

Informal Interactive Dialogue

Members of the Security Council and the PBC Chair and Vice-Chairs

Joint summary of key outcomes by the President of the Security Council and the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission

A regular Informal Interactive Dialogue (IID) among the members of the Security Council, the Chair and the Vice-Chairs of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) was held on 29 June 2018. The objective of the meeting was to explore practical ways to enhance the advisory role of the PBC to the Council during the formation, review and drawdown of peacekeeping operations and special political missions mandates. In order to build on the experience of countries that host or have hosted UN missions and are undergoing peacebuilding processes, the Permanent Representatives of Colombia, Liberia and Sudan were invited to participate. The Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support and senior representatives of DPA, DPKO and UNDP were also invited to attend. During the IID, Member States highlighted the following issues:

- The PBC represents a unique platform to convene key partners, such as Member States, including Host States and countries concerned, relevant UN actors, international financial institutions, regional organizations and civil society in support of nationally identified peacebuilding priorities and with a view to enhance coordination of peacebuilding activities. In view of its convening and bridging role, the PBC is uniquely positioned to provide broad, diverse, long-term and coherent peacebuilding perspectives to the Council.
- The Council, with its busy agenda focused on acute crisis management addressing urgent threats to international peace and security, can benefit from the analysis and advice of the PBC. The added value and relevance of the PBC's advice lies in the Commission's capacity to bring to the Council's attention Host States' perspectives and priorities as well as a longer term and more holistic approach to discussions pertaining to the multidimensional nature of peacebuilding and to addressing the root causes of conflict. In this regard, the Commission is expected to complement the reports of the Secretary-General by sharing its peacebuilding perspectives when the Council is considering the formation, review and drawdown of missions in countries under consideration of both bodies.
- The Permanent Mission of Sweden, in its capacity as informal coordinator between the Council and the Commission, informed that it would convene informal discussions in the coming months with a view to further explore practical ways for the PBC to more strategically provide advice to the Council further to the information contained in reports of the Secretary-General.
- To further enhance its advisory role, the Commission, and its Country- configurations in particular, should better align their activities to the programme of work of the Security Council, for example by convening meetings at least two weeks before those of the

Council. The outcome of these meetings are encouraged to contain practical proposals for the Council's consideration.

- PBC support to both the Council and the Government of Liberia during the transitional period around the drawdown of UNMIL and the presidential elections in the country, particularly during the preparation of the country's Peacebuilding Plan, demonstrates the positive benefits of the Commission's bridging and convening roles. The PBC's flexible and holistic approach, grounded in national ownership and inclusivity, brought together relevant stakeholders in the field and helped build confidence among them in support of the country's broader peacebuilding strategy. The experience of the PBC in Liberia also showed the need to plan for transitions early in the life cycle of a peacekeeping mission, and the value of PBC contributions to Council deliberations on mandate formulation and during the review, renewal and drawdown of a mission and its mandate.
- The example of PBC engagement in Colombia demonstrated its complementary role to the Council in support of the implementation of the mission mandate by bringing together in November 2017 various national stakeholders, including civil society representatives, to share their perspectives on the peace process in the country.
- The PBC can also create space to reinforce cooperation between mission leadership and UNCTs, especially in preparation for and during transitions. As underscored by the situation in Sudan and the experience of UNAMID, it is crucial to tackle root causes of conflict, and peacebuilding efforts in this respect should not wait until mission withdrawal begins.
- The PBC, while respecting the mandates of each body, could also enhance its bridging role between General Assembly, Security Council and ECOSOC to enhance coherence in the UN system.
- PBSO is playing an important role in support of the Commission, particularly in view of its convening role in the UN system, which will be enhanced in the new Department for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. PBSO is also working to strengthen the synergies between the Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund, which would, *inter alia*, allow the Commission to distill good practices in peacebuilding and, ultimately, enhance its advice to the Council.
- Informal Interactive Dialogues between the Council and the PBC provide a useful framework to enhance the advisory role of the Commission and could be further utilized to discuss relevant country-specific and regional situations being considered by both of the bodies.
