

SEPTEMBER 2024

Outcome Document of

# the 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review

Vision by the Global Partnership  
for the Prevention of Armed Conflict - GPPAC



A Network of People  
Building Peace

This document presents GPPAC's vision<sup>1</sup> for the 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review (2025 PBAR) outcome document. It is rooted in the priorities identified by local peacebuilders in the 2020–2024 period. The document outlines these priorities, explaining both the rationale ('why') behind them and the methodology ('how') to advance peacebuilding and sustaining peace. The 2020 dual resolutions on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace ([A/RES/75/201-S/RES/2558](#)) mandate 'a comprehensive review of United Nations peacebuilding in 2025' (OP5). Unlike the procedural resolution in 2020, the 2025 PBAR outcome document has the potential to clarify further the concept of 'peacebuilding and sustaining peace' by building on developments since the 2015 PBAR and the 2016 dual resolutions on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace ([A/RES/70/262-S/RES/2282](#))<sup>2</sup>.

**The 2025 PBAR outcome document should focus on the following four priorities<sup>3</sup>:**

1. articulate what **inclusive national ownership and leadership in peacebuilding and sustaining** mean
2. emphasise **the role of the UN as the facilitator of connections and the provider of political, technical and financial accompaniment**
3. strengthen **quantity and quality of financing for peacebuilding**
4. define what **localisation of peacebuilding and sustaining peace** means

<sup>1</sup> GPPAC is the largest global member-led network of local peacebuilders. Our members, experts in peacebuilding and conflict prevention, represent communities directly impacted by violent conflicts, fragility and insecurity. We believe their perspectives can make global policies more realistic and impactful.

<sup>2</sup> Some of the developments include the adoption of the General Assembly Resolution (A/RES/76/305) on Financing for Peacebuilding, the 5th Anniversary of the Pathways for Peace Report, the launch of the Impact Hub, and ongoing implementation of UN reforms.

<sup>3</sup> These priorities should guide the operationalisation of peacebuilding and sustaining peace, as well as the integration in these efforts of other global thematic agendas, including Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), climate and security, Women, Peace and Security (WPS), Youth, Peace and Security (YPS), among others. GPPAC offers a separate document with thematic priorities for the 2025 PBAR (forthcoming).

The 2025 PBAR outcome document should  
**articulate what inclusive  
national ownership and leader-  
ship in peacebuilding  
and sustaining peace means.**

Priority

**PRIORITY 1: The 2025 PBAR outcome document should articulate what inclusive national ownership and leadership in peacebuilding and sustaining peace means.**

#### Why?

Since 2018, progress on peacebuilding and sustaining peace has been measured by assessing the implementation of the shifts outlined by the 2018 Report of the Secretary-General on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace ([A/72/707-S/2018/43](#)). This ultimately puts the responsibility for peacebuilding and sustaining peace in the hands of the UN system. However, according to the language of the 2016 and 2020 dual resolutions, the responsibility for peacebuilding and sustaining peace lies primarily with governments and other national stakeholders ([A/RES/70/262-S/RES/2282](#), PP8; [A/RES/75/201-S/RES/2558](#), OP3)<sup>4</sup>. These responsibilities have yet to be clearly articulated. Some initial attempts to do so were made in 2024. Specific commitments of Member States to the maintenance of international peace and security can be found in the [Pact for the Future](#). Kenya set a precedent by being the first country to undertake a [national peacebuilding architecture review](#), inspiring Member States to assess their responsibilities for peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

#### How?

The following principles could define the responsibilities of governments in peacebuilding and sustaining peace:

- ◆ **Clearly articulate peacebuilding leadership at the national level.** In many contexts, national action on peacebuilding and sustaining peace is not integrated within the mandate of a single government entity, but it is instead informally ‘sprinkled’ across various government agencies and ministries. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should request Member States to identify a government entity specifically tasked with the coordination of action on peacebuilding and sustaining peace at the national level](#)<sup>5</sup>.
- ◆ **Ensure ‘a comprehensive approach to sustaining peace’** called for by [A/RES/70/262-S/RES/ 2282](#) (PP12). Such an approach can be conceptualised as a national prevention and/or peacebuilding strategy – a political and social commitment and efforts to address the causes of violence and strengthen the conditions for peace<sup>6</sup>. Such a strategy can integrate other existing national policies and efforts, including the national action plans on Women, Peace and Security (WPS), Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) and counterterrorism/ countering violent extremism (CT/CVE), national development plans, among others. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should request Member States to develop and implement comprehensive fully-funded and adaptive nationally-owned prevention/peacebuilding strategies and approaches](#)<sup>7</sup>.

