



**DRAFT STATEMENT**

**BY**

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OF THE  
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**DURING THE  
UN PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION  
ELECTRONIC CONSULTATIONS**

**ON**

**THE 2020 REVIEW: INSTITUTION BUILDING & SYSTEM-WIDE  
ENGAGEMENT FOR PEACEBUILDING & SUSTAINING PEACE**

**<https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/2020-review-pbc-consultation-institution-building-and-system-wide-support>**

**22 MAY-2 JUNE 2020**

**Chair, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

My delegation would like to commend the Chair, H.E. Mr. Marc-André Blanchard, and the Peacebuilding Support Office team for the continued efforts in holding online consultations in preparation for the 2020 Peacebuilding Architecture Review (PBAR). The topic at hand points us to the critical role that inclusive, functional, and sustainable institutions play in preventive diplomacy both at the local and headquarter levels. It is also a good opportunity to explore how the work of the UN System, including that of the PBC, is helping to bring about conditions of lasting peace at the field level.

In this regard, we welcome the informative briefings from the diverse panel of speakers who have further highlighted practical peacebuilding through economic and health security especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. My delegation agrees that “peace is everyone’s business” and that the UN System must work coherently with the wider family of international, regional, local and community organizations to deliver across the three UN pillars. Kenya aligns itself with the statement that will be issued by the Africa PBC Caucus.

From a member state perspective, the focus on institution-building and UN System-wide coherence and engagement is a timely and important discussion, and we thank Canada, Colombia, and Japan in their capacities as PBC Chair and Vice-Chairs respectively for this initiative. Sustained investment in building resilience is more cost-effective compared to short-term isolated humanitarian responses particularly when it comes to fragile communities. Strong institutions and peaceful societies contribute to alleviating vulnerability, cycles of poverty and political instability.

Indeed, the importance of participatory institutions, policy making and good governance in staying ahead of the pandemic curve cannot be overstated. It has become increasingly evident that institutions function best when there is national ownership, inclusivity, and meaningful investment in the institution-building processes.

As presented during the 19 May 2020 Kenya’s webinar on “Global Realities in Flattening the Curve: Policies and Decisions on Health,

Livelihoods and Economic Security,” the pandemic did not spare our national institutions. The pandemic put a tremendous strain on national healthcare and economic systems. We saw the value of collectivizing the problem and therefore pooling resources and working with multiple levels of stakeholders to address it. Our COVID-19 National Task Force consists of a representative team of experts cutting across the field of health, law, safety, and security, not to mention economists and communication experts.

The pandemic has called on countries to transform existing institutional models to suit emerging challenges and embrace innovation. In Kenya, we are also cognizant of the fact that addressing the pandemic is a whole-of-society affair and can only be effective alongside functioning, sufficient and accessible health care infrastructure. In Kenya, the country suddenly found itself producing Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) in their thousands. University students also embarked on creating designs for the manufacture of locally made ventilators. We have also embarked on cross-border and regional initiatives with our neighbours to set up temporary mobile facilities to ensure health and peace across our shared borders during this time.

Prioritizing resources to build strong institutions, investing in innovations that meet basic needs, and regional cooperation have proved to be some of the surest ways for countries to confront emerging challenges and build resilience.

At the headquarters-level, one of the key ways in which the UN has improved its work on the peace and security and development pillars include having the single vision of sustainability; be it efforts to ensure sustainability for peace or sustainability for development, or both. Improvements in efficiency have also been seen in intentional drive towards coherence and coordination as signalled by the adoption of the 2016 twin resolutions on the Peacebuilding Architecture Review by both the General Assembly and the Security Council (A/RES/ 70/262) and S/RES/2282 (2016).

Furthermore, the conceptualization and implementation process of the Secretary-General’s three-track reforms have all strengthened

efforts towards a One UN. On the Peace and Security pillar, the launch of the Department of Peace Operations (DPO), operationalization of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) and the call for the integration of peacebuilding into peacekeeping operations through the Action for Peace Initiative (A4P) are contributing in the re-structuring the work here at headquarters to better reflect what is needed at the ground level.

My delegation sees all the reforms as interlinked and mutually reinforcing and hence contributing to the UN system-wide engagement. The reform of the UN Development System, including the revitalized Resident Coordinator System, a strengthened UN Country Team, and a redesigned, context-specific, and action-oriented UN Development Assistant Framework (UNDAF) are further contributing to peacebuilding through development.

We welcome the progress made in UN agencies, funds, and programs in aligning their country strategies with the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, national priorities, and the SDGs. It is indeed critical for UN efforts to respect national ownership and support national peacebuilding efforts and national peacebuilding priorities.

Kenya looks forward to action-oriented recommendations that will contribute to the Secretary-General's report of the 2020 PBAR. The recommendations should demonstrate the role of PBC as a bridge between the various UN organs and bodies , and the Commission's role in supporting societies towards well-resourced and functioning infrastructure for sustainable peace and development in order to curb recurrence of conflicts through strong nationally-owned institutions.

**I thank you.**