14.

¹⁸³ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 12.

¹⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 13.

¹⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

domestic violence and gun-related violence in conflict areas, but youth are now using tools to help prevent gender-based violence.¹⁸⁷ An example of this is the Safetipin app.¹⁸⁸ The app was developed by youth in India to help prevent and protect woman from gender-based violence by giving areas safety scores and friend tracking to ensure they get somewhere safe.¹⁸⁹ The app is now used in partnership with local police and NGOs to help reach areas where gender-based violence occurs.¹⁹⁰

Local partnerships between international donors/NGOs and youth-led peacebuilding organizations addressing social reintegration and social support have proven successful in several states.¹⁹¹ In fact, the reintegration of former youth fighters has resulted in the reintegrated fighters becoming leaders within their community.¹⁹² However, there is still a lack of response by the international community to address the effects of youth violence, reduce youth violence and promote peacebuilding.¹⁹³ This is most true in regions suffering from youth violence in urbanized areas.¹⁹⁴ Due to the absence of international response, there are only a few successful peacebuilding efforts for youth in urbanized regions, even in areas with acute youth violence.¹⁹⁵ For example, the EU has supported public security NGOs and human rights organizations in Venezuela, but political and technical obstacles have prevented official cooperation between the EU and the Venezuelan government.¹⁹⁶

Conclusion

Youth have a vital role to play in peacebuilding.¹⁹⁷ However, youth lack the chance to use their ability or agency to be a meaningful part of the peacebuilding process.¹⁹⁸ Research and studies have shown that when inclusive peacebuilding occurs, peace is sustainable.¹⁹⁹ However, the real-world examples of inclusive peacebuilding at the international level with empowered youth are lacking.²⁰⁰ As such, inclusive youth-led peacebuilding is moving towards becoming a reality.²⁰¹ However, the PBC can play a larger role in supporting and promoting youth-led peacebuilding efforts as most of them are in the need of more international assistance.²⁰² Increased support for networking with government decision-makers will provide youth peacebuilding organizations with the connections needed to have meaningful participation in the political process.²⁰³

Further research

In preparing for this topic, delegates should contemplate the following: How can the PBC work with youth and peacebuilding organizations to address the negative stereotypes that label youth? What role does social media play in youth peacebuilding while also being used as a tool for recruitment by violent and extremist groups? How can youth peacebuilding efforts counteract the influence and recruiting efforts of extremist groups on youth? How can new and existing technology be used to promote youth peacebuilding in Least Developed Countries? What are the challenges of using technology for youth

¹⁸⁷ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 49.

¹⁸⁸ Ibid.

¹⁸⁹ Safetipin, *Our Vision*, 2019.

¹⁹⁰ Ibid.

¹⁹¹ Gratus, et al., *Youth Identity and Security*, 2012, p. 18.

¹⁹² Justino, *Youth, Violent Conflict and Sustaining Peace: Quantitative Evidence and Future Directions*, 2018, p. 6.

¹⁹³ Gratus, et al., *Youth Identity and Security*, 2012, p. 19.

¹⁹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁹⁷ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 47.

¹⁹⁸ UNOY Peacebuilders & Search for Common Ground, *Mapping a Sector: Bridging the Evidence Gap on Youth-Driven Peacebuilding*, 2017, p. 47.

¹⁹⁹ Simpson, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*, 2018, p. 31.

²⁰⁰ Ibid., pp. 22-26.

²⁰¹ Ibid., p. 129.

²⁰² UNOY Peacebuilders & Search for Common Ground, *Mapping a Sector: Bridging the Evidence Gap on Youth-Driven Peacebuilding*, 2017, p. 44.

²⁰³ Ibid., p. 14.

peacebuilding in remote and rural areas? How can international organizations like the PBC better connect with small local youth-led peacebuilding efforts?

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This is the final report of the Global Forum on Youth, Peace, and Security. The forum brought youth and UN peacebuilding stakeholders together to address youth and the peacebuilding element. This forum brought about the Amman Youth Declaration, youth networks, and youth-focused peacebuilding tools on social media to drive youth participation. Delegates can find tools being used by youth leaders in peacebuilding and see the effects of previous initiatives such as the "I Declare" campaign. Delegates focusing on international forums can use this final report as an example of a successful forum.

Global Forum on Youth Peace and Security (2015). *Amman Declaration*. Retrieved July 17th 2019 from: https://www.youth4peace.info/system/files/2016-10/AMMAN%20YOUTH%20DECLARATION%20%28English%29_0.pdf

The Amman Declaration comes as a result of the Global Forum on Youth, Peace, and Security held in Amman, Jordan. The declaration is a call for the UN and Member States to engage youth in the peacebuilding process and highlights what actions should be done to improve peacebuilding. These include engaging youth, so they do not turn to extremism, investment in youth, and reduction of crime against youth. The declaration will give delegates an understanding of recently highlighted problems regarding youth that can be addressed in the PBC session.