<sup>4</sup> Specifically, the responsibilities of national governments include ‘identifying, driving and directing priorities, strategies and activities for sustaining peace’, based on the principles of ‘inclusivity [...] to ensure that the needs of all segments of society are taken into account’ ([A/RES/70/262-S/RES/ 2282](#), PP9). Similarly, [the 2015 AGE report](#) suggests that ‘the national responsibility to drive efforts to sustain peace must be broadly shared across all key social strata and divides (p. 8).

<sup>5</sup> [A/RES/70/262-S/RES/ 2282](#), PP9.

<sup>6</sup> NYU-CIC (2024), Why Should National Prevention Strategies Be in the Pact for the Future?: <https://cic.nyu.edu/resources/why-should-national-prevention-strategies-be-in-the-pact-for-the-future/>

<sup>7</sup> [Pact for the Future Rev. 3](#), Action 18, para 39(d).



- ◆ **Empower local governments to support peacebuilding and sustaining peace.** Peacebuilding and sustaining peace is hard to achieve in centralised states<sup>8</sup>, where the response to immediate crises and changes in conflict dynamics cannot be timely addressed by local governments. The New Urban Agenda recognises that the key role of local governments is 'in strengthening the interface among all relevant stakeholders' ([A/RES/71/256](#), OP 42). [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should encourage Member States to promote the engagement of local governments in identifying, driving and directing priorities, strategies and activities for sustaining peace<sup>9</sup>, including by providing them with the necessary authority and resources to manage critical urban, metropolitan and territorial concerns<sup>10</sup>, and in this regard, invite relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to cooperate with local governments to support them in discharging these responsibilities<sup>11</sup>.](#)
- ◆ **Develop and implement early warning systems and other infrastructures for peace (I4Ps)** ([Pact for the Future, Rev.3](#), Action 16, para 37(c)). I4Ps can prevent extreme hardships that conflict inflicts on communities, are more cost-effective than reactive interventions, and connect local actors and national governments to facilitate inclusive responses. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should request Member States to develop and operationalise context-specific early warning systems and other infrastructures for peace, in partnership with local peacebuilding actors and their networks, and in this regard, invite Member States to ensure that such mechanisms are integrated into relevant regional peacebuilding mechanisms<sup>12</sup>.](#)
- ◆ **Increase contributions to peacebuilding and sustaining peace activities from national budgets,** building on a shared commitment of Member States to peacebuilding and sustaining peace through assessed contributions ([A/RES/76/305](#), OP 3, OP17). [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should request Member States to 1\) ensure proper financing of infrastructures for peace and national prevention/peacebuilding strategies and approaches<sup>13</sup>; 2\) allocate specific budgetary resources for peacebuilding, distinct from security spending<sup>14</sup>; 3\) mobilise domestic investors and domestic finance with public resources to support sustaining peace<sup>15</sup>, and 4\) where relevant, guide donor coordination towards strategic and impact-oriented investment in national peacebuilding priorities<sup>16</sup>.](#)
- ◆ **Establish inclusive consultative processes to implement peacebuilding and sustaining peace** ([A/RES/70/262-S/RES/ 2282](#), PP9). This includes ensuring the full, effective and meaningful participation of local peacebuilders, including women, youth and other groups in vulnerable situations, in the design, monitoring and implementation of national prevention and peacebuilding efforts ([A/RES/70/262-S/RES/ 2282](#), OP21, OP23; [A/RES/76/305](#), OP7-9) based on the principles of authentic partnership<sup>17</sup>. Sensitisation and awareness raising among communities are required to ensure that they can understand and relate to global policies<sup>18</sup>. Governments should work with existing networks that are already representative and accountable to their members to enable inclusiveness and representativeness<sup>19</sup>. National governments can also leverage youth delegate programs and systematically engage with youth networks in peacebuilding to involve diverse young people in political processes and encourage them to become peace champions<sup>20</sup>. Where required, the UN could engage in constructive conversations with the governments to realise its commitments to the protection of civic space to enable full, effective and meaningful participation of local peacebuilders<sup>21</sup>. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should encourage Member States to establish inclusive consultative processes<sup>22</sup> to design and implement its prevention and peacebuilding strategies, and in this regard, emphasise the need to raise awareness of global policies at the local level, build capacity to engage and provide adequate protection in order to ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of local peacebuilders, including women, youth, and other groups in vulnerable situations<sup>23</sup>.](#)

