



Documentation of the work of the
Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) NMUN simulation*



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Peacebuilding Commission (PBC)

Committee Staff

Director	Clara Praschl
Chair	Carson Clemas

Agenda

1. United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel
2. Peacebuilding and the New Agenda for Peace

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote (For-Against-Abstain)
PBC/1/1	United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel	Adopted without a vote
PBC/1/2	United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel	Adopted without a vote
PBC/1/3	United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel	Adopted without a vote

Summary Report

The Peacebuilding Commission held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

1. Peacebuilding and the New Agenda for Peace
2. United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel

The session was attended by representatives of 28 Member States and 1 Observer.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda in the order 2, 1, beginning discussion on the topic “The United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel.” On Monday, the Member States further delved into discussing their ideas, while collaborating on elaborating and expanding them. On Monday night, the Dais received four proposals, focusing on various relevant thematic clusters such as food insecurity, counterterrorism, anti-corruption, economic stability, and the advancement of women’s rights. Delegates worked together collaboratively and diligently to ensure an inclusive working space.

On Wednesday morning, two working papers were successfully merged, showing the willingness to find common solutions to the topic at hand. Following that, the Dais accepted three draft resolutions. In the last session on Wednesday afternoon, Draft Resolutions 1/2 and 1/3 received some amendments, which were all accepted by the body. Ultimately, the Peacebuilding Commission adopted all three resolutions by acclamation. After voting was completed, the Commission began deliberations on the second item on the agenda “Peacebuilding and the New Agenda for Peace”.

Throughout the conference, delegates worked very collaboratively and were highly committed to find innovative approaches to advance the topic at hand.



Code: PBC/1/1

Committee: Peacebuilding Commission

Topic: United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel

The Peacebuilding Commission,

Reaffirming Article 1 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945), which reminds the purpose of the United Nations to maintain international peace and security,

Emphasizing the importance of everyone's right to life, liberty, and security, as stated in Article 3 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945),

Bearing in mind that economic stability, empowering women, girls, and the youth in general, and quality education are essential for lasting peace,

Underlining the Peacebuilding Commission's (PBC) Gender Strategy (2016) and the six priority areas targeted by the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS) in 2018 and, in particular, the empowerment of women, girls, and youth in the Sahel, highlighting the importance of inclusivity in advancing peacebuilding processes, especially considering the coups in Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso in 2023,

Fully conscious of the three pillars of UNISS, Governance, Resilience, and Security, which are undeniably connected to socio-economic development,

Reaffirming the Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on "Women, Peace and Security" and General Assembly resolution 70/219 (2016) supporting the motion to better promote the inclusion of women and youth in sustainable peacebuilding processes,

Acknowledging the importance of the sovereignty of the Member States of the Sahel Region,

Bearing in mind that approximately 65% of the Sahelian population is under the age of 25, additionally, there remains a 31.9% gender gap, falling far below the global average of 48.4%, thus the Sahel region has the widest gender gap across the world,

Being aware of the necessity of regional organizations in dealing with local issues,

Being aware of the influence of International Monetary Fund (IMF) loans on the economic reality of the countries in the Sahel,

Appreciating the work achieved by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) which provides emergency aid to children affected by conflict, the work achieved by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in the Sahel, and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), as well as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) which advocates for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience, and resources to help Sahelians build a better life,

Commending the work of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, specifically the Green Climate Fund, which provides funding to combat desertification and restore damaged landscapes in the Sahel,

Recognizing the importance of collaboration with civil society organizations (CSOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to address issues at the grassroots level in the Sahel region,

Affirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (reduce inequalities), and SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities),

Affirming the work of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism and the four main pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,

Observing the need for enhanced regional economic integration and cooperation among Sahelian states, to harness economies of scale, promote intra-regional trade, and foster regional stability,

Approving efforts that promote equitable access to education for women and girls in the Sahel region, such as the establishment of school management committees and the adoption of Articles 13 and 14 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR),

Noting the efforts of the “Improving Education in the Sahel Region” project from UNESCO that provides educational interventions in Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Chad to improve the quality of education that is linked to peace and prosperity,

Noticing with deep concern the economic instability due to the Sahel region’s multitudes of challenges, such as climate change, food insecurity, poverty, and unemployment,

Promoting the Joint Program on Empowering Adolescent Girls and Young Women through Education, partnered with UNESCO, UN Women, and UNFPA, applying a holistic approach to empowering women and girls through quality education of relevant skills and knowledge, supporting women and girls,

Acknowledging the UNDP’s work in the Sahel Climate Peace and Security Forum, which focuses on the critical link between climate policy and security with the aim of creating a more resilient Sahel,

