



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

6 December 2016

Excellency,

As part of my ongoing efforts to strengthen momentum around the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, I will convene a High Level Dialogue entitled “Building Sustainable Peace for All: Synergies between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustaining Peace” on 24 January 2017.

The dialogue will explore the extent to which the 2030 Agenda and Sustaining Peace complement and strengthen each other, and how synergies can best be created through practical frameworks for realizing sustainable peace and sustainable development at the national, regional and international levels.

It will comprise of an opening segment, a high-level segment, an interactive panel discussion and, in the afternoon, three parallel workshops. It will also serve to bring together the President of the UN Security Council, the President of the Economic and Social Council and the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission on this important topic.

A concept note and provisional programme is attached and additional details will be made available on my website (www.un.org/pga/71). On Friday, 16 December, my Office will hold a briefing in the Trusteeship Council Chamber, from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm, to provide further details on the programme and format for the event.

It is my hope that this dialogue will attract the highest possible level of participation from your Government.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Thomson'.

Peter Thomson

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

“Building Sustainable Peace for All: Synergies between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustaining Peace”

Informal Dialogue of the President of the General Assembly for the 71st session

24 January 2017, ECOSOC Chamber

Draft concept Paper

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the concept of Sustaining Peace, as outlined in Security Council resolution 2282 (2016) and General Assembly resolution 70/262, are complementary and mutually reinforcing. Sustainable development underpins sustainable peace and more peaceful and inclusive societies create an environment conducive to sustainable development. Sustainable peace is both an enabler and an outcome of sustainable development.

Both the 2030 Agenda and Sustaining Peace seek to advance core principles of the UN Charter and have wide-ranging implications for how Member States, the UN system and other actors advance sustainable development, human rights and collective peace and security in today’s complex and interconnected world. Moreover, by recognizing that sustainable peace could only be achieved when all segments of society are empowered and included, Member States have ensured that Sustaining Peace is in line with the people-centered foundation of the 2030 Agenda.

In recognition of the fundamental interlinkages between the 2030 Agenda and Sustaining Peace, the President of the General Assembly will convene an informal dialogue entitled “Building Sustainable Peace for All: Synergies between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustaining Peace Agenda” on 24 January 2017 at UN Headquarters in New York, with the participation of the President of the Security Council, the President of the Economic and Social Council, and the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission.

Objectives

The overarching objective of the event is to discuss the mutually reinforcing linkages between Sustaining Peace and the 2030 Agenda, including at country level and ways in which to leverage them optimally in an integrated framework that can assist Member States, United Nations bodies and entities, civil society and other stakeholders to coordinate and enhance their efforts in implementing the SDGs and achieving sustainable peace.

The concrete objectives of the meeting are to:

- enhance greater understanding on how Sustaining Peace relates to the 2030 Agenda in its entirety by highlighting country examples and good practice;
- discuss the linkages between Sustaining Peace and the 2030 Agenda across SDG targets, including those related to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies, the fostering of responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels, the building of effective, transparent and accountable institutions and the tackling of the root causes of conflict;
- consider the role that women and youth in particular can play in the effort to implement the 2030 Agenda and to sustain peace;

- identify ways to achieve greater coherence in the relevant UN intergovernmental processes relating to these matters;
- exchange views on how to improve coordination among UN offices and entities, and to promote a comprehensive approach which will contribute to the effective implementation of both the SDGs and Sustaining Peace, including at country level;
- discuss ways to promote close strategic and operational partnerships between the United Nations, national Governments and other key stakeholders, including international, regional and sub-regional organizations, international financial institutions, civil society organizations, women's groups, youth organizations, and the private sector, taking into account national priorities and policies.

Format

This one-day meeting will consist of an opening segment, a segment with contributions from high-level speakers, an interactive discussion with experts in this area; three afternoon workshops and a closing segment.

The three workshops will be organized in collaboration with experts and organizations from the UN System and beyond. They will be organized as follows:

Workshop 1: Empowering women, girls and youth for peace and sustainable development

Workshop 2: Managing natural resources for peace and sustainable development

Workshop 3: Strengthening transparent, inclusive and accountable institutions for peace and sustainable development

Member States and civil society are also encouraged to organize meetings and side-events around this meeting.

Participants

Member States will be invited to participate at the level they deem appropriate, taking into account the participants in the opening and the high-level segment. Ambassadors, observers, UN entities, civil society and other stakeholders are also invited with participation from those operating at country level encouraged.

Outcome

A summary from the PGA will be shared with the Member States and could feed into preparations for the high-level meeting on "Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace" which will be convened during the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly.

“Building Sustainable Peace for All: Synergies between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustaining Peace”

**Informal Dialogue of the President of the General Assembly for the 71st session
24 January 2017, ECOSOC Chamber
Draft Programme**

09:30 – 10:00 a.m.	Opening segment
10.00 – 11.00 a.m.	High-level segment with interventions possibly from HoSs /HoGs
11.00 – 13.00 p.m.	Interactive panel discussion on taking a comprehensive approach to sustainable development and sustaining peace
13.00 – 15.00 p.m.	Lunch break
15.00 to 17.15 p.m.	Workshops focusing on linkages across the following three themes: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Empowering women, girls and youth for peace and sustainable development2. Managing natural resources for peace and sustainable development3. Strengthening transparent, inclusive and accountable institutions for peace and sustainable development
17.30 – 17.55 p.m.	Briefing by chairs of workshops on main points discussed
17.55 – 18.00 p.m.	Closing remarks