

Agenda item 30

1. The present report has been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution [60/180](#) and Security Council resolution [1645 \(2005\)](#), in which the Peacebuilding Commission was requested to submit an annual report to the Assembly for an annual debate and review. The report will also be submitted to the Council, pursuant to its resolution [1646 \(2005\)](#), for an annual debate. The report covers the seventh session of the Commission, held from 1 January to 31 December 2013.
2. On 29 October 2010, the General Assembly and the Security Council adopted resolutions [65/7](#) and [1947 \(2010\)](#), respectively, through which the two organs, inter alia, requested the Commission to reflect, in its annual reports, the progress made in taking forward the relevant recommendations contained in the 2010 report of the co-facilitators on the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture ([A/64/868-S/2010/393](#), annex).
3. In the present report, the Commission has maintained the format for reporting

10. The joint membership of the General Assembly and the Commission recognize the need for strengthening the links between both bodies. To this end, the Organizational Committee designated South Africa as coordinator of a process aimed at exploring options for more informal and substantive links between the two organs. In this regard, the coordinator has initiated consultations with the President of the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly in order to identify possible entry points through which the Commission could tap into the Assembly's convening power and broad-based membership in order to raise awareness of and to advocate for the specific peacebuilding needs and opportunities in the countries on the agenda.

11. Similarly, the joint membership of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission acknowledged that the collaboration between the two bodies needed a fresh look, with a view to enhancing complementarities, as well as streamlining and drawing broader attention to the socioeconomic dimension of peacebuilding. In this

and developments on the ground. In this regard, the Commission's engagement was characterized, in particular, by regular dialogue at headquarters and in the field with the Government, the Security Council, senior United Nations leadership and key country partners. During this dialogue, the Commission echoed the point of view of the United Nations and the Government, namely, that in transitioning to a development-oriented assistance, it is important that the international community remain engaged in respect of peacebuilding needs in Sierra Leone. In Burundi and following the success of the Geneva Partners Conference in 2012, the Commission's advocacy role proceeded in two parallel directions. Through follow-up activities to the Geneva Conference in New York and in Bujumbura, the Commission has promoted an approach of mutual accountability, encouraging the Government to honour its commitments in political and economic reforms, while also encouraging donors to translate their pledges into concrete commitments and programmes. The Commission has also contributed to raising awareness of partners and to increasing visibility of good practices and achievements in Burundi in areas such as domestic revenue collection and human rights. Furthermore, the Commission engaged in high-level advocacy initiatives and in support of the political dialogue and other preparatory processes for the 2015 elections. The Commission will use the agreed annual progress monitoring mechanism to sustain the attention and engagement of the Government and its partners regarding pledged commitments and agreed reforms, and to advise Burundi on the key political processes in 2014 that will lay the foundation for successful elections in 2015.

14. The advocacy and accompaniment function assumed an issue-specific focus during the reporting period in Liberia and Guinea. With emphasis placed on generating political momentum behind the national reconciliation process in Liberia, the Government launch of the Road Map for National Healing, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation in July and the National

national development efforts. A clear national resource mobilization strategy centred around the Agenda for Prosperity will enable the Commission to revisit its own future engagement in Sierra Leone, with a view to effectively promoting targeted and more coherent support for the peacebuilding-related priorities of the Agenda.

19. The Commission has also used its platform to advocate for the use of timely resources in a coordinated fashion in countries approaching or facing crises. In the Central African Republic, for example, a configuration meeting held in September allowed for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, the Peacebuilding Fund and the European Union to agree in principle on a coordinated approach to supporting the civilian police and gendarmerie. Towards the end of the year, the Commission welcomed the use of \$5 million from the Fund's Immediate Response Facility to build momentum for the efforts of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS) to assist Guinea-Bissau in sustaining the process leading to its return to constitutional order.