Applauding the aspirations of the Elsie Initiative for Women in Peace Operations to guarantee equal and meaningful participation of female peacekeepers and ensure them being treated with equal respect,

Cognizant of the basic need for food, decreasing malnutrition and food insecurity are part of the main priorities of the United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel (UNSPS),

Encouraging Member States to implement policies and programs aimed at promoting inclusive economic growth, with particular attention to marginalized groups such as women, youth, and indigenous people, through measures such as access to education, vocational training, and entrepreneurship initiatives,

Reaffirming the United Nations Joint Appeal on Counter-Terrorism in Africa launched by the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism,

Emphasizing the critical role of economic stability and growth as the cornerstone for advancing human rights, social cohesion, and sustainable development in the Sahel region,

Noting the importance of counter-terrorism measures for prolonged economic stability in the Sahel,

Noticing the potential to reinforce bonds and collaborations for the Member States as they work collaboratively towards peace in the Sahel,

1. *Encourages* the international community to promote women's rights in the Sahel region through education and workshops in order to empower future generations by:
 - a. Improving the capacity and quality of the academic teacher training through the enhancement and expansion of the Fast-track Transformational Teacher Training program in the Sahel, recommending UNICEF, UNESCO, and UNDP to collaborate with;
 - b. Providing quality education with specific and relevant skills applicable to the area they live, considering cultural, religious, environmental, and tribal relations;
 - c. Encouraging Survival International to fund a pilot program in the Sahel region to aid in the creation of schools in rural areas that adhere to indigenous cultures and aid women, girls, and youth;
 - d. Educating women and girls on climate change relief strategies, recommending the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to the Sahel;
 - e. Collaborating with local NGOs to generate opportunities for parents to become more involved in the management of their children's school thereby improving the quality and sustainability of local schools;
 - f. Enhancing and expanding the already existing Radio Educational Programme (REP) in the Sahel;

2. *Calls on* the international community for the better education of women, youth, and members of the indigenous peoples in the Sahel region on conflict-resolution and management, enabling women to have positions of influence within various entities such as government, companies, and NGOs by:
 - a. Implementing the principles of the Peacebuilding Commission's Gender Strategy in the Sahel;
 - b. Promoting the implication of women in peacebuilding and the impacts of their engagement on sustainable peace, in order to:
 - i. Achieve more sustainable peace, as the implication of women in peace processes is crucial to understanding their reality and improving the protection of their rights;
 - ii. Raise awareness within the population of the region of the benefits of giving important positions to women in peacebuilding by launching an educational awareness campaign for young girls to go to school so they can participate in positions of power and help the Sahel in solving the conflict they are facing;
 - c. Increasing supporting mechanisms to empower women and girls in the field of entrepreneurship in cooperation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in order to help small female- lead companies grow in a sustainable manner;
 - d. Decreasing the overall rate of poverty in the Sahel region by supplementing women, and youth's overall knowledge, equipping them with job skills, general knowledge for survival and overall reducing gender stereotypes;

3. *Encourages* Member States to enhance and expand the already existing UNISS and the United Nations Sahel Support Plan by incorporating the perspective of the youth and thus amplifying the empowerment of minors, youth, and girls in particular via the establishment of a permanent regional advisory body under the auspices of the PBC that convenes and reports on the situation in the Sahel region from the perspective of the youth and submits recommendations and suggestions for solutions to the PBC on the basis of, inter alia, surveys, called Valuing and Owning Children and Youth Empowerment and Support (VOICES) by:
 - a. Consisting of solely regional voluntary representatives of the Member States of the Sahel under the age of 25, they may express their ideas - without the influence of third parties - concerns and priorities with regard to the challenges that the Sahel region currently faces and in particular challenges that have a strong impact on women's rights;
 - b. Organizing anonymous surveys in which the representatives of the VOICES advisory body travel from region to region and village to village to detect and disclose the grievances of individuals and thus, ensure that the grievances of all are considered in the UNISS and furthermore, enables the youthful Sahelian population to shape their own region into their ideal and, most importantly, inclusive, peaceful and secure home;
 - c. Having their own Social Media accounts Sahelians may additionally voice their concerns and alert the public of grievances and consequently, exert more public pressure on those responsible;
 - d. Drawing upon the Peacebuilding Fund and UNICEF;
4. *Recommends* Member States to further collaboration with UNDP, UNICEF, the World Bank, and CSOs to create a capacity-building program through:
 - a. Comprehensive educational approaches, including secure boarding schools and vocational training to address geographical and poverty-related disparities, and extremist threats;
 - b. Leadership development programs to share good practices of nation-building for politicians and government officials;
5. *Recommends* the "Improving Education in the Sahel Region" project be expanded beyond the already existing five Member States and into the greater Sahel region to improve the quality of education by:
 - a. Emphasizing the involvement of women, members of the youth, and indigenous populations of the Sahel in having access to these intervention measures;
 - b. Ensuring that the Global Education Monitoring Report, in reference to SDG 4 (quality education), monitors and reports on these educational programs in the Sahel;
6. *Highly emphasizes* the importance of focusing on women in peace operations on a larger scale to ensure their equal and meaningful participation when involved in peace missions in the Sahel by:
 - a. Aligning with the United Nations gender strategy, striving for a higher representation of women in peacekeeping missions and local leadership positions in the Sahel regional community;

