



New York City, NY, USA
24–28 March 2024 (Sess. 1)
1–5 April 2024 (Sess. 2)



Peacebuilding Commission Background Guide 2024

Written by Clara Praschl, Theresa M. McMackin,
Shemar Mckoy, and Hassan Moinuddin



NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS



NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

THE WORLD'S LARGEST UNIVERSITY-LEVEL SIMULATION • SINCE 1927
13570 Grove Dr., Suite 294 • Maple Grove, MN 55311
www.nmun.org • info@nmun.org • 612.353.5649

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2024 National Model United Nations New York Conference (NMUN•NY)! We are pleased to introduce to you our committee, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC). Your committee's work is facilitated by volunteer staffers. This year's committee staff are: Director Clara Praschl (Session 1) and Director Theresa M. McMackin (Session 2). Clara holds a double Bachelor's in History and Political Science from the Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich and is currently pursuing a Master's in International and Development Studies with a specialization in human rights and humanitarianism at the Geneva Graduate Institute. Theresa M. McMackin possesses an M.A. in Holocaust and Genocide Studies and a B.A. in Historical Studies. She is currently earning a Graduate Certificate in Atrocity Prevention.

A portion of these materials was authored by Shemar Mckoy, Assistant Director of Conference Management, and Hassan Moinuddin, Assistant Director of Conference Management. Shemar McKoy currently holds a managerial role at a prominent Fortune 250 company. During his leisure time, he finds solace and entertainment in the intricate world of anime, appreciating the art of storytelling, and shares a deep passion for soccer. Hassan Moinuddin studies Philosophy at Royal Holloway, University of London. The preparation of these materials was supported by Under-Secretaries-General Maike Weitzel (Session 1) and Martin Schunk (Session 2).

The topics on the agenda for this committee are:

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

This Background Guide serves as an introduction to the topics for this committee. However, it is not intended to replace individual research. We encourage you to explore your Member State's policies in depth and use the bibliography to further your knowledge on these topics. In preparation for the conference, each delegation should submit a Position Paper by 11:59 p.m. ET on 1 March 2023 in accordance with the guidelines in the [Position Paper Guide](#) and the [NMUN•NY Position Papers website](#).

Two resources, available to download from the NMUN website, serve as essential instruments in preparing for the Conference and as a reference during committee sessions:

- The [NMUN Delegate Preparation Guide](#), which explains each step in the delegate process, from pre-conference research to the committee debate and resolution drafting processes. Please take note of the information on plagiarism, and the prohibition on pre-written working papers and resolutions.
- The [NMUN Rules of Procedure](#), which includes the long and short form of the rules, as well as an explanatory narrative and example script of the flow of procedure.

In addition, please review the mandatory [NMUN Conduct Expectations](#) on the NMUN website. They include the conference dress code and other expectations of all attendees. We want to emphasize that any instances of sexual harassment or discrimination based on race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, or disability will not be tolerated. If you have any questions concerning your preparation for this committee, please contact the Deputy Secretaries-General at dsg.ny@nmun.org.

We wish you all the best in your preparations and look forward to seeing you at the Conference!