<sup>8</sup> GPPAC (2023). Localised Climate-Related Security Risk Assessment: Mozambique Case Study: <https://gppac.net/resources/localised-climate-related-security-risk-assessment-mozambique-case-study>.

<sup>9</sup> [A/RES/70/262-S/RES/ 2282](#), PP9.

<sup>10</sup> [A/RES/71/256](#), OP 90.

<sup>11</sup> Based on the language agreed in [A/HRC/RES/45/7](#) (OPs 4,5).

<sup>12</sup> [Pact for the Future](#), Rev.3, Action 16, para 37(c)

<sup>13</sup> GPPAC & WANEP (2019). SDG16+ in Ghana: [https://gppac.net/files/2019-07/GPPAC%20SDG%20Report%20Ghana\\_def\\_online.pdf](https://gppac.net/files/2019-07/GPPAC%20SDG%20Report%20Ghana_def_online.pdf)

<sup>14</sup> [Pact for the Future](#), Rev.3, Action 13, para 34(c)

<sup>15</sup> [A/76/668-S/2022/66](#), para. 48

<sup>16</sup> HF, GPPAC & MENA Coalition on YPS (April 2024). Financing for Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace: Lessons Learned for Impactful and Inclusive Financing for Peacebuilding and Resilience in the MENA Region: <https://www.gppac.net/resources/financing-peacebuilding-and-sustaining-peace-lessons-learned-impactful-and-inclusive>

<sup>17</sup> GPPAC (2021). For Youth and By Youth: [Re-Imagining Financing for Peacebuilding](https://www.gppac.net/resources/youth-and-youth-re-imagining-financing-peacebuilding): <https://www.gppac.net/resources/youth-and-youth-re-imagining-financing-peacebuilding>

<sup>18</sup> CECORE et al. (2024). How to do Localisation? Making Global Peacebuilding and Development Policies Relevant: <https://www.gppac.net/resources/how-do-localisation-making-global-peacebuilding-and-development-policies-relevant>

<sup>19</sup> Unpacking a Network Approach: The Role of Networks, Movements and Coalitions in Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace.' Informal Learning Session for the Civil Society-UN Dialogue Initiative Summary Note, January 2024. Accessible at: <https://www.gppac.net/resources/unpacking-network-approach-role-networks-movements-and-coalitions-peacebuilding-and>

<sup>20</sup> GPPAC. Peace Champions in Uganda: <https://gppac.net/peace-champions-uganda>

<sup>21</sup> GPPAC (2020). International Protection for Local Peacebuilders: <https://www.gppac.net/news/international-protection-local-peacebuilders>.

<sup>22</sup> [A/RES/70/262-S/RES/ 2282](#), PP9.

<sup>23</sup> [A/RES/75/201-S/RES/2558](#), OPI.

The 2025 PBAR should  
**emphasise the role of the UN  
 as the facilitator of connections  
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 technical and financial  
 accompaniment.**

Priority

**PRIORITY 2: The 2025 PBAR should emphasise the role of the UN as the facilitator of connections and the provider of political, technical and financial accompaniment.**

#### Why?

The 2016 dual resolutions on peacebuilding and sustaining peace ([A/RES/70/262-S/RES/2282](#)) clearly articulate that an integrated and coherent approach among relevant political, security and developmental actors, within and outside of the UN system, needs to be 'consistent with their respective mandates and the UN Charter' (PP14). The 2015 Report of the High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations ('[HIPPO report](#)') affirmed that the UN does best when it facilitates more and does less (p. 5). The 2015 Report of the advisory group of experts for the 2015 PBAR ('[AGE report](#)') emphasises that the UN is 'a helpful source of political, technical and financial accompaniment' (p. 24). Since 2015, however, local peacebuilders have observed an expansion of the UN's role at the country level. First, the UN has increasingly taken on a leading role in implementing projects, often providing smaller grants to local communities for projects they did not design. Second, the UN's complex bureaucracy complicates collaboration with national actors as compliance processes are long and rarely allow for supporting rapid responses to changing crises. Third, the UN seldom takes the lead in promoting the principles enshrined in the UN Charter, refraining from guiding national governments on ways to adhere to these principles. Lastly, UN priorities are more often driven by donor priorities than principles of the UN Charter.

