

2024 Peacebuilding Commission Ministerial-Level Meeting (Reluctant Peacebuilding) [4n]
Architecture Review: perspectives and priorities
26 September 2024

On September 26, 2024, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) held a Ministerial-level meeting to discuss perspectives and priorities for the upcoming 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review (PBAR). Building on the Summit of the Future, Member States exchanged views on expectations, opportunities, and challenges regarding the review process, reaffirming their commitment to active participation. A central theme was the need to enhance peacebuilding and sustaining peace efforts through national ownership and to strengthen the PBC's leadership role in peacebuilding initiatives. Many delegations highlighted the importance of conflict prevention, effective investments, and cost-saving measures, as well as promoting the participation of women and youth. Participants also emphasized the necessity for predictable and sustainable financing and called for stronger partnerships with regional organizations and international financial institutions to support these peacebuilding and sustaining peace initiatives.

conditions for its work. It should enhance expert preparation for PBC activities to clarify decision-making and improve communication with peacekeeping missions. It should also ensure a better alignment of peacebuilding efforts with international financial institutions and national priorities. For him, these steps should help clarify the PBC's political status and enhance its relationship with the Security Council.

4. **Ms. Funmi Olonisakin, Vice President, International Engagement and Service (IES)**

, noted that the journey to 2025 began with the 10-year peacebuilding architecture review in 2015, which she participated in, followed by a 2020 review that evaluated progress made since the April 2016 resolutions. These reviews highlighted significant achievements, particularly the concept of sustaining peace and the importance of inclusive national ownership in effective peacebuilding efforts. She noted that these principles were reaffirmed in the New Agenda for Peace. She however noted that since then, the global landscape has changed dramatically. The world was faced with increased complexity and uncertainty in international security, with many States becoming more fragile and losing control over violence. This has created a gap between institutions and the realities faced by citizens, diminishing the effectiveness of peacebuilding efforts. While the principles of sustaining peace and national ownership were still relevant, she recalled that they remain largely theoretical. According to her, two critical gaps limit the UN's peacebuilding impact: the lack of effective application of the sustaining peace framework on the ground and insufficient implementation of inclusive national ownership. To bridge these gaps, she suggested to take practical actions and clear guidelines on what national ownership involves and how to achieve it. She proposed prioritizing plebiscites, allowing direct voting on key issues affecting conflict-affected societies, as a means to connect leaders with the citizens they serve. This approach would foster trust and aligns the interests of leaders and the public, moving beyond elite-driven politics. She also indicated that the Peacebuilding Commission should serve as the central hub for collective peacebuilding efforts. Establishing a clear operational framework for national ownership was necessary as we approach 2025, requiring the UN to integrate its diverse initiatives, including development cooperation, peacebuilding financing, and political facilitation, to effectively support peacebuilding on the ground.

5. A total of forty-seven Member States took the floor in the ensuing discussion and shared their views and perspectives on the PBAR process. Overall, participants noted that the upcoming 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review is pivotal, especially in light of the Summit of the Future and the Pact . There was a strong commitment among Member States to actively engage in this process, focusing on improving the peacebuilding framework through the sharing of best practices, lessons learned, and the challenges faced by participating countries. Several participants also expressed their support for the New Agenda for Peace, highlighting its emphasis on strengthening the role of the Peacebuilding Commission. It was suggested that insights from the PBC retreat held in June 2024 be incorporated into the review process.

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the necessity of strengthening collaboration with international financial institutions (IFIs) to complement peacebuilding interventions, broadening the financial resource bas

peacebuilding. Additionally, they urged the PBC to offer substantive advice to the Security Council to enhance its focus on programmatic activities within UN peace operations and to promote multilateralism in international peace and security. There was call for the development of an integrated peacebuilding strategy in line with the interdependence between humanitarian, peace, and development.

12. Participants emphasized also the critical need for inclusive, people-driven peacebuilding initiatives that are tailored to specific contexts. They highlighted the vital roles of women and youth in community-level peacebuilding efforts, which are essential for effectively addressing local challenges and needs. Investing in and empowering these groups in decision-making processes was deemed