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## **The 2015 UN Reviews: Informal Asian Regional Consultation on Coordination and Implementation Concept Paper**

The year of 2015 marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the United Nations. To make itself better prepared for the changing global security architecture and challenges, the UN launched various reviewing process in relation to its work of maintenance of international peace and security, including the review of UN peace operations, the Peacebuilding Architecture Review, and the implementation review of Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security. On the basis of findings and recommendations presented in these reviewing reports, The President of the General Assembly, Mogens Lykketoft, will organize a high-level thematic debate of the UN General Assembly focused on peace and security. This informal gathering scheduled for 10-11 May 2016 will provide a platform to reflect on concrete ways to draw out synergies from the recent UN peace and security reviews.

As one of many events in preparation for the high-level thematic debate, the informal Asian regional consultation is supposed to gather views and provide Asian inputs into the General Assembly debate. The one-day conference mainly covers the following major topics: enhancing the coordination and coherence of the United Nations System; increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of UN Peace Operations in addressing global security challenges; building peace and development partnership during peacebuilding process; achieving sustained peace through inclusive domestic political process, with special focus on the role of women and youth. As a continent renowned for its plurality and diversity in religion, culture, tradition, and political

philosophy, the Asian way of addressing disputes or conflicts also hinges greatly on respect for diversity and seeking solutions through negotiation, conciliation, and mediation. And this can be seen as a good point of departure for further elaborating on Asian countries' perception, strategies, and policies on issues of peace, conflict, and development. Some specific guiding questions listed as follows deserve more consideration and discussion.

1. How can we refocus efforts on the **search for political settlements**, on preventing **conflict/crisis** and on promoting a long term commitment across the UN family and the international system **to sustaining peace**?
2. What kind of **institutional changes** are required to achieve this shift from reaction to prevention? How can we strengthen **coordination to that effect among** Member States and **intergovernmental bodies** including the Security Council, the General Assembly, and the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) as well as with Troop and Police Contributing Countries throughout the cycle of a peace operation? What are the **norms and standards** that could underpin such preventive approach?
3. How can we ensure that the factors that trigger and perpetuate conflict and the drivers that contribute to **peaceful and inclusive societies** are identified and analyzed in an integrated manner? How can we promote a greater understanding of the **centrality of inclusion**, in particular women's participation and leadership, to ensure success and sustainability of peace efforts?
4. How can we strengthen a **people-centered approach** in the framework of peace operations? How can we use peace operations, peacebuilding initiatives and programs on women, peace and security to strengthen inclusive national ownership – including in relations with nationally-led processes?
5. How can the Peacebuilding Commission and other institutions of the peacebuilding architecture play a more active role in facilitating and strengthening partnerships with IFIs and (sub-) regional organizations?