- b. Cooperating with local partners as well as UN Women to make sure grassroots solutions can be found and local female leaders can be empowered;
 - c. Encouraging the United Nations Political Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) to monitor and evaluate the progress made by collecting data in the conflict-affected regions, exchanging this data with local organizations and governments;
 - d. Recommending the governments in the Sahel region to train military personnel and police in alignment with the Elsie Initiative, supported by the Elsie Initiative Fund for Women in Peace Operations;
7. *Calls to action* Member States toward emphasizing the ideals elicited in General Assembly resolution (2016) on “Women and Development” by:
- a. Addressing the root causes of inequality with a combined gender-responsive and gender-sensitive approach; Promoting the Joint Program on Empowering Adolescent Girls and Young Women through Education (UNESCO, UN Women, UNFPA);
 - b. Formulating curricula that focus on each region's cultural and religious specifics and empowering the women and girls through education;
 - c. Providing a basis for the people of the Sahel region to sustain their own communities long-term;
8. *Recommends* Member States in the Sahel to effectively execute SDG 3 (good health and well-being) and SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) by:
- a. Encouraging Member States to increase their contributions to funding UNICEF to provide humanitarian assistance that includes, inter alia, access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), protection, and education services;
 - b. Affirming UN Women’s position that contraception is a universal human right;
 - c. Recommending UNAIDS to fund and facilitate workshops addressing HIV prevention, reducing stigma, consent, and other sexual health concerns within the Sahel;
 - d. Urging UN Women to apply trust funds to ensure shelter and food security for women and girls dealing with gender-based violence in the Sahel region;
9. *Invites* Member States and private sector to further contributions and act upon economic demand informed by current requirements of local communities in the Sahel by increasing funding of regional organizations like PBC and AU towards the goal of local capacity building;
10. *Suggests* Member States to collaborate with the Economic Commission for Africa to support regional initiatives and local economic growth through:
- a. Offering more trade opportunities to local enterprises in the Sahel such as the UNDP initiative Sub-Regional Hub for West and Central Africa;
 - b. Offering more employment opportunities together with the Procasur programs;

11. *Encourages* the International Monetary Fund to provide comprehensive loans with lower interest rates for regions tailored to their dynamic economic and environmental needs, such as those in the Sahel;
12. *Recommends* Member States to increase investment in the Green Climate Fund, with the aid of the United Nations Environment Programme, to accelerate the project of the Great Green Wall in accordance with indigenous human rights and invites Conservation International to protect newly reforested areas in the Sahel region in coalition with indigenous perspective;
13. *Recommends* the Sahel Alliance to invest in agricultural infrastructure such as rural and road storage facilities to enhance agricultural productivity, reduce post-harvest losses, and provide market access to farmers;
14. *Emphasizes* the importance of the improvement of sustainable agriculture practices, such as the introduction of drought-resistant crops and more efficient irrigation methods while preserving indigenous people's rights and resources to contrast the adverse climate conditions that exacerbate food insecurity by inviting NGOs, Member States, and the African Union to apply these practices using the Sahel Alliance resources;
15. *Suggests* a partnership between all responsible Member States's Ministries and the local organization Grow Africa to create jobs for local populations through agricultural development while increasing private sector investment in agriculture and developing investment commitments by suggesting the World Food Programme train local populations on sustainable farming methods and supporting the local community with cutting edge agricultural initiatives;
16. *Recommends* Member States to support funding initiatives like the United Nations Joint Appeal for Counter-Terrorism in the Sahel;
17. *Suggests* Member States develop or refine domestic policies informed by the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which could include topics such as:
 - a. Supporting community engagement and education;
 - b. Addressing the socio-economic disparities that fuel extremism;
 - c. Implementing a strict national policy for combating terrorism, following the relevant international laws and Security Council resolutions while still respecting people's fundamental freedoms and dignity;
 - d. Cooperating with the African Union, ECOWAS, and ECCAS to support peacebuilding efforts in the Sahel;
 - e. Preventing illicit arms trafficking and other methods of terrorist financing;
18. *Recommends* to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and to the General Assembly to implement a HLPF for the Sahel Region, in accordance with the principles outlined in General Assembly resolution 67/29 (2012) by:
 - a. Affirming the support for existing structures by ensuring that the HLPF adopts intergovernmental negotiated political declarations;

