

**Ambassadorial-level Consultation of the Peacebuilding Commission
2020 Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture
“Institution Building and System-Wide Engagement for Peacebuilding and
Sustaining Peace”**

**Electronic consultation
21 May – 2 June 2020**

Written statement of the Argentine Republic

- Allow me first to express the gratitude of my Delegation for the initiative of the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, Ambassador Blanchard, to convene this virtual consultation on Institution Building and System-Wide Engagement for Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace, which offers an opportunity to hear from the UN system and Member States on how the strengthening of institutions contributes to conflict prevention, peacebuilding and sustaining peace.
- Argentina would like to thank the briefings presented by Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator, UN Development Programme (UNDP); Mr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General, World Health Organization (WHO); Mr. Qu Dongyu, Director General, UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); Ms. Izumi Ohno, Director, Ogata Sadako Research Institute for Peace and Development Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA); Mr. Jake Sherman, Director, Brian Urquhart Center for Peace Operations, International Peace Institute (IPI); and Ms. Jennifer Widner, Director, Innovations for Successful Societies, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University.
- Argentina considers that strong institutions are an important component for long-lasting peace, but its establishment is a complex and multifaceted process that requires continued attention. Efforts on the ground, including training for the staff of those institutions, are crucial for achieving this objective.
- Argentina considers that the PBC should continue to provide a platform for a discussion among Member States, UN actors and other partners with a view to identifying lessons learned, good practices and remaining challenges for strengthening coherence, coordination and cooperation in efforts to build strong institutions.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has brought an unprecedented global health crisis with profound social, economic and political consequences, including relating to international peace and security. Its risks could reverse decades of progress in the fight against poverty and exacerbating already high levels of inequality within and between countries. More

immediately, the pandemic has the potential to worsen the situation in conflict-affected countries, overwhelming already weak and faltering health systems and assailing the most vulnerable: those caught up in conflicts, refugees and others forcibly displaced by violence and persecution, vulnerable population especially women and children.

- In this context, the international community needs the PBC as a strong platform to discuss how to strengthen national and local institutions to deliver universal access to services, in particular on public health during the pandemic, and address the root causes of conflict and peacebuilding challenges.
- Institutions are an important component of consolidating a strong foundation for long-lasting peace and stability. This includes, for example, those core governance institutions that are critical for ensuring the basic functions of government in conflict-affected contexts, including centers of government mandated with stabilizing political settlements and decision-making, local governance capacities for basic service delivery such as health, education, water and sanitation, rule of law, security and justice mechanism, electoral processes, human right protection systems, grievance management, dialogue and reconciliation mechanisms.
[FMR1]
- Since its creation, the Peacebuilding Commission has made important contributions and if it has taken decisive steps. However, we believe that not all the expectations generated have yet been met.
- That is why Argentina considers that Peacebuilding must occupy a central position throughout the United Nations system and be a priority for bodies such as the Security Council and ECOSOC.
- Achieving sustainable peace implies giving a renewed commitment to prevention, with a particular emphasis to avoid the recurrence of conflicts, particularly in conflicts of transitions and withdrawals from peace missions. For this, its root causes must be addressed and progress towards recovery, reconstruction and development.
- We agree with the PBC's double-hinge role among United Nations agencies, and between them and activities on the ground. We believe that the Commission must be provided with the necessary resources to act in the coordination of all the actors, encompassing a global vision of peacebuilding and sustainable peace, and consolidating national institutions
- I thank you.