



**Peacebuilding Commission
2020 Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture
Consultation on Women, Peace and Security**

Brazil welcomes the present consultations on the Women, Peace and Security agenda in the context of the review of the Peacebuilding Architecture and is thankful to the Canadian chairmanship for organizing this exchange in the trying times we are living.

We also thank the briefers for their invaluable reflections. These consultations are yet another example of how the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) can provide a platform for women peacebuilders.

In a previous opportunity, in June 2019, the PBC was briefed by Brazilian Naval Officer Captain Marcia Braga, who was bestowed with the UN's military gender advocate award in 2019 for her work in the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA). Building on Commander Braga's briefing, the PBC has advised the Security Council to encourage MINUSCA's exchanges with women leaders in local communities, including as a means to better understand violations, to enhance the Mission's early warning capacities, and to provide a more tailored approach to the protection of civilians.

Brazil encourages the PBC to continue offering its platform so that women engaged in peace processes throughout the entire continuum can share their views and policy recommendations. The Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) should also study ways to improve stocktaking of women peacebuilders' messages from the field, including by compiling and sharing lessons learned with PBC Member States on a regular basis. It is also crucial to remain engaged with national and regional networks of women mediators, as well as with other local actors, in order to promote women's political participation and leadership in their countries as a means to avoid conflict recurrence.

Brazil supports efforts to ensure a horizontal integration of the Women, Peace and Security agenda throughout the discussions of the Peacebuilding Commission. The

PBC must remain committed to hold an annual thematic consultation on the implementation of peacebuilding elements of the WPS agenda. Moreover, whenever the Security Council is scheduled to negotiate the mandate of a peacekeeping operation or special political mission, the PBC should convene and discuss its own piece of advice to the Council on how the United Nations can better support the efforts of women peacebuilders on the ground.

Another avenue for strengthening PBC's support for the WPS agenda is providing more opportunities such as this one in which Member States can share their own initiatives on this front.

Regarding Brazil's actions in the WPS agenda, in March 2017, we joined a growing group of nations that have adopted a National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security. Among other commitments, the Brazilian National Action Plan (NAP) determines that a WPS perspective should be incorporated in all our cooperation projects in peacebuilding contexts.

This vision has been guiding Brazil's engagement, for instance, in support of efforts to build a lasting peace in Guinea-Bissau. Through our partnership with the Portuguese Speaking Countries Community (CPLP), we have been able to support a cooperation initiative designed to improve access of women and girls to health services. The long term consequences of initiatives like this is yet to be assessed, but Brazil strongly believes that improving women's access to public services helps create a more inclusive society and a more resilient peace.

The Brazilian Cooperation Agency has also sought to apply this perspective into all of its projects that take place in countries emerging from conflict. That is case, among others, of the Cotton-4 Regional project, which strives to empower women in Mali, Chad, Benin and Burkina Faso through production and research of cotton and cotton products.

Brazil has defended that the promotion of development must be acknowledged as an element of efforts to build lasting peace. Being the only UN body with a mandate to bridge cross-pillar discussions, the PBC must offer its platform so that



Member States can exchange their experiences with cooperation projects that support the empowerment of women in peacebuilding settings.

Finally, the Brazilian NAP underlines the provisions of Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000), which calls for the mainstreaming of the WPS Agenda into all aspects of the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. We consider that the PBC has an essential role in this aspect and hope that more initiatives such as the present consultations are carried out in pursuit of this common goal.