

# AfriForum

29 September 2023

## **Written submissions to the Peacebuilding Commission's Ministerial Meeting**

In our evolving world, it's clear that communities possess values, experiences and aspirations that deserve to be empowered and recognised. Communities require freedom to craft institutions that are rooted in their values. This autonomy empowers and shapes the envisioned future. AfriForum, with 314,000 members, is facilitating this by focusing on community-based solutions. AfriForum is the largest civil rights organisation in Africa and the Southern Hemisphere and believes that governments must reevaluate their roles towards the New Agenda for Peace.

Traditionally, governments have been perceived as the primary providers of services and institutions. However, in today's landscape, there's a compelling case for governments to pivot towards becoming facilitators of community-driven initiatives instead. This paradigm shift involves acknowledging that the government's primary function should be to create an environment where communities can flourish and control their destinies.

