

Peacebuilding Commission

Ambassadorial-level meeting on World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV)  
2020-2025 and quarterly briefing by the Chairs of Country Specific Configurations

09 October 2019

World Bank was in the process of consolidating the draft strategy with feedback received during the global consultation process from more than 1,700 stakeholders. The World Bank expects to post the draft paper of the FCV Strategy in the coming weeks and launch the final version by the end of the year. Mr. Bousquet re-emphasized several essential factors that are important for the success of the strategy, including leadership and commitment of governments and need for tangible progress at the country level.

3. The Director and Deputy Head of PBSO, Ms. Barrie Freeman, recalled the broad and deep partnership between the UN and World Bank and noted the many opportunities to grow it based on shared data, joint analysis, and coordinated prioritization with host governments. She stressed that there remain considerable transaction costs in the UN-World Bank partnership, and that it will take sustained attention and support to keep the forward momentum. In that regard, she commended Commission members for their focus on this issue and efforts to help achieve a closer partnership between the UN and the Bank in FCV settings. PBSO commended the important contribution of donors - Switzerland, Canada and the UK - who are supporting the Humanitarian-Development-Peacebuilding Partnership (HDPP) Facility. She proposed that future PBC meetings can provide a platform for the FCV strategy to enable policy dialogue and a venue to gather lessons learned on strategy implementation.
4. PBC Members welcomed the briefing by the World Bank

5. In line with the World Bank plan to solicit comments on the draft FCV Strategy, PBC members raised the following questions on the draft FCV Strategy to be shared with the World Bank:

How will the concept of partnerships with diverse actors on the ground, including the new Resident Coordinator system and UN Country Team, be operationalized, especially in view of the need to deconflict/align overlapping mandates of UN entities?

How will the FCV strategy impact the work of the PBC in support of its Configuration Countries?

Will the Bank's engagement entail more financial resources for

9. The Chair of the Guinea-Bissau Configuration (Brazil) noted that the Configuration's focus has been on the electoral cycles, including legislative elections (successfully held on 10 March) and the upcoming presidential election scheduled for 24 November. The Chair indicated that the international community should sustain attention on the country and double its efforts for a peaceful transfer of power. During the Chair's briefing to the Security Council on 10 September, the Chair informed of the political situation and peacebuilding needs that require stronger focus in anticipation of the drawdown of UNIOGBIS. The Chair noted that he was scheduled to visit Bissau from 22-24 October to reiterate the need to hold the presidential election.
  
10. The Chair of the Liberia Configuration (Sweden) recalled the Ambassadorial-level meeting held on 28 June to follow up on the latest country development, particularly the protest in the capital on 7 June. After the meeting, the Commission adopted a press statement welcoming the peaceful protest, commending the dialogue among stakeholders and reiterating the Commission's commitment to supporting the country. The Chair noted that he was scheduled to visit Liberia from 22-24 October to follow-up on the recent national economic dialogue, the new cooperation framework, the PBF projects, and the synergy between the Commission and the PBF in the country. The Chair noted that support for women and youth participation in peacebuilding processes is crucial and must be continued.
  
11. The Chair of the Burundi Configuration (Switzerland) briefed on the Configuration's activities since the last update, including the Chair's visit to Burundi in May; the ambassadorial-level meeting (June); the briefing to the Security Council (14 June); the Chair's participation (by VTC) in the Security Council interactive dialogue in connection with the situation in Burundi; and the meeting with the Burundi Foreign Minister held during the 74<sup>th</sup> General Assembly