Search for Common Ground. (2014). *Guiding Principles on Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding*. Retrieved 20 July 2019 from: https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Guiding-Principles_EN.pdf

The document is a guide on best practices for engaging youth in peacebuilding. While the Amman Declaration was a formal declaration, this document acts as a how-to guide that will give delegates a foundation to use when formulating their solutions to this topic. The guide gives four different approaches to youth peacebuilding. Each approach has a list of goals and guidelines on how to best use it. The guide goes into high detail on gender dynamics, and the equity youth have in peacebuilding, the need to acknowledge trauma, etc. Delegates can use this guide for ideas on what to include when building youth peacebuilding frameworks.

Simpson, G., (2018). *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security*. Retrieved 17 July 2019 from: <https://www.youth4peace.info/ProgressStudy>

The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security is the progress study on youth and peacebuilding. The study observes trends and common themes in youth and peacebuilding that delegates can use as focus points in their position papers. It provides visualizations of data used and examples of youth peacebuilding initiatives. Delegates can use the study for statistics focused on youth and peacebuilding. In addition, the report gives links to its research, providing access to focus groups, surveys and other data. This report acts as a starter document for delegates to brainstorm problems and solutions to address in committee.

United Nations, Security Council, 7573rd meeting. (2015). *Maintenance of International Peace and Security (S/RES/2250 (2015))*. Retrieved 17 July 2019 from: [https://undocs.org/S/RES/2250\(2015\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2250(2015))

This document is the first UN resolution to define at what age a person is a youth, 18-29. The resolution also recognizes the key role youth play in peacebuilding efforts as youth are disproportionately affected by conflict. Through the resolution, the Security Council

also calls for all stakeholders in peacebuilding to include youth and take their views into account. The resolution also calls for youth to be protected from all forms of violence during conflict. Delegates can use this Security Council resolution as a UN foundation document to guide their own research.

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II. Sustaining Peace Through Partnerships

Introduction

Effective partnerships between entities on local, national, regional, and international levels have proven integral to fostering sustainable peace, which is why they form an inherent part of peacebuilding efforts.²⁰⁴ Sustaining peace is a core policy objective for all Member States of the United Nations (UN), which requires strong national ownership and multisectoral policies that involve the highest levels of government.²⁰⁵ Partnerships are strategic in this regard, since they provide the framework for communication and collaboration between domestic and regional institutions as well as between national governments and international organizations, and such joint efforts can be key in creating sustainable peace.²⁰⁶ A recent concrete example of a successful partnership, which helped create peace in a war-torn scenario, was the achievement of the *African Initiative for Peace and Reconciliation*, jointly lead by the African Union (AU) and the UN, to put an end to the fighting between the Christian and Muslim militia in the Central African Republic and negotiate a peace agreement between the government and 14 non-state armed groups in February 2019.²⁰⁷

Peacebuilding, which is the main focus of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), encompasses efforts aimed at reducing the states' risk of relapsing into conflict.²⁰⁸ This can be done by strengthening national conflict-management capacities and laying the foundations for sustainable peace and development.²⁰⁹ Peacebuilding stands in contrast to other related activities undertaken by the UN, such as peacekeeping, which refers to the process of states transitioning from conflict to peace and the UN peacekeepers assisting them with overseeing the implementation of a ceasefire or a peace agreement.²¹⁰ In addition to maintaining security, peacekeepers are also often involved in early peacebuilding activities.²¹¹ Peacemaking precedes these two stages and describes an attempt to resolve conflicts in progress through diplomatic action, usually undertaken by the UN Secretary-General or special envoys and diplomats.²¹² The UN peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding processes are in essence global partnerships, as they aim to maintain peace through combining the efforts of the General Assembly, the Security Council, the UN Secretariat, as well as national governments and their troops and police forces.²¹³ This Background Guide will elaborate in greater detail on such partnerships for sustainable peace and also discuss the necessity of adequate and sustainable financing to ensure effective partnerships for peacebuilding. Before these two topics, together with the key role of regional actors in sustaining peace, are discussed, the most relevant international and regional framework documents and key actors in the field of peacebuilding will be presented.

International and Regional Framework

The *Charter of the United Nations* (1945) mandates the UN to prevent violence and maintain international peace and security, with Chapters VI, VII, and VIII providing the legal basis for all UN peace missions.²¹⁴ Instrumental for the development of partnership frameworks in the realm of peacebuilding were the *United Nations Millennium Declaration* (2000), specifically the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 8 (global partnership for development), and General Assembly resolution 55/215 titled "Towards Global

²⁰⁴ UN PBSO, *What Does Sustaining Peace Mean?*, 2017.

²⁰⁵ International Peace Institute, *Sustaining Peace: What Does it Mean in Practice?*, 2017.

²⁰⁶ Ibid.

²⁰⁷ UN DGC, *Central African Republic: UN Chief Hails Signing of New Peace Agreement*, 2019.

²⁰⁸ UN ECOSOC, *Peacebuilding and Post-Conflict Recovery*.

²⁰⁹ Ibid.

²¹⁰ UN Peacekeeping, *What is Peacekeeping?*.

²¹¹ Ibid.

²¹² UN Peacekeeping, *Terminology*.

