



Statement submitted by Never Again Rwanda (NAR) to the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission (PBC)
Secretariat for the purpose of the PBC Ministerial Meeting

Never Again Rwanda (NAR) is a civil society organization that engages society to embrace peace and social justice with a vision of a community that enjoys sustainable peace and social justice. It is a front liner organization that implements peacebuilding programmes through citizen participation approaches, youth engagement, research and advocacy in Rwanda and in the Great Lakes of Africa.

In respect to the aspirations of the citizenry served, and the recognition of the challenges to achieve sustainable peace and development in the region, NAR proposes the following recommendations for additional discussion and consideration as potential strategic guidance to achieve sustainable peace and development in the Greatlakes region, the Africa regional block and the world as a whole:

1. The Common cause needed to achieve “Our Common Agenda” (A/75/982):

- Member states need to rally and implement the strategic guidance by the United Nations Secretary General (UNSG) as presented in the policy brief “Our Common Agenda Policy Brief 9 A New Agenda for Peace July 2023”¹ particularly the following strategic priority area with all the respective actions and all the relevant recommendations: i.e.

Priority strategic area: Strengthening international governance.

Action required: Build a stronger collective security machinery.

Recommendations: All recommendations.

- NAR finds and believes that- the recommendation (“Strengthening international governance”) by the UNSG has the potential of being a foundation and a strong pillar to enable member states to achieve “Our Common Agenda” (A/75/982) as a bed rock for peace and sustainable development. The strategic priority area (Strengthening international governance) according to the UNSG includes fundamental actions including:
 - a) Reform of the Security Council,
 - b) Revitalization of the General Assembly,
 - c) Elevating the work of the Peacebuilding Commission,

¹ <https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/our-common-agenda-policy-brief-new-agenda-for-peace-en.pdf>



The UNSG has equally presented to Member States- several recommendations that need to be implemented by the relevant United Nations agencies and bodies including the UN Peacebuilding Commission.

- NAR therefore believes, the strategic priority area (i.e., Strengthening international governance) is an area that all Member States need to entrench in the United Nations system and needs to be discussed further during the 2024 Summit of the Future.
- An implementation roadmap of the recommendations by the UNSG needs to be adopted at the 2024 Summit to enable the revamp of the UN international governance system that respects multilateralism.
- 2. [The multilateral action needed to be done by Member States as we approach the Summit of the Future and the 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review:](#)

As decided by the UN General Assembly (A/RES/76/307) on the “Modalities for the Summit of the Future” (Action 4), and in the spirit of building and promotion of multilateralism:

- NAR recommends Member States to engage into a dialogue and adopt the “A Pact for the Future” (the action-oriented) document prior to the summit. In this line, NAR recommends a multilateral meeting composed of all UN component members² of the UN peacebuilding architecture (e.g., Peacebuilding Commission etc....), regional trade blocks, and ECOSOC representing the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

This meeting will be a true reflection of multilateralism as we approach the “Summit of the Future. At this meeting, key issues to discuss and reflect in the “A Pact for the Future” – need to include among others: the recommitment by Member States to always stick to nonviolence means to resolve conflicts, the respect of multilateralism in the context of international governance, the recommitment to strategies and actions that mitigate effects of climate change and the protection of human dignity through the respect to international law.

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https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/pbso_architecture_flyer.pdf