- b. Affirming that the HLPF shall convene annually for eight days, under the auspices of the ECOSOC, fostering sustained engagement and collaboration;
 - c. Recommends extending the HLPF to the unique challenges faced by Sahel countries, encompassing issues pertaining to security, development, and climate change;
19. *Recommends* the ECOSOC and the General Assembly to amplify the voices of victims and Non-Government-Organizations in the HLPF by:
- a. Emphasizing the importance of amplifying the voices of victims affected by conflicts and crises, ensuring their participation in discussions separate from their Heads of State and Government;
 - b. Recognizing the pivotal role played by Human Rights Organizations on the ground, providing them with avenues to channel issues of Human Rights Violations effectively;
 - c. Stressing the imperative to protect the safety and security of all victims, activists, or politicians who speak at the HLPF for the Sahel Region;
 - d. Recognizing this will both strengthen gender perspectives in international cooperation and will meaningfully involve women and girls in the decisions that will have both short and long-term effects on their lives;
 - e. Affirming compliance with the Compact on Women, Peace, Security, and Humanitarian Action (WPS-HA Compact) and Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on “Women, Peace and Security”;
20. *Encourages* cooperation between Sahel Member States and Non-Governmental-Organizations in the HLPF by:
- a. Suggesting to extend an invitation to Sahel countries to collaborate on cross-border initiatives related to trade, infrastructure, and environmental conservation, fostering regional cooperation and integration;
 - b. Encouraging the broadening of partnerships between Sahel countries and regional organizations, development banks, and civil society entities to leverage resources and expertise towards sustainable solutions.



Code: PBC/1/2

Committee: Peacebuilding Commission

Topic: United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel

The Peacebuilding Commission,

Noting the 2030 Agenda and its cornerstone principles of inclusion, empowerment, and equality, thereby ensuring no one is left behind in the political processes that exist to serve and benefit the welfare of the collective,

Noting especially the importance of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 10 (reduced inequalities) and its agreed-upon commitment by all Member States towards protecting and promoting vulnerable groups,

Reaffirming the crucial role of women's rights organizations in furthering the inclusivity of elections, fostering the idea of gender equality and inclusivity as per SDG 5 (gender equality) as defined by General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015),

Emphasizing the basic human right of access to adequate food and water in line with SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 3 (good health and well-being), and SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), essential for the realization of the inherent dignity and well-being of all individuals,

Recalling the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (1973), as well as the *International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights* (1966) as fundamental to democratic societies,

Recognizing United Nations Security Council resolution 2359 (2017) on "Peace and Security in Africa" with the past formulation of the G5 Sahel Joint Force as a means of determination towards the Sahel, citing further the international commitment to the restoration of the African region,

Emphasizing United Nations Security Council resolution 2195 (2014) on "Threats to International Peace and Security" and the critical importance of regional cooperation and collective action involving the comprehensive efforts of all Member States to address the root causes and manifestations of violence in the Sahel,

Acknowledging the African Union (AU)'s efforts to further regional stability through supporting elections and the work of the AU's Peace and Security Council,

Viewing with appreciation the African Union's efforts to implement the "Silencing the Guns" in Africa by 2020 Initiative as a fundamental component of the AU Agenda 2063,

Cognizant of the fact that illegal trafficking operations conducted by non-state actors remain a critical issue to the regional stability of not just the Sahel but greater Africa,

Further emphasizing the detrimental absence of indigenous peoples in the Sahel region in political participation, their role as political agents, and the lack of indigenous peoples' inclusion in political change,

Deeply concerned about the violence committed against internally displaced people of the Sahel, whereof children are often the first victims, stressing the urgent need to ensure their protection and provide support to mitigate the impact of such atrocities, in accordance with the United Nations Refugee Agency,

Shocked by the increasing number of children being recruited by armed forces and armed groups as per United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) reports in June 2023,

Underlining the pivotal role of active humanitarian-aid organizations such as UNICEF, which offers support for children of the Sahel region,

