

States

heard. Thanks in part to the support provided by the PBC and PBF, The Gambia was listed as the third most peaceful country in Sub-Saharan Africa on the Global Peace Index¹ in 2022.

The case of The Gambia was recognised in the session as providing a good example of successful prevention, wherein global actors worked in close **partnership with regional and sub-regional organisations**

statements and engagements in external meetings by the Chair should not be subject to a consensus driven decision-making or clearance process. Such an adjustment could be agreed by the members without requiring new resolutions and would enable the Chair to fully exercise their role in raising the visibility and with wider audiences.

A second point raised by participants was the engagement and number of **Vice-Chairs of the PBC**. Participants proposed a more effective division of labour between the Chair and the Vice-Chairs, the latter of whom could take responsibility for follow up on country-specific and regional discussions. Participants expressed their interest in further considering a proposal to increase the number of Vice-Chairs from two to four (with continued selection from among PBC members for a term of one year as per current rules of procedure) to Recognising the limitations of two-year mandates, it was also proposed that future Chairs could serve as a vice-chair the preceding year to promote continuity.

It was also proposed that the PBC could play a greater role in peacekeeping transitions and in supporting UN presences print that continue assisting countries in building trust and addressing the root causes of conflict. To be able to effectively accompany such processes, it was suggested by some that the PBC should be enabled to provide recommendations in such situations.

Finally, participants discussed **the idea of holding a Ministerial level PBC meeting** on 22 September 2023 during the High-level week of the General Assembly. Such a meeting was viewed as providing space to have a strategic discussion on role in light of the outcomes of the SDG Summit and the Ministerial Preparatory Meeting for the Summit of the Future, and to provide political guidance on ways to strengthen the Commission during the 2025 review of the peacebuilding architecture. Participants stressed the need to set a clear objective for the Ministerial meeting.

In concluding the session, participants agreed that a regular review of working methods would be welcome and useful. The 2025 Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture presents an opportunity to operationalise recommendations in the New Agenda for Peace and, in that regard, to consider what changes can be made to working methods, composition, and support capacities so that it can more

ASG Spehar followed up by the interest of Member States in the accountability and governance aspects of the Fund. She highlighted the idea of an annual interactive strategic dialogue between PBSO and the PBC towards the beginning of each calendar year that can discuss