Clara Praschl, Director
Session 1

Theresa M. McMackin, Director
Session 2



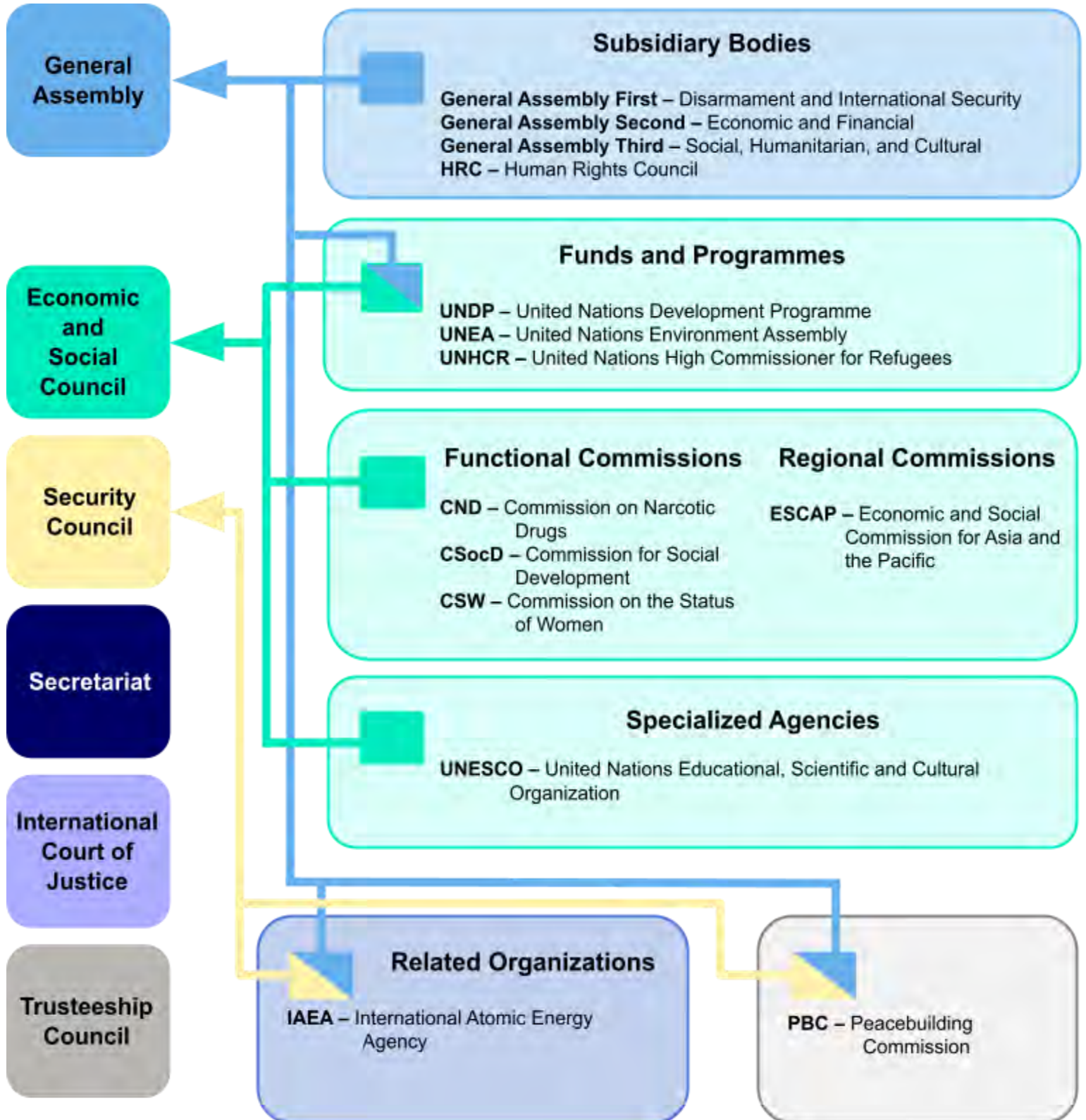
Table of Contents

United Nations System at NMUN·NY	4
Committee Overview	5
Introduction.....	5
Mandate, Function, and Powers.....	5
Governance, Funding, and Structure.....	6
1. Peacebuilding and A New Agenda for Peace	10
Introduction.....	10
International and Regional Framework.....	11
Role of the International System.....	13
Prevention as a means to achieve sustainable peace.....	14
Investing in Peacebuilding and Financing for Peace.....	16
Conclusion.....	18
Further Research.....	18
2. United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel	23
Introduction.....	23
International and Regional Framework.....	24
Role of the International System.....	25
Promoting Gender Equality in Peacebuilding and the Implementation of the UNISS.....	27
Climate Security and Peacebuilding in the Sahel.....	28
Conclusion.....	30
Further Research.....	30



United Nations System at NMUN·NY

This diagram illustrates the United Nations system simulated at NMUN·NY. It shows where each committee “sits” within the system to demonstrate the reportage and relationships between entities. Examine the diagram alongside the Committee Overview to gain a clear picture of the committee’s position, purpose, and powers within the United Nations system.





Committee Overview

Introduction

In his 1992 report, *An Agenda for Peace*, United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali emphasized that in cases where preventive diplomacy fails and conflict erupts, the United Nations must respond through the combined mechanisms of peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding.¹ In 2005, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) was established through General Assembly resolution 60/180 on “The Peacebuilding Commission” and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005) on “Post-Conflict Peacebuilding” as a subsidiary body of both organs.² PBC acts as an intergovernmental advisory body for the promotion and support of peacebuilding efforts to advance the broader international peace agenda.³

As defined in the 2000 *Report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations*, also known as the *Brahimi Report*, peacebuilding refers to rebuilding the foundations of peace and providing the tools to do so in post-conflict environments.⁴ The report outlines the scope of peacebuilding activities to include: holding “free and fair elections” to ensure the legitimacy of a post-conflict government, building governmental institutions, “upholding the rule of law and respect for human rights,” and promoting national reconciliation.⁵

Mandate, Function, and Powers

As an intergovernmental advisory body of both the General Assembly and Security Council, PBC is mainly responsible for supporting and advising on peace efforts, including in conflict-affected countries.⁶ PBC is mandated to coordinate relevant actors to organize resources; provide advice on and propose strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery; focus on reconstruction and institution-building efforts for post-conflict recovery while laying the groundwork for sustainable development; and offer recommendations and information to improve the coordination of all relevant actors both within and outside the United Nations.⁷

While the following list is not exhaustive, PBC’s mandate can be summarized as follows:

- **PBC will generally:** make recommendations on advancing policy and programmatic efforts to ensure conditions for peace; convene meetings and high-level events; conduct field visits and engage with stakeholders on challenges in conflict-affected regions; encourage Member States and other bodies to coordinate peacebuilding efforts in transition and conflict-affected countries, including reconstruction, institution-building, and sustainable development; monitor progress in priority areas; encourage financial support for peacebuilding.⁸
- **PBC will not generally:** directly and unilaterally intervene in a conflict or take effective action; provide peacekeeping personnel; enforce post-conflict measures.⁹

¹ United Nations, General Assembly. *An Agenda for Peace: Preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peacekeeping (A/47/277)*. 1992. p. 6.