²¹³ UN Peacekeeping, *What is Peacekeeping?*.

²¹⁴ *Charter of the United Nations*, 1945.

Partnerships.”²¹⁵ This resolution, adopted in 2001, recognized the importance of partnerships for all UN operations and provided the basis for partnerships in peacebuilding.²¹⁶

In 2015, the UN Member States decided to revise and modify the peacebuilding architecture, which consists of PBC, the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), and other UN entities involved in peacebuilding.²¹⁷ The presidents of both the UN General Assembly and the Security Council issued a joint request for a two-stage comprehensive review of the peacebuilding architecture, with the first stage being the appointment of an advisory group of seven experts by the Secretary-General.²¹⁸ The second stage involved an intergovernmental review of the report *The Challenge of Sustaining Peace* released by this advisory group in 2015, which also entailed pertinent actions for implementation.²¹⁹ The report found that, despite peacebuilding and sustaining peace declared to be one of the key UN objectives according to the UN Charter, it had remained underprioritized and under-resourced and should hence return to the forefront of UN operations.²²⁰

As a consequence, both the General Assembly and the Security Council adopted resolutions reflecting the findings from the report.²²¹ General Assembly resolution 70/262 on “Review of the UN Peacebuilding Architecture” (2016) stresses the importance of sustained engagement and coherence between the General Assembly, the Security Council, and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in their mandates relating to peacebuilding efforts, while emphasizing the pivotal role of PBC as a coordinating actor between the UN’s principal organs and other relevant entities.²²² It also highlights the benefits of including all segments of society, including public and private stakeholders, civil society, women’s groups, youth organizations, and national human rights institutions, in the peacebuilding process and calls for collaboration and partnerships between the UN and Member States’ governments because peacebuilding is primarily a national process.²²³ According to the resolution, PBC should also serve as a platform for developing and sharing good peacebuilding practices, such as relative to institution building and financing.²²⁴ Security Council resolution 2282 (2016) on “Review of United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture,” which was adopted in line with General Assembly resolution 70/262, confirms the indispensable role of PBC for peacebuilding as well as the general sentiments regarding the importance of coherence and coordination.²²⁵ In addition, the resolution also stresses the necessity of improving synergies between PBC and other implementation bodies, such as the PBSO and the PBF, as well as carrying out regular and consistent reviews, monitoring, and evaluation.²²⁶ Most importantly, the resolution stresses the indispensable advisory role of PBC during the next planned review of the peacebuilding architecture.²²⁷

²¹⁵ UN General Assembly, *Towards Global Partnerships (A/RES/55/215)*, 2001; UN General Assembly, *United Nations Millennium Declaration (A/RES/55/2)*, 2000.

²¹⁶ UN General Assembly, *Towards Global Partnerships (A/RES/55/215)*, 2001.

²¹⁷ UN General Assembly & UN Security Council, *Integrated and Coordinated Implementation of and Follow-up to the Outcomes of the Major United Nations Conferences and Summits in the Economic, Social and Related Fields (A/69/968–S/2015/490)*, 2015.

²¹⁸ UN General Assembly, *The Challenge of Sustaining Peace – Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture*, 2015.

²¹⁹ UN General Assembly & UN Security Council, *Integrated and Coordinated Implementation of and Follow-up to the Outcomes of the Major United Nations Conferences and Summits in the Economic, Social and Related Fields (A/69/968–S/2015/490)*, 2015.

²²⁰ *Ibid.*

²²¹ UN General Assembly, *Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture (A/RES/70/262)*, 2016.

²²² *Ibid.*

²²³ *Ibid.*

²²⁴ *Ibid.*

²²⁵ UN Security Council, *Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture (S/RES/2282 (2016))*, 2016.

²²⁶ *Ibid.*

²²⁷ UN General Assembly & UN Security Council, *Report of the Secretary-General on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace (A/73/890–S/2019/448)*, 2019.

The latest report of the Secretary-General on Peacebuilding and Sustaining peace (A/73/890–S/2019/448) from May 2019 recommends another comprehensive review of the peacebuilding architecture in 2020.²²⁸ The review should follow-up on the progress achieved in the areas of operational and policy coherence, leadership, accountability, and capacity in supporting peacebuilding and sustaining peace.²²⁹ Furthermore, it aims to evaluate the state of financing and partnerships for peacebuilding and sustaining peace following the implementation of the twin resolutions adopted in 2016.²³⁰

Working towards achieving the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, adopted in 2015, can immensely contribute to sustaining peace.²³¹ Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17 (partnerships for sustainable development), emphasizes the importance of partnerships between the government, private sector, and civil society in all areas, including finance, technology, and capacity-building.²³² Partnerships to advance SDG 17, such as through North-South cooperation or the development of a multilateral trade system, lead to increased interdependencies between states and are complimentary to achieving sustained peace.²³³ Furthermore, SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development by providing access to justice for all; building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels; as well as reducing global levels of violence and death rates, all of which are integral parts of peacebuilding.²³⁴

