Round Tables

in connection with the General Assembly High-Level Meeting on Financing for Peacebuilding
Monday, 25 April 2022, 9:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.
ECOSOC Chamber

- DPPA/PBSO is coordinating high-level informal and interactive round tables, addressing a selection of themes, allowing Member States and other participants to focus on some of the challenges related to financing for peacebuilding from a broad perspective, with the aim to facilitate action-oriented outcomes at the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on Financing for Peacebuilding on Wednesday 27 April.
- A short summary could be the specific outcome of each round table, which could then be reported on through Member State interventions at the High-Level Meeting.
- Each round table will have 1 or 2 chairs/moderators from the UN system (USG/ASG level) and civil society, 2 or 3 speakers framing the topic, followed by an open discussion among participants.
- Speakers can include UN entities and external stakeholders (civil society, private sector, international financial institutions (IFIs) and regional organizations).
- Member States are to intervene in the discussion as participants from the floor. Participants in each round table will also include a maximum of four representatives from UN entities, four from civil society, including think tanks, and two from the private sector.
- The meetings are in principle in-person (exceptions could be made for some speakers). The round tables will be public so accredited NGOs can attend. They will not be broadcast on UN Web TV. Interpretation support has been requested.

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<th>Four round tables</th>
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The meeting will reflect on how and take steps to:
- Address challenges in generating flexible, adequate and sustainable financing for local peacebuilding efforts with a particular focus on women and youth-led organizations in order to empower their meaningful contribution to peacebuilding processes.

Discussion questions:
- How can the mismatch between eligibility criteria for financing local youth-led and women-led peacebuilding organizations and their capacities be addressed?
- How can the meaningful involvement of women and young people be enhanced when deliberating on their peacebuilding priorities and ways to finance them?
- What opportunities and challenges exist to ensure local-level financing for youth-led and women local organizations from alternative funding sources such as International Financial institutions (IFIs), philanthropy, the private sector and innovative financial models?
This round table will learn from current practice to ensure local actors receive the resources they need to build and sustain peace. The contribution of local actors – local governments, local community groups, or civil society organizations among others – is increasingly recognized as necessary for developing and sustaining peacebuilding efforts.

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| 11:15-12:45 | **Round table 2: Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) Results and Resourcing** | The meeting will reflect on how and take steps to:  
  - Ensure that the PBF continues to be the best value-added resource as a fast, flexible and catalytic UN system-wide, pooled fund, and to secure structural options for increasing the available resources for the Peacebuilding Fund and improving their predictability.  
  
  **Discussion Questions**  
  - What areas of PBF programming are contributing the most effectively to conflict prevention and peacebuilding?  
  - How can the PBF better catalyze additional, substantive peacebuilding financing?  
  - How can Member States ensure adequate, predictable and sustained financing of the PBF?  
  
  **Background**  
  This round table will highlight results that the PBF has achieved in its investment in peacebuilding through the UN system and other partners, including by drawing on Member States’ views as to areas of particular success, areas for further investment and means to increase and stabilize financing. |
| 14:30-16:00 | **Round table 3: Peace-Responsive Investing through the Private Sector** | The meeting will reflect on how and take steps to:  
  - Increase support for innovative financing options and help foster greater collaboration with non-traditional peace actors, in order to mobilize peace-responsive investments by the private sector in conflict-affected countries.  
  
  **Discussion Questions**  
  - What makes an investment peace positive?  
  - What is constraining the flow of capital into peace-positive investments in private businesses?  
  - How can the flow of capital into peace-positive investments in private businesses be enhanced, including through blended finance structures, in a way that contributes to peace?  
  
  **Background**  
  This round table aims to show the potential of different approaches for harnessing private sector contributions to peace, exploring complementarities among such initiatives and identifying points of convergence among efforts to mobilize more private capital in conflict-affected settings and ways to measure its impact on peace and stability in these contexts. |
**Round table 4: Flexibility of funding for peacebuilding, including in transition settings**

The meeting will reflect on how and take steps to:

- Ensure adequate and sustained peacebuilding financing as a means to support national ownership of peacebuilding priorities, including around the drawdown and withdrawal of a peacekeeping or special political mission.

**Discussion questions:**

- What are the practical and policy challenges regarding the financing of peacebuilding encountered in transition contexts?
- What are the host governments’ needs when it comes to peacebuilding cooperation during UN transition?
- What kind of partnerships and Member States’ commitments are needed to ensure sustainability of gains after the closure of peace operations?

**Background**

This round table will explore sources and modalities of financing for critical peacebuilding and security needs in preparation for the drawdown and withdrawal of a peacekeeping or special political mission. UN transitions are high on the agenda, as several peace operations have recently closed down or are undergoing drawdowns and reconfigurations. To be successful, UN transitions need to be accompanied by adequate and sustainable support to host governments, UN Country Teams and civil society as they consolidate peace and move towards sustainable development.

**Closing remarks:**

Jean-Pierre Lacroix, Under Secretary-General for Peacekeeping (TBC)

[UN/DPPA/PBSO, 31 iii 2022]