#### How?

The following principles should guide the role of the UN System in peacebuilding and sustaining peace:

- ◆ **Comply with resolutions on peacebuilding and sustaining peace** ([A/RES/70/262-S/RES/2282](#); [A/RES/75/201-S/RES/2558](#)). The 2016 resolutions clearly articulate that the role of the UN is 'to effectively assist countries to sustain peace and prevent the outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of conflict' (PP16). This includes supporting inclusive national priorities and gradually transferring peacebuilding capacities to national actors, rather than maintaining the UN's own presence<sup>24</sup>. A broad interpretation of the UN mandate creates confusion among donors and leads to competition for existing funding among the UN, national governments and local peacebuilders. **The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should emphasise the role of the UN to effectively assist countries to sustain peace and prevent the outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of conflict<sup>25</sup>, and in this regard, encourage the full, effective and meaningful participation of diverse national stakeholders in the design, monitoring and implementation of all UN efforts<sup>26</sup>.**

<sup>24</sup> GPPAC (2024). Concrete steps to support the implementation of Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace at the country level: <https://www.gppac.net/resources/rhetoric-practice-concrete-steps-support-implementation-peacebuilding-and-sustaining-0>

<sup>25</sup> [A/RES/70/262-S/RES/2282](#), PP16.

<sup>26</sup> [A/RES/76/305](#), OP7.

- ◆ **Make the UN work more accessible for local peacebuilders.** In 2020, the UN Secretary-General issued the UN System-Wide Community Engagement Guidelines on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace. However, the Guidelines have not been implemented at the field level, and many offices remain unaware of this resource. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should encourage the UN field presence to fully implement the UN System-Wide Community Engagement Guidelines on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace.](#)
  
- ◆ **Promote the principles enshrined in the UN Charter** by supporting governments in adhering to international norms and principles through constructive dialogue where required. The UN can lead this dialogue by, for example, highlighting governance strengths and offering support to address deficiencies (i.e., corruption and weak national responses), as good governance is required for sustaining peace<sup>27</sup>. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should encourage the UN field presence to constructively support diverse national stakeholders in building their capacities to sustain peace and prevent the outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of conflict<sup>28</sup>.](#)

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<sup>27</sup> The 2015 Report of the advisory group of experts for the 2015 PBAR ([“AGE report”](#)), para. 43.

<sup>28</sup> [A/RES/70/262-S/RES/ 2282](#), PPs 9,16.

The 2025 PBAR should  
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 quality of financing for  
 peacebuilding.**

Priority



**PRIORITY 3: The 2025 PBAR should strengthen the quantity and quality of financing for peacebuilding.**

**Why?**

The 2016 dual resolutions on peacebuilding and sustaining peace ([A/RES/70/262-S/RES/2282](#)) recognise the need for UN peacebuilding efforts to have adequate, predictable and sustained financing for peacebuilding (PP16). At the same time, peacebuilding financing remains a critical challenge, as Official Development Assistance (ODA) devoted to peacebuilding is decreasing ([A/74/976-S/2020/773](#), paras. 39). Realistic data on financing for peacebuilding is hard to obtain in the absence of a commonly accepted peacebuilding marker. Having access to this data is critical to understanding the true state of financing for peacebuilding and promoting coherence and coordination of peacebuilding investments. The 2022 General Assembly resolution on financing for peacebuilding ([A/RES/76/305](#), (OPs 6–8)) clearly articulates that diverse stakeholders, including women, young people and local peacebuilders, should have access to adequate, predictable and sustained financing in their roles as strategic partners and implementers. However, existing resources for local peacebuilders often fail to meet [the principles of quality funding](#) rooted in participatory approaches, sustained and flexible long-term support, community-determined definition of impact, and realistic and transparent approaches to risk. The current financing for peacebuilding is characterised by unpredictability, projectisation, unfair competition among actors with different levels of capacity, and increased transaction costs.