Alarmed by the threats posed by organized crime and armed non-state actors to trade routes in the Sahel region, as rates of conflict have escalated since the last debrief regarding the Sahel's socioeconomic status by the General Assembly in 2013,

1. *Asks* Member States to continue their support towards achieving the 2030 Agenda, specifically SDG 10, by addressing the lack of basic human needs through cooperation and annual discussions between United Nations bodies such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UN Women in promoting multilateralism in a more streamlined manner to protect the rights of vulnerable people most in need;
2. *Recommends* utilizing the continuous efforts of the Sahel Alliance in conjunction with participating Member States and non-state actors willing to promote peace, stability, and common well-being in the Sahel Region by:
 - a. Calling for particularly strategic internal security forces within the Sahel through the internal collaboration of the justice system for each Sahelian Member State;
 - b. Strengthening the criminal justice system in the Sahel Member States through additional funding through the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) in capacity development avenues such as technical and vocational education and training and infrastructure therefor;
3. *Fully supports* a method of collaboration with each Member State's national programs akin to the Alliance, promoting aid coordination addressing emergency relief, stabilization, and development by:
 - a. Aiming to support efforts to redeploy government services and administrations;
 - b. Enhancing coordination, focusing on cross-border initiatives such as the G5 Sahel Joint Member States and the Accra Initiative;
4. *Recommends* the facilitation of discussions between international coalitions or bodies of support, advocating for annual conferences between both such international groups and indigenous communities, such as Amazon Watch, Amnesty International, Survival International, and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that may exhibit importance in either the Sahel or indigenous persons worldwide;
5. *Suggests* that Member States undertake the promotion of inclusive governance in the Sahel, specifically relating to women, youth, indigenous groups, and other marginalized communities, to facilitate the long-term political equity of the region;
6. *Welcomes* Member States to increase the rights and representation of indigenous tribes as official political agents by increasing indigenous participation in governments with an input equal to recognized autonomy in governmental and corporate organizations when issues impact indigenous people;
7. *Proposes* Member States to give priority to comprehensive and sustainable solutions aimed at promoting human rights and restoring the dignity of internally displaced people within the Sahel region who are victims of violations due to political instability by:
 - a. Welcoming the convening of an annual high-level meeting to address the establishment of the Valuing and Owning Children and Youth Empowerment and Support advisory body, with a specific focus on the young population of the Sahel region:

- i. Aiming to record the ideas, concerns, and priorities of the Sahelian youth with regard to the security challenges that the Sahel region currently faces by conducting anonymous surveys;
 - ii. Consisting of regional voluntary representatives of the States of the Sahel under the age of 25 who are conducting the surveys;
 - iii. Drawing upon the PBF and UNICEF;
 - b. Encouraging NGOs, such as the International Rescue Committee, to disseminate educational materials, hold seminars and training sessions on internally displaced people in the Sahel region, as well as to hold surveys and best practices for ensuring their protection;
 - a. Further encouraging the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to finance human rights protection equipment such as body cameras and safe vehicles for internally displaced people of the Sahel region;
8. *Encourages* Member States and UN specialized agencies such as the United Nations Department for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, as well as the AU and NGOs to continue promoting democratic elections and political engagement by:
 - a. Recommending Member States of the Sahel make use of United Nations specialized agencies and the experience of fellow Member States to hold free, fair, and inclusive democratic elections following the regulations of their respective constitutions;
 - b. Recommending the continuation of technical, diplomatic, and financial support to electoral processes by United Nations specialized agencies, Member States, as well as other regional actors such as the AU, insofar as it is requested;
 - c. Proposing to Member States of the Sahel to collaborate with external United Nations supervisors to assure the democratic conduct of elections;
 - d. Promoting action for political involvement of women by cooperating with UN Women in striving towards gender parity in representative bodies;
9. *Expresses support* for extending efforts by the AU to stop illegal trafficking, in particular human, arms, and ammunition trafficking as well as illicit financial flows, in the Sahel region by:
 - a. Recommending the implementation of effective border control mechanisms by favoring cooperation, like shared intelligence and resources, between the Sahel Member States and international organizations such as the International Organization for Migration, Interpol, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and the United Nations Office for Counter-Terrorism (UNCCT);
 - b. Recommending increasing the number of official checkpoints and crossing points between the borders of Sahel states;
 - c. Recommending reinforcing a multinational task force similar to the standards of the African Standby Force, with their combined association of militia and citizen efforts to regulate borders;
 - d. Recommending the immediate and substantial investment in border communities to address the socioeconomic drivers of organized crime;
 - e. Recommending the creation of a standardized regional illicit financial flow tracing framework named Sahel Money Laundering Tracking System, and national anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing capabilities strengthened, with;