20. The reporting period has also witnessed intensified policy-related efforts to explore practical entry points with the private sector and philanthropic organizations. To this end, a special event of the Commission was held in June in collaboration with the United Nations Global Compact Office. Bringing together business leaders from Africa, civil society and Governments, the event focused on the role of the private sector as catalyst for economic growth and job creation in post-conflict countries, and underscored the importance of creating an enabling environment for the effective development of the local private sector and of fostering socially responsible business practices, and inclusive economic growth. Going forward, it is important for the Commission to explore practical steps aimed at clarifying the nature and scope of a desired partnership with the private sector. For example, the Commission can support national Governments of countries in its agenda in identifying practical solutions to challenges inhibiting investment flows and advocate with partners on the need for a greater focus on national private sector development.

21. Entry points for partnership with foundations and philanthropic organizations have proved to be even more challenging for the Commission. Through initial and exploratory contacts initiated by the Peacebuilding Support Office, a number of opportunities and challenges were identified. In particular, it was noted that while foundations make large contributions to a variety of initiatives in post-conflict countries, the funding focus is usually contextualized within themes such as poverty alleviation, support to human security and promotion of social welfare. Foundations find "peacebuilding" to be a vague concept with security-oriented connotations. In order to address this challenge, the Commission can further explore options for outreach, including through the provision of evidence-based analysis, as appropriate, on the long-term impact on sustainable peace of an integrated approach to specific areas related to peacebuilding.

22. In addition to the emerging trends in country-specific approaches to resource mobilization, there has been a continuing development by the Commission of an institutional approach to this function based on lessons learned and good practice. In addition to considering, in 2012, the Commission's possible role in promoting the development of national aid coordination and management systems in countries in its agenda, the Working Group on Lessons Learned continued to highlight practical approaches for the Commission in exercising its resource mobilization function. The

Working Group workplan for the reporting period was developed with the objectives of drawing lessons learned and generating findings related to the role of the Commission in supporting the organization of donor/partner conferences (April); and of exploring and underscoring different approaches to building national capacities for domestic revenue generation (July).

23. Drawing upon the experience of Burundi, the Working Group discussion on national capacities for domestic revenue generation underscored that this can make a significant contribution in supporting nationally led funding for recovery and peacebuilding priority areas, as well as constitute an important aspect of reform that can catalyse and encourage external financial support. The successful performance of the national office on revenue of Burundi testified to the national commitment to improve domestic revenue generation, which was underscored by the Commission and the Government at the Geneva Conference. Such commitment has proved to be helpful in sustaining the engagement of donors, as evidenced by the outcome of the Conference. The Commission will promote experience-sharing between Burundi and other agenda countries in this crucial dimension of a possible national resource mobilization strategy.

24. Addressing the challenge of competing agendas and fragmentation of peacebuilding activities remains a central objective of the Commission. However, and as noted by experts and several members at the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation informal workshop held in October, the Commission is not positioned to coordinate operational activities in the field. On the other hand, the Commission can forge coherence in peacebuilding-related engagements in countries in its agenda by promoting a greater focus on opportunities for peacebuilding, by pointing to strategic gaps in response to peacebuilding priorities and by drawing the attention of key stakeholders to bottlenecks in the peacebuilding processes. At the same time, the need for greater consistency and coherence of decisions made by its Member States regarding peacebuilding-related areas of bilateral assistance, as well as in connection with positions and actions taken in relevant multilateral forums, cannot be overemphasized.

25. In Burundi, the Commission drew upon the follow-up meeting to the Geneva f dec0 48ion. Howresou

28. In pursuing its agenda going forward for 2013, as the implementation and monitoring framework for taking forward relevant recommendations from the 2010 review, the Commission has devoted attention to reviewing and reflecting on its working methods. The work in this area reflected the Commission's continued preoccupation with areas requiring significant improvements in order to facilitate engagement and ownership of the Commission objectives by Member States, and countries on its agenda, as well as United Nations system and institutional partners. In this regard, the Organizational Committee initiated a process aimed at documenting established working methods in performing country-specific work and at identifying ways for streamlining and enhancing the predictability of the Commission's work programme, as well as its overall policy orientation and its result-oriented actions. To this end, a series of working-level informal consultations were convened between February and November resulting in:

(a) A compendium covering aspects related to the Commission's country-specific engagement, cross-learning within configurations and communications.⁴ While it is considered a living document and a useful reference for delegates and external partners, as well as Chairs of country configurations, the compendium

addition to facilitating smooth working relations with the United Nations senior leadership in the field, these discussions have proved useful in improving communications and the exchange of perspectives from the field and New York for the benefit of a more field-oriented engagement of the Commission that responds to field-based analyses of the critical needs, priorities and challenges of the peacebuilding process in Burundi.