Role of the International System

Sustainable peace is a shared responsibility across the entire UN system and permeates therefore all of its activities related to prevention, peacemaking, peace enforcement, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, and post-conflict recovery and reconstruction.²³⁵ Collaboration between PBC and different UN bodies, such as ECOSOC, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the International Organization for Migration, or the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), in economic, social, and humanitarian sectors can have a positive impact on the promotion of peace, security, rule of law, and human rights in conflict and post-conflict situations.²³⁶ Improved performance in the area of sustainable peace, however, requires the engagement and effective coordination not only of all principal UN organs, specialized agencies, and the UN Secretariat, but also on-the-ground operations and other, non-UN actors.²³⁷

The mandate of PBC is to assist states in post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery, which can be carried out through a variety of ways, such as by reconstructing and improving institutions, developing social services e.g. healthcare and education, and investing in growing sectors of the economy or the youth population.²³⁸ These activities can achieve greater success and work towards sustaining peace if

²²⁸ Ibid.

²²⁹ Ibid.

²³⁰ UN General Assembly & UN Security Council, *Report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its Eleventh Session (A/72/721–S/2018/83)*, 2018.

²³¹ UN ECOSOC & UN PBC, *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustaining Peace – Informal Summary*, 2016.

²³² UN SDGs, *Goal 17: Revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development*.

²³³ Ibid.

²³⁴ UN ECOSOC & UN PBC, *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustaining Peace – Informal Summary*, 2016.

²³⁵ UN General Assembly, *The Challenge of Sustaining Peace – Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture*, 2015.

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²³⁷ UN General Assembly, *The Challenge of Sustaining Peace – Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture*, 2015.

²³⁸ UN General Assembly, *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*, 2005; UN Security Council, *Post-conflict Peacebuilding (S/RES/1645 (2005))*, 2005.

undertaken collaboratively.²³⁹ The current annual workplan of PBC includes preparing for the 2020 review of the peacebuilding architecture, which is under the UN theme of “Challenge of Sustaining Peace.”²⁴⁰ The workplan includes highlighting the key needs of Member States; improving coherence and coordination between national, regional, and international partners; sharing good practices and developing financing for peacebuilding.²⁴¹ In this process, PBC is designated to serve as the “advisory bridge” and improve coordination and coherence among relevant UN and intergovernmental organizations.²⁴² PBC aims to achieve this through advocacy for peacebuilding practices, coordination of fundraising for peacebuilding, improved cooperation within the UN system as well as with other external organizations, and bringing together different peacebuilding actors.²⁴³

The PBSO was established in 2005 to support PBC and manage the PBF on behalf of the Secretary-General.²⁴⁴ It is comprised of the PBC Support Branch, the Peacebuilding Strategy and Partnerships Branch, and the Financing for Peacebuilding Branch.²⁴⁵ It works on sustaining peace through promoting systemic coherence and partnerships between UN and non-UN actors and through fostering international support for nationally-owned and led peacebuilding efforts.²⁴⁶ The PBF, which now has around 51 contributing states, is the Secretary-General’s financial instrument of first-resort for sustaining peace in regions at risk of or affected by violent conflict.²⁴⁷ Since 2006, the PBF has allocated \$772 million to help 41 countries in need.²⁴⁸ It works to fill gaps needed in the PBC’s budget and quickly respond to occurring crises.²⁴⁹ 82% of the PBF’s portfolio are joint programs, and it regularly partners with and financially supports UN entities, governments, regional organizations, multilateral banks, national multi-donor trust funds, and civil society organizations.²⁵⁰

While the PBSO and the PBF are tasked primarily with the operational side of peacebuilding, the General Assembly, the Security Council, and ECOSOC offer policy recommendations and guidelines on the peacebuilding process.²⁵¹ The UN Secretary-General partners with lending and donor agencies active in peacebuilding and works with leaders of other multilateral organizations, such as with the president of the World Bank, to foster enabling conditions for partnerships.²⁵² The aforementioned 2019 report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding and sustaining peace can be used as a benchmark for tracking progress in the area of peacebuilding, since it outlines the main areas that need further development and goals to be achieved by the next review of the peacebuilding architecture in 2020.²⁵³

Peacebuilding is a collaborative process, which requires coordination among different UN and non-UN actors to better organize their common efforts in terms of strategic planning, cooperation, financing, and

²³⁹ UN General Assembly, *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*, 2005.

²⁴⁰ UN General Assembly, *The Challenge of Sustaining Peace – Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture*, 2015.

²⁴¹ UN ECOSOC & UN PBC, *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustaining Peace – Informal Summary*, 2016.

²⁴² UN General Assembly, *The Challenge of Sustaining Peace – Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture*, 2015.

²⁴³ Ibid.

²⁴⁴ UN Peacebuilding, *About the Peacebuilding Support Office*.

²⁴⁵ Ibid.

²⁴⁶ Ibid.

²⁴⁷ UN Peacebuilding, *United Nations Peacebuilding Fund*.

²⁴⁸ Ibid.; UN Peacebuilding, *Secretary-General Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) Strategic Plan 2017-2019*, 2017.

