



**GOBIERNO de
GUATEMALA**
DR. ALEJANDRO GIAMMATTEI



**MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES
EXTERIORES**
MISIÓN PERMANENTE DE GUATEMALA ANTE
NACIONES UNIDAS, NEW YORK

STATEMENT OF THE DELEGATION OF GUATEMALA

CONSULTATION OF THE PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION 2020 REVIEW OF THE PEACEBUILDING ARCHITECTURE

“INSTITUTION BUILDING AND SYSTEM-WIDE ENGAGEMENT FOR PEACEBUILDING AND SUSTAINING PEACE”

Guatemala would like to express its gratitude to Canada as President of the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission for convening this virtual consultation on “Institution Building and System-Wide Engagement for Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace”. We thank Canada for the concept note that constitutes a good basis for our deliberations. We are confident that this space will contribute to strengthen the important link between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with the mandates of peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

Mister President,

The Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) is a platform for discussion among Member States, UN actors and other partners with a view to identifying and sharing lessons learned, good practices and challenges for strengthening coherence, coordination and cooperation around efforts to build and sustain peace and support institution building. We use this platform today to discuss the link between institution building, peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

From a broad perspective, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the peacebuilding and sustaining peace mandates share common principles: national ownership, universality, inclusion, people-centered approaches, long-term perspectives and a call for coherent implementation across the three pillars of the United Nations work worldwide. We would add the importance of the observance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, that collectively provide a whole framework for a universal approach to prevention and the construction of peaceful, just and inclusive societies to ‘leave no one behind’. notably those societies or communities most likely to be excluded from development gains due to conflicts.

We support the many calls for breaking down silos to achieve a coherent and integrated approach that recognizes that development, peace and security and human rights are interrelated and mutually reinforcing. In fact, the 2030 Agenda seeks to “achieve and protect the human rights of all”, with 156 of its 169 objectives “integrated and indivisible” that have a direct or indirect link with the Human Rights pillar. Noting this, we cannot exclude the Human Rights approach from this discussion.

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Mister President,

Sustainable development and Human Rights cannot be achieved and guaranteed without peace and security, and peace and security are at risk without sustainable development and without protection of Human Rights. The 2030 Agenda recognizes the need to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies that provide equal access to justice and are based on respect for human rights, in an effective rule of law and good governance at all levels, and in transparent and accountable institutions.

Achieving our sustainable development goals is an end in itself, but it is also one of the most effective tools we have to prevent conflicts. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is our plan to create resilient and stable societies and tackle the root causes of conflict and violence of all kinds. This means we need to adopt a strong focus on inclusion, with a special emphasis on integrating women's contribution to their societies and gender equality in our prevention and mediation work. We must prioritize as well the fight against discrimination, stigmatization and racism, with a view towards a culture of peace and reconciliation, oriented to the protection of the most vulnerable groups, including indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities and migrants.

Experience has demonstrated that effective prevention and response require action in various sectors of economic and social development, in the security and judicial sectors, as improving security and justice institutions will reduce risk of conflict and violence in different forms, as well as measures that lead to significant increases in social, political and economic inclusion. All efforts in the three pillars, must be addressed simultaneously and be sensitive to the local context, internal dynamics, plans and priorities of national governments.

From our perspective, Member States should strengthen efforts to achieve a whole-of-system approach in the planning and execution of plans, projects and programmes with compatible objectives, portfolios and instruments, taking into account their national priorities. We must also address problems related to the ambiguity of the concept of sustaining peace and prevention that affect the Organization and its Funds, Programmes, and Specialized Agencies operating in the field of peacebuilding and humanitarian action.

We also emphasize that we can only achieve our goals by forming broad partnerships governments, civil society, the private sector, the United Nations System, Regional Organizations, and other actors and mobilize all available resources. We would like to mention here the extraordinary efforts mobilized across sectors around the promotion, implementation, reporting, follow-up and review of SDG 16 and its interlinkages,



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spearheaded by the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies, the 16+ Forum and the Global Alliance on reporting on SDG 16.

Mister President,

More specifically, as proof of the value of multilateralism, we can refer to the efforts of the UN system in securing access for our country to the Humanitarian Response plan and to the Peacebuilding Fund, or to the strong support received by the UN Country Team to achieve our many goals.

We believe that this year will be critical to advance the interests of a whole-of-system approach, by strengthening the normative link between pillars in the upcoming Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR) that will guide the operational dimension of the UN Development System into the Decade of Action to achieve the SDGs. We think it will be an important opportunity to strengthen and promote cross-pillar approaches.

Guatemala's commitment to peacebuilding is reflected in the General Government Policy 2020-2024, through its strategic pillar on "Governance and Security in Development", which seeks to improve the country's governance for a peaceful and harmonious coexistence, promoting adequate investment conditions".

Thank you again for the opportunity to contribute to this discussion, that in our opinion, goes to the heart of our collective efforts at the United Nations to prevent conflict and achieve sustainable development while guaranteeing human rights for all.

Thank you.