**How?**

To support adequate, predictable and sustained financing for impactful peacebuilding, the following priorities could be considered:

- ◆ **Review the implementation of the General Assembly Resolution on Financing for Peacebuilding (A/RES/76/305)** in the upcoming session of the General Assembly. The progress on this resolution remains unclear, with the only outcome appearing to be the Fifth Committee's adoption of a resolution agreeing to contribute \$500 million to the PBF out of assessed contributions in the next 5 years. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should remind the Secretary-General to include updates on the implementation of all aspects of resolution 76/305 in his regular reports on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, along with recommendations to advance efforts for adequate, predictable, and sustained financing for peacebuilding<sup>29</sup>, and call upon Member States to convene at the General Assembly's eighty-fourth session, under the agenda item 'Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace', a high-level meeting of the General Assembly on efforts undertaken and opportunities to strengthen the implementation of peacebuilding and sustaining peace, including resolution 76/305.](#)

<sup>29</sup> [A/RES/76/305](#), OP20.



- ◆ **Increase the availability and quality of data on financing for peacebuilding.** The PBSO's Funding Dashboard<sup>30</sup> should increase the availability and quality of data from all UN funds that contribute to peacebuilding, including its specialised agencies, such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The data from the Funding Dashboard should be complemented by evidence of the impact of these investments through PBSO's Impact Hub. Peacebuilding networks should also complement existing efforts by collecting evidence of impact of local peacebuilding action. Among Member States, there should be an agreement on what constitutes peacebuilding to develop a peacebuilding marker to track relevant investments. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should encourage Member States to develop a peacebuilding marker and to invest in data collection on financing for peacebuilding and its impact, with a specific indicator for funding available for local peacebuilding.](#)
- ◆ **Assign a dedicated share of financial allocations to peacebuilding and sustaining peace.** Donor countries should consider spending a dedicated share of their development assistance on peacebuilding priorities (A/74/944-S/2020/678, p. 11). [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should endorse the Secretary-General's proposals for the donor community to commit to spending at least 20 percent of ODA on peacebuilding priorities in conflict-affected settings<sup>31</sup>, and in this regard, establishing a peacebuilding marker to track relevant allocations.](#)
- ◆ **Incentivise financial actors to invest in peacebuilding and sustaining peace.** The avenues to support sustaining peace include increased assessed and voluntary contributions, innovative financing mechanisms, including blended finance, bonds, and guarantees, and strengthened partnerships among all financial actors, such as the private sector, international financial institutions (IFIs), and regional development banks ([A/72/707- S/2018/43](#), para. 49; [A/RES/70/262-S/RES/2282](#), OPs 18, 24). [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should 1\) recall the request to the Secretary-General to develop a strategy for resource mobilisation from the private sector in support of financing for peacebuilding<sup>32</sup>, 2\) call upon the Peacebuilding Commission to develop a strategy for engagement of all financing partners in its meetings<sup>33</sup>, and 3\) encourage the UN field presences to collaboratively explore innovative funding modalities with relevant financing partners<sup>34</sup>.](#)
- ◆ **Apply the principles of quality financing<sup>35</sup> in all financial decisions - a standard encompassing more participatory, accessible and flexible financial resources.** Donors should include diverse local peacebuilders and their networks in governance, advisory, funding and review boards and committees. Quality financing includes testing innovative funding models to provide local peacebuilders with quality funding through their networks, which can then assess and address their own capacity needs. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should emphasise the need for adequate, predictable, sustained and accessible \(or quality\) financing for peacebuilding and encourage testing innovative and participatory funding models.](#)
- ◆ **Strengthen donor coordination efforts.** Donor coordination mechanisms should have clear mandates and adequately resourced capacities. Coordination also requires donors to relinquish their authority over funding in favour of priorities developed in an inclusive process at the national level<sup>36</sup>. Involving the national government in donor coordination efforts can help prevent donors from dominating efforts to define national peacebuilding objectives<sup>37</sup>. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should encourage all relevant stakeholders in the field of financing for peacebuilding to increase their strategic and operational collaboration at the regional and country levels to promote coordinated and context-specific approaches<sup>38</sup>, and in this regard, encourage the establishment of well-funded coordination mechanisms with diverse national stakeholders present in the steering groups for such mechanisms.](#)

