

The Permanent Mission
of the Kingdom of Morocco
to the United Nations
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البعثة الدائمة للمملكة المغربية
لدى الأمم المتحدة
نيويورك

Statement of the Kingdom of Morocco on the Ambassadorial-level Consultation of the
Peacebuilding Commission 2020 Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture on

“Institution Building & System-Wide Engagement for Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace”

The Kingdom of Morocco is thankful for the holding of the consultations on the critical subject of “*Institution Building & System-Wide Engagement for Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace*” in an accessible electronic format, including to the wider UN membership, as part of the informal phase of the 2020 *UN Peacebuilding Architecture Review* (UNPAR), that can and must not go lost on us, despite the compelling circumstances imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic

We thank the Canadian Chair as well as the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) members and the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) for their constant engagement in such trying times, as well as all interveners and participants to the electronic consultations, for the meaningful exchanges and views expressed.

Only a comprehensive understanding of the wide-ranging thematics can provide for an accurate and useful assessment, to feed into the formal phase of the PAR and to ensure the success of this goal.

Mr. Chair,

Institution building is paramount to every peacebuilding and sustaining peace effort, at all stages of conflict. Safeguarding this essential component is, thus, a priority for our work in support of concerned countries. Experience has proven that institution building goes hand in hand with the consecration of: **Nation building, wellbeing and resilience; State functionality and continuity in the delivery of basic social services; Good governance and social cohesion; Inclusivity by the integration of major peacebuilders - Women and Youth - into any national exercise; and Conflict prevention mechanisms of countries in a post-conflict setting.**

Indeed, institution building in all areas is, in itself, a **real and organic peacebuilding and sustaining peace Measure** that prevents relapse into conflict in the long run.

In the Central African Republic for example, the support provided to the National authorities for the strengthening of the rule of Law is key. The judiciary system has been reinforced, as well as the penitentiary system. The CAR Configuration created back in 2015, a reference group for the support to the Special Criminal Court and the Rule of Law in the country. With the support of the Global Focal Point on the Rule of Law, the Group is providing to all its members useful information on the development, as well as the challenges faced in this regard.

Other partners such as the EU, the World Bank, the PBF and others provide crucial support to various institution, from the security forces to the economic sector, to key institutions such as the Parliament or the Electoral National Authority. The common denominator to all these activities, is that they are all carried out under a framework developed by the National Authorities.

Indeed, the UN system can only act in complement to nationally-intended institution building processes, in full respect of the national sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of concerned States. Indeed, it is paramount to reiterate that States remain at the forefront of their own peacebuilding and sustaining process and hold ownership and leadership over their national priorities. We wish to stress that institution building can only be successful if guided by important national parameters such as History, culture, society, or politics.

In this regard, and in order to fulfill its assisting role in the most successful manner, the UN needed to undergo a series of major reforms which were introduced by Secretary General Antonio Guterres namely with the aim of improving the delivery of the Organization's mandate and to ensure greater collaboration across pillars as well as tangible results for people on the ground.

This very welcome and needed change of narrative and *modus operandi* has enabled the UN to better deliver on the ground, thanks to a revamped UNDS and RC system and a more coherent and integrated operational engagement across the three pillars and with all relevant partners.

This is also a telling example of the importance of the system wide engagement of the UN in order to play a more vital and meaningful role in supporting national institution- and peacebuilding processes so as to pave countries' way to the realization of their resilience, economic development and SDGs.

Certainly, when it comes to peacebuilding and sustaining peace on the ground, system-wide synergy from the United Nations is much needed for close collaboration with partners to ensure a coordinated, coherent, integrated and results-oriented response beyond the United Nations, to also include collaboration with regional and sub-regional organizations as well as International financial institutions and civil society.

Such an engagement also finds all its relevance in the occurrence of important political milestones such as the conduct of national elections or of major crisis such as the Covid-19 pandemic or other scourges like natural or climate-change related disasters where rapid, coherent and concerted actions are expected on the ground.

I wish, in this regard, to draw attention on the preeminent role the PBC and the PBSO are playing as *hinges* facilitating greater coherence across the UN and its pillars. They have never been more attuned with their bridging role and in connecting the pillars and humanitarian actors than they are today.

Our Commission is also called to assume a pivotal role in this time of crisis and to build on its extensive experience gathered so far, including with regards to best practices, lessons learned and the assistance provided to some countries under PBC consideration to fight adverse effects of outbreaks such as Ebola.

We also wish to commend the PBF for placing institution building as an area of focus in the set of programs they develop with countries and UN Country teams, as well as in the new "Strategic Plan 2020-2024" which will help further increment this important peacebuilding and sustaining peace measure on the ground, in support of concerned countries.

To conclude, I would like to reiterate the full commitment of the Kingdom of Morocco, which stands ready to support this important agenda through the PBC. Morocco has already been engaged bilaterally with numerous countries, sharing its experience in various fields such as the judiciary, security sector, and providing different types of training, either in Morocco or directly in the country that expresses its interest in this regard.