²⁴⁹ UN Peacebuilding, *United Nations Peacebuilding Fund*; UN Peacebuilding, *Secretary-General Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) Strategic Plan 2017-2019*, 2017.

²⁵⁰ Ibid.

²⁵¹ UN General Assembly, *Summary Report. Sustaining Peace: Partnerships for Conflict Prevention & Peacebuilding*, 2017; UN General Assembly & UN Security Council, *Report of the Secretary-General on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace (A/72/707–S/2018/43)*, 2018.

²⁵² UN General Assembly, *The Challenge of Sustaining Peace – Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture*, 2015.

²⁵³ UN General Assembly & UN Security Council, *Report of the Secretary-General on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace (A/73/890–S/2019/448)*, 2019.

other peacebuilding-related issues.²⁵⁴ More importantly, partnerships for peacebuilding offer a multifaceted approach as opposed to unilateral or bilateral action.²⁵⁵ PBC therefore often pursues partnerships with stakeholders on the international, national, regional, and local levels, including with governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and private sector actors.²⁵⁶ Engaging with civil society and applying local knowledge to designing and implementing concrete projects makes PBC's activities more relevant and catalytic.²⁵⁷ More importantly, collaborating with national multi-stakeholder platforms can reduce the presence of extra administration and layers of bureaucracy.²⁵⁸ The PBF regularly involves civil society in its strategic planning because it has a stronger domestic political role and can be instrumental in influencing both governmental decisions and public opinion on the peacebuilding process.²⁵⁹

Inclusive Partnerships for Sustainable Peace

The UN recognizes that it needs a more comprehensive approach to sustaining peace, uniting human rights, peace and security, and the development pillars of the UN.²⁶⁰ In post-conflict situations, there is often an absence of a cohesive nation state and a lack of an inclusive government.²⁶¹ Thus, the peacebuilding process necessitates the involvement of different stakeholders across key social spheres and diverse political opinions, particularly those of youth and women, who represent some of the most vulnerable population segments in conflict situations.²⁶² The participation of community groups, under-represented groups, labor organizations, political parties, the private sector, and domestic civil society is also important for sustaining peace.²⁶³ Exclusion of different political minorities and societal groups can, on the other hand, be a driver of conflict and instability.²⁶⁴ The effect of this is often disproportionately felt by women due to rising gender inequality as a result of conflict and violence.²⁶⁵

Including women in the peacebuilding process is, nevertheless, crucial for its success in terms of ending violence and consolidating peace in post-conflict situations, particularly in the area of economic recovery, social cohesion, and political legitimacy, since women are the primary caregivers and upholders of the social infrastructure.²⁶⁶ Consequently, promoting gender equality has become a key theme in financing for peacebuilding, with the Secretary-General issuing a target of 15% of UN peacebuilding expenditures to be directed towards activities that empower women and advance gender equality as part of the 2030 Agenda.²⁶⁷ To meet this 15% target, the PBF launched a Gender Promotion Initiative in 2011 to advocate for projects focused on women's empowerment and gender equality.²⁶⁸ However, no Member State has attained this 15% target because UN entities have been stuck remodeling existing gender initiatives instead of developing new genuinely peacebuilding-oriented, gender-related programming proposals.²⁶⁹

²⁵⁴ UN DGC, *World Leaders in General Assembly Stress Importance of Conflict Prevention, Mediation during High-Level Debate on Building, Sustaining Peace (GA/12011)*, 2018.

²⁵⁵ Ibid.

²⁵⁶ Ibid.

²⁵⁷ Campisi & Pereira, *Filling the Gap: How Civil Society Engagement Can Help the UN's Peacebuilding Architecture Meet its Purpose*, 2015.

²⁵⁸ Ibid.

²⁵⁹ Ibid.

²⁶⁰ UN General Assembly, *The Challenge of Sustaining Peace – Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture*, 2015.

²⁶¹ Ibid.

²⁶² Ibid.

²⁶³ Ibid.

²⁶⁴ Ibid.

²⁶⁵ Ibid.

²⁶⁶ Ibid.

²⁶⁷ Ibid.

²⁶⁸ Ibid.

²⁶⁹ Ibid.

In the past two decades, populations in conflict areas grew almost twice as quickly as populations in developing states not affected by conflict, with half of these populations estimated to be under the age of 20.²⁷⁰ What is worse, young segments of society face a higher risk of getting involved in violent or extremist activities.²⁷¹ Thus, the UN recognized the necessity of providing youth with viable alternatives as well as the added value of incorporating youth in peacebuilding efforts and relying on them as a positive force of change.²⁷² According to the PBC's Advisory Group of Experts, through partnerships between the UN and domestic governments, educational systems can be reformed with the aim of reducing youth unemployment.²⁷³ Additionally, micro- and small-level enterprises can work on investing in different sectors and creating employment opportunities in the post-conflict development process, indirectly reducing the risk of youth being drawn into extremism.²⁷⁴ Involving youth in the peacebuilding process and treating them as partners is a strategic step towards achieving sustainable peace.²⁷⁵