<sup>30</sup> DHF, GNWP, GPPAC & NUPI. (2022). The Evolution of the Role of the Peacebuilding Commission: Strengthening Financing for Peacebuilding through Convening and Political Accompaniment: <https://gppac.net/files/2023-04/Sustaining%20Peace%20Roundtable%20Series%20the-evolution-of-the-role-of-the-peacebuilding-commission-strengthening-financing-for-peacebuild->

<sup>31</sup> Peacebuilding Commission Annual Session "Financing for Peacebuilding" Chair's Summary, available at: [https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/201023\\_-\\_summary\\_of\\_aupsc-abc\\_mt-9-\(p.1.\)](https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/201023_-_summary_of_aupsc-abc_mt-9-(p.1.))

<sup>32</sup> [A/RES/76/305](#), OP11.

<sup>33</sup> [A/RES/75/207](#), PP14.

<sup>34</sup> United Nations, Peacebuilding, UN Community Engagement Guidelines on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace, 2020, available at: <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/un-community-engagement-guidelines-peacebuilding-and-sustaining-peace> (Recommendation 5).

<sup>35</sup> LPI, DHF, GPPAC 'Principles for Quality Financing for Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention', April 2022: <https://gppac.net/resources/principles-quality-financing-peacebuilding-and-conflict-prevention-practical-avenues>.

<sup>36</sup> GPPAC, MENA Coalition for YPS, DHF 'Financing for Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace: Lessons Learned for Impactful and Inclusive Financing for Peacebuilding and Resilience in the MENA Region', July 2024. Accessible at: <https://www.gppac.net/resources/financing-peacebuilding-and-sustaining-peace-lessons-learned-impactful-and-inclusive>.

<sup>37</sup> GPPAC (2024). Financing for Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace: Lessons Learned for Impactful and Inclusive Financing for Peacebuilding and Resilience in the MENA Region: <https://www.gppac.net/resources/financing-peacebuilding-and-sustaining-peace-lessons-learned-impactful-and-inclusive>.

<sup>38</sup> [A/RES/76/305](#), OP10.



The 2025 PBAR should  
**define what the localisation  
of peacebuilding and  
sustaining peace means.**

# IV

Priority

## **PRIORITY 4: The 2025 PBAR should define what the localisation of peacebuilding and sustaining peace means.**

### **Why?**

The 2 July 2020 Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) Chair's letter encourages measuring the success of peacebuilding and sustaining peace 'in terms of impact rather than outputs'<sup>39</sup>. There is a growing recognition among donors and policymakers that the impact of peacebuilding policy and programming stems from context-specific action driven by local realities, experiences and needs. However, there is still no common understanding of what localisation looks like in practice. Localisation involves shifting decision-making power from donors and policy-makers to local stakeholders (i.e., local governments, security forces, traditional leaders, local peacebuilders, and diverse community groups) who jointly develop inclusive priorities. This approach requires a certain degree of 'letting go' and is resource-intensive.

### **How?**

Localisation of peacebuilding and sustaining peace includes the following principles:

- ◆ **Prioritise locally-determined priorities in strategic decision-making.** Diverse local peacebuilders are equal stakeholders in efforts to implement the resolutions on peacebuilding and sustaining peace ([A/RES/75/201-S/RES/2558](#), OP1). Both dual resolutions underline the importance of inclusivity to ensure that the needs of all segments of society are taken into account ([A/RES/70/262-S/RES/ 2282](#), OP3; [A/RES/75/201-S/RES/2558](#), PP5). National governments, the donor community and development partners must consult with diverse local actors as equal partners (see, [2015 AGE Report](#), para. 46) through intentional 'co-design' or 'co-creation' at every stage of the process. In order to make these consultations impactful, global policies need to be translated into local languages, awareness-raising campaigns and training for all local actors need to be conducted, and consultations in jargon-free language need to be held. A way to achieve inclusion in such processes is through systematic and institutionalised engagement with peacebuilding networks. These networks are already representative and accountable to their members<sup>40</sup>, providing a foundation for consistent, coherent, and impactful peacebuilding engagement. **The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should encourage all peacebuilding stakeholders to engage systematically and meaningfully with locally-led peacebuilding networks in designing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating peacebuilding policies and programmes.**

<sup>39</sup> UN, 'Letter dated 2 July 2020 from the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council (A/74/935)', 7 July 2020, Accessible at: [https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org/peacebuilding/files/a\\_74\\_935-2009035e\\_1.pdf](https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org/peacebuilding/files/a_74_935-2009035e_1.pdf).