- i. Collaboration with UNCCT;
 - ii. International investigators tracking suspicious financial activities, trained and supervised by the UNODC;
 - iii. Funding comes from the PBF and Member States on a voluntary basis;
 - iv. The implementation of the framework taking place until March 2026;
 - f. Recommending the implementation of a tracking system for the artisanal production of small arms for enhanced accountability and source identification purposes;
10. *Recommends* the Security Council to work with Member States for the establishment of new safe trade routes and to secure further existing ones to supply the region with humanitarian aid;
11. *Suggests* to retain the option to engage in peace talks with non-state actors willing to promote peace, stability, security, and common well-being in the Sahel Region, taking into account the possibility of negotiating with the assistance of the United Nations Mediation Support Unit;
12. *Proposes* to create an international advisory group to help national governments in the Sahel region tackle the problem of reintegrating ex-paramilitary combatants, especially former child soldiers, into society and state institutions:
 - a. Consisting of negotiators, social science researchers, and non-governmental advocacy groups from across the world who can contribute to successfully managing the reintegration of ex-paramilitary combatants in the Sahel Member States based on their specific knowledge from past reintegration programs in other Member States and social science research insights on Sahel region's particularities;
 - b. Supporting said advisory group with allocated funding from the PBF, in addition to potential support from the Seventh Advisory Group of the Peacebuilding Fund;
13. *Recommends* to the United Nations Security Council to evaluate the possibility of other United Nations peacekeeping and peacebuilding missions if requested by the states of the Sahel region;
14. *Encourages* the Member States of the Sahel region to establish educational programs through the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in collaboration with other Member States that prevent radicalization and extremism to protect youth with respect to the indigenous cultures;
15. *Emphasizes* the importance of developing more sustainable financing mechanisms for the PBF by:
 - a. Recommending the facilitation of financing transitions from different peacebuilding programs by reducing the amount of time for which development programming is solidified;
 - b. Recommending the establishment of a partnership between the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel, the Economic Community of Central African States, and regional organizations such as the Sahel Alliance to form regional working groups, these working groups would focus on discussing and exploring funding options for the PBF, and peacebuilding activities in the Sahel region;
16. *Strongly advises* the creation of a biannual high-level conference bringing together the Peacebuilding Commission, UNISS, and AU experts to monitor the implementation of the measures recommended in the resolution, adapting the recommendations to the quickly changing situation within the region and to offer indigenous and marginalized groups a platform to make their voices heard:

- a. The location of a regular conference shall be situated on the African continent, rotating every second year between willing host countries;
- b. The PBF shall allocate sufficient financial resources for the realization of the conference and support for logistic and security management;
- c. Welcoming Kenya's sign of willingness to host the first pilot conference;
- d. And the State of Qatar's willingness to be a significant sponsor of the conference.



Code: PBC/1/3

Committee: Peacebuilding Commission

Topic: United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel

The Peacebuilding Commission,

Affirming the mandate of Article IX of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945) by upholding peace and security as well as achieving “higher standards of living” for all citizens by increasing and broadening access to essential resources such as food and technological infrastructure, thereby decreasing the competition that forms a prominent root cause of conflict and violence,

Taking note that sustained peace is not the mere presence or absence of conflict but focuses on the continuum of conflict and peace,

Aware that past international peacekeeping missions have fallen short of their intended impact,

Guided by the 2030 Agenda where the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS) has close links with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 13 (climate action), SDG 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions),

Reaffirming the mandate of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) as foundational in promoting the improvement and advancement of the UNISS,

Seeking to advance the UNISS (2013) as the comprehensive and multidimensional framework addressing issues faced by countries in the Sahel,

Taking into account the presence and potential presented by the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), which possesses an advisory body appointed by Secretary-General Antonio Guterres,

Alarmed and concerned with the amount of conflict caused by the lack of resources due to land degradation in Niger, Mali, Sudan, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Chad, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Cameroon, Central African Republic (The Sahel),

Underlining the urgent need for concerted action in the Sahel region as it faces the profound effects of climate change, food insecurity, land degradation, and general underdevelopment leading to conflict over scarcity of resources,

Highlighting the role of the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI),

Recognizing that land degradation, food insecurity, the impact of climate change, forced migration, and lack of resources are some of the highly intersectional issues that cause conflicts in the Sahel and underline the nexus with the PBC's mandate,

Emphasizing respect for the sovereignty and ownership of the countries in the Sahel and refraining from interfering in their domestic affairs,