One example of successful partnerships for peace can be found in Sierra Leone after 2002 when the country was trying to recover from the eleven-year violent conflict and move to a more sustainable peace through the utilization of partnerships across all levels.²⁷⁶ The UN partnered with national stakeholders in the initial stages of peacekeeping, which was shifted to peacebuilding in 2008.²⁷⁷ Both national leadership and civil society, notably women's organizations, were involved in the truth and reconciliation process and played a critical role in the peacebuilding process.²⁷⁸ The UN has established the Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone, which collaborates with PBC and is capable of coordinating with domestic stakeholders and delivering outcomes on the ground in Sierra Leone.²⁷⁹

Adequate and Sustainable Financing of Partnerships for Effective Peacebuilding

Strategic partnerships with international financial institutions are integral to sustaining peace, since available funds remain minimal, inconsistent, and unpredictable.²⁸⁰ There is a noticeable gap between the global funds allocated to crisis prevention and humanitarian response and those allocated to peacebuilding efforts, respectively \$24.5 billion and \$8 billion in 2015.²⁸¹ Increased investments in sustaining peace are needed to reduce the need for conflict-prevention expenditure in the long run.²⁸² There is also a misalignment between peacebuilding priorities and flows, with official development assistance (ODA) allocated to fragile and conflict-affected states not reaching sectors that are integral to peacebuilding, such as security, justice, or gender equality.²⁸³

According to the *Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture*, this gap may be closed by pooling resources of the UN and bilateral as well as multilateral financial institutions such as the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation, or the

²⁷⁰ Ibid.

²⁷¹ Simpson, *The Missing Peace*, 2018.

²⁷² Ibid.; UN General Assembly, *The Challenge of Sustaining Peace – Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture*, 2015.

²⁷³ UN General Assembly, *The Challenge of Sustaining Peace – Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture*, 2015.

²⁷⁴ Ibid.

²⁷⁵ Simpson, *The Missing Peace*, 2018.

²⁷⁶ UN General Assembly & UN Security Council, *Integrated and Coordinated Implementation of and Follow-up to the Outcomes of the Major United Nations Conferences and Summits in the Economic, Social and Related Fields (A/69/968–S/2015/490)*, 2015.

²⁷⁷ Ibid.

²⁷⁸ Ibid.

²⁷⁹ Ibid.

²⁸⁰ UN General Assembly, *The Challenge of Sustaining Peace – Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture*, 2015.

²⁸¹ Ibid.

²⁸² Ibid.

²⁸³ Ibid.

Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency.²⁸⁴ Such partnerships can not only maximize the impact of financing, so that the funds are allocated effectively, but also minimize risk, especially in fragile and conflict-affected environments.²⁸⁵ Especially the complimentary role of the UN and the World Bank Group is used to build a robust partnership framework to improve coherence between security, political, development, and humanitarian operations in crisis-affected areas.²⁸⁶ Their partnership involves aligning strategies and objectives, using each organization's tools to conduct effective joint analyses and investments, leveraging the resources of each organization, and improving efficiency through close collaboration.²⁸⁷ To this end, a steering committee in the area of partnership for crisis-affected situations was formed, which enables assessing which post-conflict development issues need funding, how this funding will be raised, and how it will be allocated.²⁸⁸

The PBF is another important financing instrument because it can act as an “investor of first-resort” for sustaining peace and help close the funding gap between the PBF's objectives resulting from its mandate and its available resources.²⁸⁹ The PBF can have a comparative advantage over other resources of funding, since it can act rapidly with minimal procedural hindrances.²⁹⁰ As part of the PBF's strategic plan for 2017-2019, three new investment areas have been put into focus: “i) cross-border and regional investments to help tackle transnational drivers of conflict; ii) facilitating transitions between different UN configurations and; iii) youth and women's empowerment to foster inclusion and gender equality.”²⁹¹ The PBF's goal is to raise \$500 million for 2017-2019.²⁹² As of 2018, \$183 million has been approved for 40 states, with 14 cross-border initiatives introduced.²⁹³ In addition, \$329.5 million has been committed or pledged, with the end of 2019 approaching.²⁹⁴ Nevertheless, persistent challenges such as the lag in receiving funds from Member States, constrained resources, or difficulties in cross-border funding, continue to make exercising the PBF's mandate and allocating sufficient funding to peacebuilding programs quite difficult.²⁹⁵

The Role of Regional Actors in Sustaining Peace

Sustaining peace cannot be effective without partnerships of the UN with regional and sub-regional actors, who dispose of more on-the-ground knowledge in conflict situations and, at the same time, usually have more sustained interest and capabilities to work on solutions in local contexts.²⁹⁶ They are also more trusted by other local stakeholders and possess greater political legitimacy to influence domestic decision-making.²⁹⁷ Regional and sub-regional organizations can support peaceful actions through preventive diplomacy, confidence building, local knowledge and networks, and mediation skills.²⁹⁸ States in the same region often have overlapping visions for the future, which makes collaboration and collective

²⁸⁴ Ibid.

²⁸⁵ Ibid.

²⁸⁶ World Bank, *State and Peacebuilding Fund: 2018 Annual Report*, 2018.