<sup>40</sup> 'Unpacking a Network Approach: The Role of Networks, Movements and Coalitions in Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace.' Informal Learning Session for the Civil Society-UN Dialogue Initiative Summary Note, January 2024. Accessible at: <https://www.gppac.net/resources/unpacking-network-approach-role-networks-movements-and-coalitions-peacebuilding-and>

- ◆ **Institutionalise and systematise partnerships with local peacebuilders.** At the field level, this requires developing institutionalised community engagement strategies based on the [UN System-Wide Community Engagement Guidelines on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace](#) and appointing a dedicated focal point for civil society engagement. In global forums, such as the PBC, local peacebuilders' participation must be independent and present a complementary perspective to that of national governments. The PBC Chair can cancel meetings where independent civil society is not present. To ensure systematisation of civil society engagement, Member States could organise informal dialogues with civil society networks both in the field and at the UN headquarters to gather perspectives from diverse network members around pressing concerns<sup>41</sup>. The UN country teams can guide Member States in ways to ensure meaningful engagement of local peacebuilders in these processes. The [annual CS-UN Dialogue on Peacebuilding](#) provides a platform to regularise such informal dialogues. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should express full support to the initiative of the PBSO to hold an annual CS-UN Dialogue on Peacebuilding, emphasise the importance of the full, effective and meaningful participation of local peacebuilders in the design, monitoring and implementation of peacebuilding efforts<sup>42</sup> as strategic partners and implementers, and encourage the PBC to systematically engage with independent civil society in all aspects of their work.](#)
  
- ◆ **Establish accountability criteria for localisation.** National governments, the donor community and development partners should monitor their progress in advancing localisation. Support for local actors should be an institutional obligation articulated in an engagement strategy. In this regard, the Terms of Reference for UN leadership at the global and field levels could include specific activities and performance indicators to promote localisation, including the development of such a strategy and realising its priorities. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should request the UN actors to improve internal UN accountability – at Headquarters, and in the field – on efforts to advance localisation, including by adding specific performance indicators aimed at promoting localisation in the Terms of Reference for the UN leadership at all levels<sup>43</sup>.](#)

<sup>41</sup> GPPAC (2021). Evolution of Leadership on Sustaining Peace: Lessons Learned from the Peacebuilding Commission: <https://www.gppac.net/resources/evolution-leadership-sustaining-peace-lessons-learned-peacebuilding-commission>

<sup>42</sup> [A/RES/76/305](#), OP7

<sup>43</sup> [A/RES/70/262-S/RES/ 2282](#), OP30(b).

# What should the 2025 PBAR resolution include?

## I Inclusive national ownership in peacebuilding and sustaining peace

### Member States should:

1. Clearly articulate who holds peacebuilding leadership at the national level
2. Develop prevention/peacebuilding strategies
3. Empower local governments to take part in such efforts
4. Develop infrastructures for peace
5. Fund peacebuilding action from national budgets
6. Establish inclusive consultative processes

## II The role of the UN as facilitator and accompaniment

### The UN should:

1. Assist countries and national actors (and not implement programming)
2. Include diverse national actors in the development of the UN strategies and activities
3. Become more accessible to local peacebuilders
4. Drive international norms and principles

## III Quantity and quality of financing for peacebuilding

### The donor community should:

1. Report on the progress of implementing resolution 76/305
2. Increase access to data on the impact and availability of funding
3. Assign a dedicated share of financing to peacebuilding
4. Incentivise more investment in peacebuilding
5. Apply the principles of quality financing (participatory, accessible and flexible)
6. Strengthen donor coordination

## IV Localisation of peacebuilding and sustaining peace

### The UN should:

1. Systematise and institutionalise engagement with local peacebuilders
2. Prioritise locally-determined priorities in policy and programming
3. Establish accountability criteria for localisation