

Concept Note

2024 Peacebuilding Commission Ministerial-level Meeting

26 September 2024 (15h-18h)

UN Headquarters, New York (CR-3)

The Road to the 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review: perspectives and priorities

Background

In September 2023, the Peacebuilding Commission held a Ministerial-level meeting, to discuss prospects for enhancing international and multilateral cooperation in peacebuilding and sustaining peace, and the role that the peacebuilding commission can play in this endeavor. In 2024, building on the momentum set by the Summit of the Future, it is timely to the PBC to convene again at ministerial level, in order to discuss and identify priorities to be addressed at the 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review.

The 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review presents an opportunity for the international community to assess and improve the United Nations' peacebuilding framework, including by building on the discussions taken place in the Summit of the Future. Established in 2005, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) was designed to support conflict-affected countries by addressing its underlying causes and facilitating long-term recovery. Despite its foundational role in the UN's peacebuilding efforts, the PBC still faces important challenges in maximizing its impact, working with financial institutions, and effectively bridging gaps between main UN bodies.

The international landscape has also become increasingly complex since the PBC's inception. Modern conflicts are often characterized by intricate socio-political dynamics, increased involvement of non-state actors, and multifaceted humanitarian needs. Furthermore, the financial and logistical support necessary for effective peacebuilding has become more demanding, what highlights the need for more investment in conflict prevention. Against this backdrop, drawing on the presence of world leaders during the General Assembly High Level week, it would be opportune to hold a Ministerial event to discuss and identify priorities for peacebuilding and sustaining peace ahead of the review process.

Objectives

This ministerial-level meeting provides an opportunity for the whole UN membership to exchange views on their expectations and priorities regarding next year's review process. Building on conclusions that may emerge from the Summit of the Future, the meeting should be able to offer high-level political guidance and create momentum as we prepare to the review.

The primary aim of the Peacebuilding Architecture Review (PBAR) is to thoroughly assess the Peacebuilding Commission's (PBC) current impact on peacebuilding across the world. The PBAR includes an assessment of the impact of PBC-led programs and their contributions to stability and recovery in post-conflict areas. The assessment seeks

to determine the success and shortcomings of these initiatives, particularly in how well they support national governments and local actors. Gathering feedback from key stakeholders, including local governments and civil society, will help identify strengths and weaknesses in the PBC's efforts and highlight opportunities for improvement, including on conflict prevention.

One of the objectives of the PBAR is to propose ways to enhance the collaboration of the PBC with regional and international financial institutions to better align funding with peacebuilding needs. This includes analyzing existing funding mechanisms and their alignment with PBC priorities. Identifying financial support gaps and proposing measures to address them is crucial. Strengthening the collaboration between the PBC and financial institutions like the World Bank, the IMF and regional development banks, will improve funding processes. Additionally, exploring innovative financing methods such as impact investing and public-private partnerships will help address challenges related to funding predictability and sustainability.

Another objective is to strengthening the PBC's role in connecting the General Assembly, Security Council, ECOSOC, and other UN bodies, including the Secretariat. This involves examining and improving the existing structures and processes for interaction among these entities to enhance communication and coordination. Ensuring that PBC's strategies align with the broader UN mandates on security, development, and human rights is essential. Enhancing information sharing and joint planning mechanisms, as well as promoting an integrated approach to peacebuilding that includes security, development, and human rights dimensions, will ensure effective collaboration and maximize the impact of peacebuilding efforts.

The ministerial-level meeting will seek to set the stage at a high-level for the discussion in the 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review aimed at strengthening the PBC's role and impact in global peacebuilding efforts. By addressing these objectives, the international community can work towards a more effective, coordinated, and integrated approach to peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

Guiding Questions

1. Impact on the Ground:

How can the PBC enhance its operational effectiveness and ensure that its initiatives have a measurable impact on the ground, including on conflict prevention? What are the current limitations, and how can these be addressed to improve results?

2. Coordination with Financial Institutions:

What mechanisms can be introduced or strengthened to improve the collaboration between the PBC and regional as well as international financial institutions? How can financial resources be better aligned with peacebuilding needs and priorities?

3. Role as a Bridging Entity:

In what ways can the PBC more effectively bridge the gap between the General Assembly, the Security Council, ECOSOC, and other UN bodies, including the Secretariat? What structural or procedural changes could facilitate better integration and communication among these entities?

4. Maximizing Synergies:

How can the PBC collaborate more effectively with other UN entities, civil society organizations, and regional actors to create a more unified and comprehensive approach to peacebuilding?

Format

The Ministerial-level meeting will take place on Thursday, 26 September, from 3PM to 6PM.

All members of the United Nations are invited to participate and to speak for up to three minutes. Delegations that are unable to deliver their statements due to time constraints will have their statements circulated. Availability of interpretation in all UN official languages will be communicated in due course.

A list of speakers will be prepared in advance and will be arranged giving priority to PBC members and with due consideration to protocol and order of registration. To facilitate the participation of Ministers, the list of speakers will be shared with Member States in advance of the meeting.

Delegations are kindly invited to request to be inscribed in the list of speakers through the following link (<https://forms.office.com/e/uHRr9539s9>), which will be open for registration from 5 PM today, 11 September, to 5 PM on Tuesday, 17 September.

Due to the limited capacity of the conference room, tickets to the event will be distributed on the following basis:

- 1+2 for delegations from PBC Members and from countries considered by the PBC
- 1+1 other Member States

Agenda

Opening remarks by H.E. Mr. Mauro Luiz Iecker Vieira, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Brazil and Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission

Keynote speech by Ms. Rosemary DiCarlo, Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA)

Briefers

H.E. Mr. Danilo Türk, Former President of the Republic of Slovenia, member of the Group of the Independent Eminent Persons to the 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review.

Professor Funmi Olonisakin, Vice President, International, Engagement and Service (IES) at King's College London.

Interventions from the floor.

Closing remarks by the Chair.