²⁸⁷ Ibid.

²⁸⁸ UN General Assembly & UN Security Council, *Report of the Secretary-General on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace (A/72/707-S/2018/43)*, 2018.

²⁸⁹ UN General Assembly, *The Challenge of Sustaining Peace – Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture*, 2015.

²⁹⁰ UN PBSO, *Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) and Peacebuilding: Thematic Review of DDR Contributions to Peacebuilding and the Role of the Peacebuilding Fund*, 2012.

²⁹¹ UN Peacebuilding, *Secretary-General Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) Strategic Plan 2017-2019*, 2017, p. 3.

²⁹² UN General Assembly, *Report of the Secretary General on The Peacebuilding Fund (A/73/829)*, 2019.

²⁹³ Ibid.

²⁹⁴ UN Peacebuilding, *Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund Strategic Plan 2017-2019: “Addressing Critical Gaps for Sustaining Peace”*, 2017.

²⁹⁵ UN General Assembly, *The Challenge of Sustaining Peace – Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture*, 2015.

²⁹⁶ Kumalo & Lucey, *Partnerships and Sustaining Peace: Insights from the Work of Regional Organizations*, *New York University – Center on International Cooperation*, 2018.

²⁹⁷ Ibid.

²⁹⁸ Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict, *UN Update: The Importance of Regional Partnerships for Peace and Conflict Prevention*, 2019.

action for sustainable peace easier.²⁹⁹ Regional actors are also better suited to assist with peacebuilding in neighboring states affected by conflict due to their proximity and easier and faster mobility of resources.³⁰⁰ For example, the AU has partnered with the UN to form a Joint Task Force on Peace and Security within the framework of *Enhanced Partnership on Peace and Security*.³⁰¹ This task force has been vocal about conflicts in the Central African Republic, Cameroon, Sudan, Libya, the Sahel region, West Africa, Mali, and Somalia.³⁰² The AU has also expressed its concerns about the impacts of climate change, which are felt directly in Africa and can lead to an increase in intercommunal clashes, and stressed the need for developing joint programs for climate security between the UN and the AU.³⁰³

Liberia is a prime example of where regional cooperation has significantly contributed to sustaining peace.³⁰⁴ The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) engaged in multiple local activities to foster inclusivity and national ownership and, in the long-term, promote sustainable peace.³⁰⁵ These activities focused, among others, on training political parties, building the capacities of women and media representatives during elections, and engaging civil society in peacebuilding efforts.³⁰⁶ ECOWAS has also been active in other states besides Liberia, including in the Gambia, where it enacted a democratic national consensus to recognize Adama Barrow as President-elect of the Gambia following the disputed presidential elections in 2016 and, with support of the UN and AU, increased legitimacy of the Gambian regime.³⁰⁷ To achieve its objectives, ECOWAS regularly engages in complementary peacebuilding partnerships with other regional organizations, mostly with the AU.³⁰⁸

The AU carries out many of its peacebuilding activities through different regional groups and communities, which have varying areas of focus and capacities with respect to peace and security, meaning that it is often challenging to identify and utilize the comparative advantages of each of them.³⁰⁹ Data has shown that weak communication can also lead to an overlap of structures and activities undertaken of regional actors or a duplication of resources and funds.³¹⁰ Last but not least, UN actors and international donors often provide support that is not precisely aligned with unique on-the-ground needs and sensitivities, which highlights the ongoing demand for increased collaboration between the UN and regional actors.³¹¹

²⁹⁹ Ibid.

³⁰⁰ Kumalo & Lucey, *Partnerships and Sustaining Peace: Insights from the Work of Regional Organizations*, New York University – Center on International Cooperation, 2018.

³⁰¹ UN Secretary-General, *Note to Correspondents: 17th United Nations (UN) – African Union (AU) Joint Task Force Joint Communiqué on 25 September 2019*, in New York, 2019.

³⁰² Kumalo & Lucey, *Partnerships and Sustaining Peace: Insights from the Work of Regional Organizations*, New York University – Center on International Cooperation, 2018.

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³⁰⁵ Ibid.

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³⁰⁷ UN DGC, *Security Endorses Recognition by African Union, Regional States, of Adama Barrow as President-Elect of Gambia, Unanimously Adopting 2337 (2017) (SC/12688)*, 2017.

³⁰⁸ Kumalo & Lucey, *Partnerships and Sustaining Peace: Insights from the Work of Regional Organizations*, New York University – Center on International Cooperation, 2018.

³⁰⁹ Ibid.

³¹⁰ Ibid.

³¹¹ UN General Assembly, *Statement by His Excellency Miroslav Lajčák, President of the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, at High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace: Opening Session on 24 April 2018*, in New York, 2018.

