

SDG Summit (18-19 September 2023)

On what elements of the Secretary-General's New Agenda for Peace can Member States begin to find common cause?

- 1. Conflict Prevention:** Member States generally agree on the importance of preventing conflicts before they escalate. This can involve diplomatic efforts, early warning systems, mediation, and peacebuilding initiatives. Collaborative approaches to conflict prevention can help reduce tensions and promote stability.
- 2. Mediation and Peace Processes:** Member States often support the involvement of the United Nations and other international actors in mediation and peace processes. Common cause can be found in encouraging peaceful negotiations, supporting dialogue between conflicting parties, and facilitating the implementation of peace agreements.
- 3. Peacekeeping Operations:** Many Member States contribute troops and resources to UN peacekeeping missions. Cooperation in this area involves finding common ground on the mandates, deployment, funding, and support for peacekeeping operations. Enhancing the effectiveness of peacekeeping efforts is a shared goal.
- 4. Humanitarian Assistance:** When conflicts or crises occur, Member States often recognize the need for humanitarian aid and support. Providing assistance to affected populations, including food, shelter, healthcare, and protection, is an area where common cause can be found.
- 5. Sustainable Development:** Recognizing the interconnectedness between peace and development, Member States may come together to support sustainable development goals and inclusive economic growth. Addressing root causes of conflicts, such as poverty, inequality, and lack of access to basic services, can contribute to long-term peace.
- 6. Countering Terrorism:** Combating terrorism is an area where many Member States find common cause. Cooperation can involve sharing intelligence, strengthening law enforcement capacities, implementing counter-terrorism measures, and addressing the underlying factors that fuel extremism.

What steps can Member States take through the multilateral system to address shared challenges to peacebuilding and sustaining peace as we approach the Summit of the Future and the 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review?

- 1. Dialogue and Cooperation:** Member States can engage in open and constructive dialogue to identify common challenges and priorities related to peacebuilding and sustaining peace. This can involve sharing experiences, best practices, and lessons learned. Cooperation between Member States can foster mutual understanding and facilitate joint actions to address shared challenges.



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2. Support the United Nations' Peacebuilding Architecture: Member States can contribute to the effectiveness of the United Nations' Peacebuilding Architecture by providing political and financial support. This includes supporting the Peacebuilding Commission, the Peacebuilding Fund, and the Peacebuilding Support Office. Increased contributions can help strengthen the capacity of these entities to address peacebuilding challenges.

3. Financial Commitments: Member States can make financial commitments to support peacebuilding efforts. Adequate and predictable funding is crucial for effective peacebuilding and sustaining peace initiatives. Member States can pledge and fulfill their financial obligations to UN peacebuilding activities and contribute to other relevant international funds and development programs.

4. Strengthen National Capacities: Member States can invest in building the capacities of national institutions, including governance structures, security forces, justice systems, and civil society organizations. Strengthening national capacities is essential for sustainable peacebuilding efforts and can help address the root causes of conflicts.

5. Comprehensive Approaches: Member States can adopt comprehensive approaches to peacebuilding that address the interlinkages between peace, security, development, and human rights. By integrating these elements into their policies and programs, Member States can promote holistic and sustainable peacebuilding.

6. Conflict Prevention and Early Warning: Member States can prioritize conflict prevention and early warning mechanisms to identify and address potential sources of conflict before they escalate. Enhancing diplomatic efforts, supporting mediation, and investing in early warning systems can help prevent conflicts and contribute to sustaining peace.

7. Inclusivity and Participation: Member States can ensure the meaningful participation of all stakeholders, including women, youth, marginalized groups, and civil society organizations, in peacebuilding processes. Inclusive approaches that incorporate diverse perspectives and voices are more likely to lead to sustainable and inclusive peace.

How can the Peacebuilding Commission help generate renewed commitment to multilateralism, and what changes are needed to elevate its work for greater impact?

1. Advocacy for Multilateralism: The PBC can serve as a platform for advocating the importance of multilateralism in peacebuilding. It can highlight the benefits of collective action, cooperation, and international solidarity in addressing complex peacebuilding challenges. By actively promoting the principles and values of multilateralism, the PBC can foster renewed commitment among Member States.

2. Mobilizing Political Support: The PBC can engage with Member States to mobilize political support for peacebuilding initiatives. It can facilitate dialogue, diplomacy, and negotiations to encourage consensus and shared responsibility in addressing conflicts and sustaining peace.



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The PBC can act as a bridge between different stakeholders and promote collaboration towards common goals.