Deeply conscious of the historically high integration of the Sahel zone, characterized by a high level of human mobility that is hampered by ongoing conflicts,

Recalling that the legacies of colonization in the Sahel region and the arbitrary border setting influence and inhibit free mobility and exacerbate the need to focus,

Recognizing the critical need for clean water in the Sahel zone,

Alarmed by the lack of internet infrastructure in developing and underdeveloped countries,

Deeply disturbed by the recent wave of unconstitutional changes of government in the Sahel,

Expressing its satisfaction of potentially empowering future generations to contribute more technologically advanced initiatives to transition the Sahel region to a more modernized society,

Reconfirming the importance of a strengthened role and involvement of regional actors, including the African Union (AU), the Economic Community of West African States, the Lake Chad Basin Commission, and the African Development Bank,

Conscious of the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) as a practice leader for crisis prevention and recovery within the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),

Bearing in mind the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) drones that play an influential role in preparedness and response,

Taking into consideration The Sahel Regional Fund (SRF) as it addresses the recurring crises in the Sahel region through a humanitarian lens,

Further taking note of the financial pledges made at the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) for The Adaptation Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund that support concrete adaptation projects in developing countries,

Approving the establishment of the Loss and Damage Fund by the United Nations Climate Change Conference at the 27 Conference of the Parties (COP27),

Mindful of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Youth Forum held on March 27, 2013, that gathered prominent youth representatives and corporate leaders under the theme of “Shaping Tomorrow’s Innovators: Leveraging Science, technology, innovation, and Culture for Today’s Youth”,

Deeply regretting the occurrence of desertification throughout the Sahel Region as well as the proliferation of food insecurity through the effects of climate change, agricultural mismanagement, and land exhaustion, and that the current climate crises will harm the region's harvests, exacerbating violent conflicts because of the countries' dependence on the agricultural sector,

Stressing its desire that Member States in the region promote practices that combat climate change and desertification to indigenous peoples and invite non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as Survival International to introduce and cultivate these practices along with education to the indigenous peoples,

Fully aware that conflicts over food insecurity are of global consequence as threats of terrorism and unsustainable migration caused by outsized competition over resources jeopardize the safety and stability of each nation as a community of common destiny,

1. *Recommends* strategic territorial approach as a way to advance the UNISS to be implemented by the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS);
 - a. With a focus on rural-urban linkages and mobility;

- b. Pursuing the goal of supporting decision-making on where, why, and how to intervene;
 - c. Since conflicts are currently mainly centered in border areas, urbanization should be viewed as part of the solution to the crises, and mobility to be seen as a necessary condition;
- 2. *Advises* the Security Council to strengthen the role UNOWAS toward;
 - a. A more integrated and system-wide collaboration on current and emerging threats, including contributing to risk analysis and strategy development;
 - b. Coordination and partnerships with national and strategy actors;
- 3. *Recommends* the United Nations Populations Fund, the United Nations Environmental Assembly, and the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization to strengthen the UNISS by finding solutions and providing funding for the short-term and medium-term challenges of the Sahel region, including:
 - a. The projected high population growth is in line with the already prevalent high youth unemployment and the pressure on existing food systems;
 - b. The unsustainable use of available natural resources;
 - c. Land degradation, which is exacerbated by the high population growth that comes with higher food demand and less available land;
 - d. Uncontrolled urbanization since the urban population is mostly concentrated in the capital cities due to the still unattractive system of secondary cities;
- 4. *Invites* the United Nations Security Council to continuously call for measures addressing the effects of the climate crisis and supporting peacebuilding initiatives in the Sahel;
- 5. *Further recommends* the international community to support the Sahel region in national priorities and strategies in order to;
 - a. Construct dialogue and cooperation with the affected Member States;
 - b. Respect the sovereignty of all states;
- 6. *Welcoming* collaborative efforts with member states to assist and advise local and indigenous communities in the Sahel region regarding proper responses toward climate disasters by;
 - a. Ensuring the enhancing collaboration with UNDP, the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs, and NGOs such as Survival International while implementing more multilateral agreements;
 - b. Implementing training programs hosted by local and indigenous communities;
 - c. Making efforts to organize educational cultural exchange programs that teach Sahel individuals about climate preparedness response;
 - d. Including the promotion of the inclusion of youth in the Sahel training programs as future agents of change;