31. The workshop organized by the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation in October

recovery measures and policies. A political declaration was adopted by the Commission (PBC/7/OC/3), which affirmed the commitment of the Commission members to women's economic empowerment for peacebuilding. Through its country-specific engagement and the exercise of its three main functions, the Commission would continue to promote the economic empowerment of women and their equal engagement alongside men in post-conflict recovery.

35. The event was organized in collaboration with UN-Women and, in this regard, became an opportunity to highlight its recent study that raised key concerns for policymakers in terms of the legal, asset, financial and skills constraints that impede women's engagement in economic recovery

objectives and/or important milestones envisaged in 2014 in each country in the agenda

- Resource mobilization: identify country-specific actions in support of national resource mobilization strategies, including support to the organization of or follow-up to donor conferences and support to the development of donor coordination and aid management systems, and facilitate national efforts for domestic resource mobilization
- Forging coherence: convene the third dialogue with Executive and Special Representatives of the Secretary-General in countries on the agenda, identify country-specific actions for strengthening communications with key regional and international partners to encourage coherent political messages and/or support to critical peacebuilding priorities, and explore further alignment of the Commission's instruments of engagement with ongoing national planning

41. The ongoing improvement in the Commission working methods will continue. The Commission will continue to identify and document good practice and address outstanding issues, including by encouraging cross-learning among configurations.

- Develop a planning and monitoring tool for the agenda going forward, including a quarterly work programme with indicative dates for activities and meetings, with a view to improving the predictability of the Commission calendar
- Convene the first annual session of the Commission in June 2014, in accordance with agreed modalities, as included in the annex to this report

42. The next reporting period, from 1 January to 31 December 2014, will mark the end of the second five-year review cycle for the peacebuilding architecture. As mandated by the General Assembly and the Security Council in their identical resolutions of 29 October 2010,⁵ a further comprehensive review in 2015 will be initiated by both organs. The 2015 review is expected to assess progress made in the implementation of key recommendations emanating from the 2010 review by the Commission and other United Nations actors, and to take stock of remaining challenges. Actions envisaged in the agenda going forward are to be introduced in this context. At the same time, and during the course of 2014, the Commission will identify areas of institutional and policy reforms that can be readily put into practice through country-specific engagement ahead of the 2015 review.

⁵ General Assembly resolution 65/7 and Security Council resolution 1947 (2010).

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- Identify lessons learned from country-specific actions and experience under each of the following policy work streams: field orientation, results and impact, and forms of engagement
 - Request the Peacebuilding Support Office to consult with the United Nations Senior Peacebuilding Group to identify areas and proposals for developing the contribution of the United Nations system to and its engagement in the 2015 review and brief the Organizational Committee on the results
 - Invite the Chair of the Sierra Leone configuration to brief the Organizational Committee on emerging lessons from the support provided to the transition of UNIPSIL and the planned transition of the Commission from Sierra Leone

1. In paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution [60/180](#) and of Security Council resolution

7. The convening of the first annual session in 2014 will constitute an important occasion for further leveraging the commitment of Member States, the United Nations system and institutional partners in advance of the 2015 review.

the Council of the annual report of the Commission would take place back to back with the annual session of the Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund Stakeholders Meeting.

(a) Informed by the agenda going forward agreed in the annual Commission report, the Organizational Committee will initiate consultations among its members, countries on the agenda and Chairs of the country configurations, no later than the third week of February in each year, in order to consider, identify and select a specific theme that will be the focus at the annual session. The selected theme should meet either one or more of the following criteria:

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The annual session will result in an outcome capturing and presenting general principles, conclusions and recommendations centred around the selected theme discussed during the annual session. The outcome will be considered and agreed among Member States of the Organizational Committee, as the central organ of the Commission, and reflected in the annual