3. Strengthening Partnerships: The PBC can enhance its partnerships with various actors, including Member States, regional organizations, civil society, and the private sector. By forging strong alliances and collaboration, the PBC can leverage diverse expertise, resources, and networks for more effective peacebuilding outcomes.

4. Strategic Focus and Prioritization: The PBC can further strengthen its impact by strategically focusing on priority areas and specific conflict contexts. By identifying key peacebuilding challenges and aligning its efforts with the specific needs of countries emerging from conflict, the PBC can generate targeted and impactful initiatives.

5. Coordinated Approaches: The PBC can work towards improved coordination and coherence within the United Nations system. This includes enhancing its collaboration with other UN entities, such as the Security Council, the General Assembly, specialized agencies, and peacekeeping operations. Coordinated approaches can avoid duplication, streamline efforts, and maximize the impact of peacebuilding initiatives.

6. Resource Mobilization: Adequate and predictable funding is essential for effective peacebuilding. The PBC can play a role in mobilizing financial resources for peacebuilding activities through its engagement with Member States, international financial institutions, and other relevant stakeholders. The PBC can advocate for increased funding and explore innovative financing mechanisms to support peacebuilding efforts.

7. Inclusivity and Local Ownership: The PBC can focus on promoting inclusivity and local ownership in peacebuilding processes. By ensuring the meaningful participation of all stakeholders, including women, youth, and marginalized groups, the PBC can enhance the legitimacy and sustainability of peacebuilding initiatives.

To elevate the PBC's work for greater impact, some changes that may be considered include:

- Strengthening the PBC's mandate and authority, potentially through a more formalized status within the United Nations system.
- Enhancing the PBC's analytical capacity to provide timely and context-specific analysis and recommendations for peacebuilding efforts.
- Improving the transparency and inclusiveness of the PBC's decision-making processes to foster greater trust and engagement from all stakeholders.
- Increasing the PBC's visibility and outreach efforts to raise awareness about its work and achievements, both within the UN system and among the broader public.



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- Regularly reviewing and assessing the PBC's performance and impact to identify areas for improvement and ensure its continued relevance in a changing global landscape.

What priorities should be addressed through the Summit of the Future in 2024 and in the 2025 review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture to further strengthen the work of the United Nations on peacebuilding and sustaining peace?

Based on general principles and previous discussions on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, here are some priorities that could be considered to further strengthen the work of the United Nations:

- 1. Strengthening the Linkages between Peacebuilding, Development, and Human Rights:** Recognizing the interdependence of peace, development, and human rights, efforts should be made to enhance the integration and coherence among these three pillars of the United Nations. This can involve aligning peacebuilding strategies with sustainable development goals, promoting human rights-based approaches to peacebuilding, and addressing root causes of conflicts through inclusive and equitable development.
- 2. Inclusive and Gender-Responsive Approaches:** Emphasizing the importance of inclusivity and gender equality in peacebuilding processes is crucial. Prioritizing the meaningful participation of women, youth, marginalized groups, and civil society organizations can lead to more sustainable and transformative peace. Efforts should be made to address the specific needs and priorities of diverse groups and ensure their voices are heard and their rights protected.
- 3. Conflict Prevention and Early Warning:** Strengthening conflict prevention and early warning mechanisms is essential to address the root causes of conflicts before they escalate. Investing in early warning systems, enhancing diplomatic efforts, promoting dialogue, and resolving tensions through peaceful means can help prevent the outbreak or recurrence of conflicts.
- 4. Funding and Resource Mobilization:** Adequate and predictable funding is critical for effective peacebuilding. Priorities should include exploring innovative financing mechanisms, increasing financial contributions to peacebuilding initiatives, and ensuring that funding is allocated in a timely and flexible manner to support peacebuilding efforts on the ground.
- 5. Partnerships and Coordination:** Strengthening partnerships and coordination among all relevant stakeholders is essential for effective peacebuilding. This includes collaboration between the United Nations and regional organizations, Member States, civil society, and the private sector. Efforts should be made to enhance information sharing, coordination of activities, and mutual support to maximize the impact of peacebuilding initiatives.
- 6. National Ownership and Capacity Building:** Supporting national ownership and building the capacities of national institutions is crucial for sustainable peacebuilding. Priorities should include strengthening governance structures, promoting rule of law, supporting inclusive and



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accountable institutions, and investing in the development of local capacities for conflict prevention, resolution, and peacebuilding.

7. Learning from Lessons and Best Practices: The Summit of the Future and the 2025 review should provide an opportunity to reflect on past peacebuilding experiences, identify lessons learned, and share best practices. Priorities should include knowledge sharing, evaluation of peacebuilding efforts, and integrating evidence-based approaches into future strategies.



Best regards

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