7. *Strongly encourages* the initiative brought across by our 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals to expand and strengthen PBF to implement collaborative financial aid by;
 - a. Recommending the establishment of an African Union-United Nations co-financing arrangement can provide predictable funding for the two institutions' efforts to promote peace and security, including through assessed contributions;
 - b. Recommending the expansion of the SRF hosted by the Danish Refugee Council and financially hosted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland aid to assist humanitarian aid in the Sahel region;
 - c. Encouraging partnership through the PBF between the WFP and the People's Republic of China, the Kingdom of Denmark, the Kingdom of Norway, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France, Rwanda, and Canada, as well as any other Member State wishing to contribute for directly increased funding for the GGWI;
8. *Recommends* all Member States invest in sustainable agricultural practices and technologies that are resistant to climate change and to reduce dependence on some inefficient, traditional agricultural methods whilst protecting and respecting indigenous and local community methods to mitigate the risk of violent conflict through:
 - a. Encouraging efforts that support cooperation with relevant United Nations bodies and agencies to provide necessary assistance for capacity building and knowledge sharing regarding climate-resilient agricultural practices among member states;
 - b. Recommending the development and implementation of comprehensive national policies and strategies on climate change adaptation and mitigation, with a particular focus on the agricultural sector;
9. *Strongly advocates* for increased support and expansion of the GGWI while recognizing that its multifaceted approach, which aligns with SDG 15 (life on land), SDG 13 (climate action), and SDG 10 (reduced inequalities) while enhancing regional stability and fostering peace, in accordance with SDG 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions);
10. *Fully supports* the complete construction and implementation of internet infrastructure hosted by UNDP Youth Programming in Conflict Prevention and Recovery with designated funds from the PBF in the most vulnerable regions and communities of the Sahel by;
 - a. Reiterating the necessity of designating funds to establish this infrastructure;
 - b. Highlighting the importance of introducing educating programs in youth on technology and internet access for the already large youth population in the Sahel to connect them to the present state of technology;
 - c. Recommending multilateral collaboration between both the public and private sectors through the implementation of Starlink Internet or other satellite internet terminal systems to introduce digital technology to the region until internet infrastructure originating in the Sahel by Saheliens can be implemented;
 - d. Recommending to strengthen the initiative presented by the BCPR within the UNDP on Youth Programming in Conflict Prevention and Recovery to further utilize the involvement

of youth in the United Nations to design proper practices that would assist in transitioning Sahel regions to a more modern-based region;

- e. Recommending the collaboration with ECOSOC in implementing youth forums to gather youth representatives and corporate leaders in utilizing their skills and voices to gather a fresh and technical outlook on the peace that will improve the restoration of post-conflict in the Sahel region;
11. *Directs attention* to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in conjunction with the integration of other innovative and traditional agricultural methods that simultaneously prevent food insecurity by:
- a. Namely, the incorporation of the highly efficient Delfino plow will significantly increase soil yield as the machine can work fifteen to twenty hectares per day while roughly one hundred farmers can only cover one, and this device is designed to be used with traditional farming methods of the region;
 - b. Further, the introduction and promotion of innovative agricultural technologies that are compatible with traditional farming methods will ease the physical burden on women who have a multitude of other responsibilities;
12. *Suggests* the implementation of the Climate Shock Index by Sahelian leadership in conjunction with the AU as endorsed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for its ability to prepare to protect resources such as crops and water supplies against them through:
- a. Proposing that at least 70% of workers involved in the installation and construction of the climate shock index come from the communities in the African Sahel that they are being installed in;
 - b. Requesting training of people in the community on how to properly work on the Climate Shock Index;
 - c. Recommending at least 75% of the original community workers in the African Sahel stay employed by the PBC for the climate shock index after it is completed;
13. *Invites* the WFP to collaborate with the PBC in the context of the implementation of technology-based artificial intelligence drones that monitor conflict-affected areas by:
- a. Ensuring the Sahelian people have access to emergency communication and preparation;
 - b. Directing attention to the increase of initiatives collaborating with the Sustainable Water Partnership (SWP) in improving water access for the Sahel region;
 - c. Improving the nutrient levels in the soil using crop dusting and seeding drones to address food insecurity through collaboration with GGWI;
14. *Recommending* the expansion of the product developed by researchers at Stanford University of a powder that is used to purify drinking water, which can eliminate microorganisms in water when exposed to sunlight by:

- a. Implementing this technology in the Sahel region in conjunction with indigenous peoples while respecting indigenous human rights;
 - b. Making it accessible for every citizen in the Sahel, including indigenous populations;
 - c. Funding it by the SWP and encouraging Survival International to launch a pilot program in collaboration with SWP;
15. *Recommends* Member States to fund the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environmental Facility to ensure the continued success and impact of the GGWI.