



Peacebuilding Commission
2020 Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture
Institution Building and System-Wide Support for Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace

Brazil welcomes these consultations on Institution Building and System-Wide Support for Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace in the context of the review of the Peacebuilding Architecture.

Brazil thanks the Canadian chairmanship for organizing this exchange notwithstanding the trying circumstances imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. We also thank the briefers for their insightful considerations.

The concept note for these consultations rightfully asserts that the promotion of sustainable development must be seen as an indispensable element in our efforts to build lasting peace. Indeed, from our collective engagement in peacebuilding settings, we have time and again been able to witness that the cooperation for development is considered one of the most valuable contributions to national efforts to build and sustain peace.

Notwithstanding, the ability of the UN system to offer an integrated support to peacebuilding efforts still faces numerous operational challenges. With a view to strengthening our capacities to provide a system-wide support for peacebuilding, Brazil would like to make five recommendations.

First, a balanced approach to the different UN thematic pillars must continue to underpin our political commitment to peacebuilding. The promotion of sustainable development and the realization of human rights have significantly positive impacts on efforts to prevent the relapse into conflict and the outbreak of crises. While recognizing the interdependence of the three UN Pillars, we must also acknowledge each pillar's intrinsic value and specific mandate.

- Second, our efforts to operationalize peacebuilding must go hand in hand with the imperative to preserve a clear division of labor among the thematic fora and types of UN presence in the field. Intergovernmental bodies, as well as missions,

agencies and funds in the field must adhere to their respective thematic mandates. We must bear in mind that the Peacebuilding Commission is uniquely positioned to bridge cross-pillar discussions. In order to strengthen the effectiveness and coherence of the UN system, the PBC should be able to further provide recommendations and advice to the Security Council, General Assembly and ECOSOC as it deems necessary, particularly when dealing with countries on the Commission's agenda.

- Third, we should ensure that peacekeeping missions have the means to implement basic peacebuilding tasks that will lay the groundwork for building local and national institutions and capacities. Increasing the coordination among the PBC, peacekeeping missions, UN country teams and other relevant international and national actors are instrumental in fostering the synergies between peacebuilding and peacekeeping. Especially during the very early stages of their deployment, UN peacekeepers play themselves the role of early peacebuilders. Member states must remain committed to initiating peacebuilding activities from the earliest stages of planning and implementation of peacekeeping operations, such as through carrying out programmatic activities and quick-impact projects.

- Fourth, support for peacebuilding efforts must continue to adhere to the principles of sovereignty and national ownership. One of the most important comparative advantages of the Peacebuilding Architecture is that it strives to speak **WITH** the countries in its agenda instead of **ABOUT** those countries. The PBC also focuses more on ways in which it can help nationally-led peacebuilding efforts, through capacity building and exchange of good practices, instead of on criticizing policies or demanding actions. This has led to a broad perception that the Commission's support is a sovereignty-enhancer, whereby the government and national authorities bear the ultimate responsibility for building peace. We fully support this institutional identity, which, in our view, is the reason behind most of the Commission's recent successes.

- Lastly, support for peacebuilding efforts must contribute to the implementation of the commitments of Agenda 2030 in an integrated, indivisible and balanced



manner. The importance of institution and capacity building has already been properly weighted during the elaboration of the 2030 Agenda. Rather than being restricted to one specific goal, building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions in fact pervades the SDGs as a whole. In seeking to contribute to sustainable development, peacebuilding efforts must not overemphasize selected elements of an integrated and indivisible agenda.

Brazil once again expresses its gratitude for the opportunity to engage in this exchange and reaffirms its commitment to continue to strengthen UN peacebuilding efforts.