

Andaa Vijana Initiative (AVI)

Hello,

Submitting our written statement for opportunities to enhance the U.N's efforts in promoting peace and sustaining it worldwide. Written by Sharon Okubo, founder of Andaa Vijana Initiative (AVI).

The Summit of the Future in 2024 and the 2025 review of the United Nations (UN) peacebuilding architecture offer critical opportunities to enhance the UN's efforts in promoting peace and sustaining it worldwide. To maximize the impact of these events, several key priorities should be addressed.

1. **Conflict Prevention**: One of the foremost priorities should be the emphasis on conflict prevention. The UN should invest in early warning systems and diplomacy to identify and address the root causes of conflicts before they escalate. This could include strengthening mediation and negotiation capacities and ensuring the timely deployment of peace envoys to conflict zones.
2. **Inclusivity and Gender Equality**: Peacebuilding processes must prioritize inclusivity by involving marginalized groups, women, youth, and civil society organizations. Empowering women in peacebuilding efforts is especially crucial, as research shows that their participation correlates with more sustainable peace outcomes.
3. **Human Rights and Rule of Law**: To sustain peace effectively, human rights and the rule of law must be upheld. The UN should work to strengthen institutions that promote accountability and justice, addressing past atrocities and ensuring that post-conflict societies are built on a foundation of respect for human rights.
4. **Sustainable Development**: Integrating peacebuilding with sustainable development is vital. Conflicts often result from grievances related to economic, social, and environmental factors. The UN should focus on addressing these issues to build a foundation for lasting peace.
5. **Multilateral Cooperation**: Strengthening multilateralism is crucial. The UN should encourage member states to cooperate more effectively in peacebuilding efforts, pooling resources and expertise to address global challenges. This could include reforming the Security Council to better reflect the realities of today's world.
6. **Resource Mobilization**: Adequate funding is essential for effective peacebuilding. The UN should explore innovative financing mechanisms and partnerships with the private sector and non-governmental organizations to ensure sustainable funding for peacebuilding initiatives.
7. **Technology and Innovation**: Leveraging technology and innovation can enhance peacebuilding efforts. The UN should harness the potential of artificial intelligence, data analytics, and digital platforms to improve conflict analysis, early warning systems, and communication in crisis situations.
8. **Climate Change**: Recognizing the link between climate change and conflict is imperative. The UN should integrate climate resilience and environmental sustainability into peacebuilding strategies, addressing resource scarcity and displacement driven by climate-related factors.

9. ****Education and Reconciliation****: Promoting education and reconciliation programs is vital for healing post-conflict societies. The UN should support initiatives that foster understanding, tolerance, and unity among communities divided by conflict.

10. ****Adaptive Learning****: The UN should establish mechanisms for adaptive learning and continuous improvement. Regular evaluations of peacebuilding efforts, sharing best practices, and learning from failures can enhance the effectiveness of UN initiatives.

In conclusion, the Summit of the Future in 2024 and the 2025 review of the UN peacebuilding architecture offer a unique chance to reevaluate and strengthen the UN's role in promoting and sustaining peace worldwide. By prioritizing conflict prevention, inclusivity, sustainable development, multilateral cooperation, and other key areas, the UN can better address the complex challenges of the 21st century and work towards a more peaceful and secure world.