Conclusion

As exhibited above, a common theme in the UN discourse and agenda is the importance of partnerships in peacebuilding processes.³¹² Partnerships with stakeholders as diverse as minority groups, financial institutions, or regional organizations have the potential to not only improve concrete actions taken by PBC but also to strengthen the peacebuilding operations across the entire UN system.³¹³ Partnerships can help allocate and streamline sources of funding as well as increase coherence between important UN bodies and other actors in the area of peacebuilding.³¹⁴ Last but not least, partnerships can enhance and tailor on-the-ground operations and improve relationships between the UN and local organizations and civil society groups within Member States, which in turn provides for a more coherent, transparent, and legitimate peacebuilding process.³¹⁵ The UN efforts towards sustained peace through these approaches can have positive economic and social spillover effects and are therefore an important factor for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and its multiple SDGs.³¹⁶

Further Research

Delegates should review the resources included in this guide, notably the most recent resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Security Council. Delegates' further research should be guided by the following questions: Which minority groups suffer the most in conflict areas and how can they be included in the peacebuilding process? What funding and ODA does PBC currently have access to, and how can this be increased and made more efficient? What contributions do different financial institutions make towards peacebuilding? What countries does PBC currently operate in, and how can local entities be more extensively involved in the peacebuilding processes? What are potential partnerships between local stakeholders and different UN entities, and what are examples of programs they can jointly implement?

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Delegates will find this source useful, since it provides a detailed coverage of Member States' commitment to partnerships for peacebuilding. It includes different delegations' propositions for how to engage in partnerships for peacebuilding processes. It also involves broader calls and recommendations for coherence and partnerships across the UN pillars in preventing conflict and sustaining peace. The meeting coverage further addresses the issue of financing by quantifying the amount needed by the UN for expenditure on humanitarian interventions, peacekeeping, and hosting refugees, and calls for collaboration among partners for financing, such as through the PBF.

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session. (2016). *Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture (A/RES/70/262)*. Retrieved 21 July 2019 from: <https://undocs.org/A/RES/70/262>

This resource is an important read for delegates, since it serves as a review of the structure of PBC, its role, and its relationship with other UN entities. It also discusses the necessity of reviewing the current UN peacebuilding architecture and the role PBC and other entities can play in carrying out this process. This resolution does a good job of defining how various UN and non-UN stakeholders can contribute to peacebuilding.

³¹² UN General Assembly, *Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture (A/RES/70/262)*, 2016.

³¹³ Ibid.

³¹⁴ Ibid.

³¹⁵ Ibid.

³¹⁶ UN ECOSOC & UN PBC, *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustaining Peace – Informal Summary*, 2016.

These include Member States and national authorities; UN missions and country teams; international, regional, and sub-regional organizations; international financial institutions; civil society; women's groups; youth organizations; and, where relevant, the private sector and national human rights institutions. The source will help delegates identify the different stakeholders within the UN system and realize how they can be involved with non-UN actors and form effective partnerships with them.

United Nations, General Assembly & United Nations, Security Council. (2018). *Report of the Secretary-General on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace (A/72/707-S/2018/43)*. Retrieved 21 July 2019 from: <https://undocs.org/A/72/707%E2%80%93S/2018/43>

This resource contains recommendations made by the Secretary-General concerning peacebuilding and sustaining peace. In a section about partnerships for peacebuilding and sustaining peace, the report stresses the importance of UN collaboration with regional and sub-regional organizations in order to be able to perform joint analyses and promote information sharing in peacebuilding situations. The report also addresses the necessity of close cooperation with international financial organizations, particularly the World Bank, to promote investment in conflict-affected countries. Last but not least, the report highlights the added value of including civil society in peacebuilding processes to improve the working methods of PBC through efforts such as capacity-building; sharing good practices; producing practical tools; and joint planning, programming, and monitoring, and evaluation. By reading this source, delegates will understand how partnerships and the inclusion of various stakeholders are crucial for achieving a long-lasting, sustainable peace.

United Nations, Security Council, 7680th meeting. (2016). *Review of United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture (S/RES/2282 (2016))*. Retrieved 21 July 2019 from: [https://undocs.org/S/RES/2282\(2016\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2282(2016))

This resource provides delegates with detailed analysis of the role PBC plays in the UN system. This resolution was adopted in conjunction with General Assembly resolution 70/262 on the "Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture," and, therefore, delegates can use it to see the parallels between the work of the General Assembly and the Security Council in the peacebuilding process. It introduces and highlights the role of supporting bodies to PBC. More importantly, it emphasizes the need for future periodical reviews of the peacebuilding architecture similar to this source.

World Bank. (2018). *State and Peacebuilding Fund: 2018 Annual Report*. Retrieved 21 July 2019 from: <http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/510271559335344163/SPF-Annual-Report-2018.pdf>

This is the World Bank's annual report on the State and Peacebuilding Fund (SPF), which includes an analysis of the peacebuilding process as well as efforts carried out by the World Bank to support peacebuilding in conflict-affected areas. This report provides delegates with an outline of interstate armed conflicts in the global landscape and the World Bank's corresponding response in the area of finance and development. It also includes a description of the efforts made by the SPF, its main contributors, and the recipients of its services. Delegates can use this source to get an idea of the work done by the World Bank in terms of peacebuilding and to identify key areas of potential cooperation with the UN on such issues. The report also includes a case-study on Latin America, which can be useful for some delegates.

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