² United Nations, General Assembly. *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*. 2005; United Nations, Security Council. *Post-Conflict Peacebuilding (S/RES/1645 (2005))*. 2005.

³ United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *The United Nations Peacebuilding Commission*. N.d.

⁴ United Nations, General Assembly, Security Council. *Report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (A/55/305-S/2000/809)*. 2000. p. 3.

⁵ Ibid. pp. 6-7.

⁶ United Nations, General Assembly. *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*. 2005; United Nations, Security Council. *Post-Conflict Peacebuilding (S/RES/1645 (2005))*. 2005.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Mandate*. N.d.; United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Informative Brochure*. May 2022. 2022. pp. 2-4; United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Role of the PBC Membership and the Relations with UN Principal Organs: Report by the Chair*. 2013. p. 5.

⁹ Ibid.



PBC has been encouraged to continuously assist relevant United Nations entities to convene all stakeholders under one consistent, nationally-owned approach to peacebuilding.¹⁰ General Assembly resolution 70/262 (2016) on “Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture” and Security Council resolution 2282 (2016) on “Post-Conflict Peacebuilding” both emphasized the significance of PBC in fulfilling several functions, including bringing long-term international attention to sustaining peace and providing political support and advocacy to conflict-affected countries, with their consent.¹¹ PBC is tasked with creating an integrated, strategic, and coherent approach to peacebuilding by providing recommendations on peacebuilding needs and priorities.¹²

PBC has an advisory role to not only the General Assembly, to which it reports annually, and the Security Council, but also the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).¹³ PBC can establish country-specific configurations to bring together different stakeholders to draft a strategic framework establishing peacebuilding priorities, objectives, and risks, and serve as an action plan to carry out the committee’s recommendations.¹⁴

Governance, Funding, and Structure

The work of PBC is carried out by its Organizational Committee, a consensus-building body with 31 Member States.¹⁵ The membership is determined by the General Assembly, Security Council, and ECOSOC, each of which elects seven members.¹⁶ The top five providers of military personnel and civilian police to United Nations missions and the top five providers of assessed contributions to United Nations budgets and voluntary contributions to United Nations funds, programs, and agencies hold the remaining ten seats.¹⁷ Regional balance is maintained by the General Assembly, which distributes seats last and to members of regional groups with little or no representation.¹⁸ Members serve for two year renewable terms.¹⁹ The European Union (EU), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), and the World Bank can also participate in PBC meetings.²⁰ PBC is assisted by the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), which provides strategic advice, administers the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), and coordinates with United Nations agencies.²¹ PBF is a multi-donor trust fund created to support countries transitioning from conflict to a state of recovery in cases where other funding means are

¹⁰ United Nations, General Assembly. *Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture (A/RES/70/262)*. 2016; United Nations, General Assembly. *Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture (A/RES/75/201)*. 2020; United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Informative Brochure. May 2022*. 2022. p. 2; United Nations, Security Council. *Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace (S/RES/2558 (2020))*. 2020; United Nations, Security Council. *Post-Conflict Peacebuilding (S/RES/2282 (2016))*. 2016.

¹¹ *Ibid.*; United Nations, Security Council. *Post-Conflict Peacebuilding (S/RES/2282 (2016))*. 2016.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ United Nations, General Assembly. *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*. 2005; United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Informative Brochure. May 2022*. 2022. p. 2; United Nations, Security Council. *Post-Conflict Peacebuilding (S/RES/1645 (2005))*. 2005.

¹⁴ United Nations, Peacebuilding Support Office. *UN Peacebuilding: an Orientation*. 2010; United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Working Methods Part (I)*. 2013.

¹⁵ United Nations, General Assembly. *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*. 2005; United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Membership*. N.d.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Aide-mémoire on the election to the membership of the PBC Organizational Committee*. 2015.

¹⁹ United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Membership*. N.d.

²⁰ United Nations, General Assembly. *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*. 2005; United Nations, Security Council. *Post-Conflict Peacebuilding (S/RES/1645 (2005))*. 2005.

²¹ United Nations, Peacebuilding Support Office. *UN Peacebuilding: an Orientation*. 2010. p. 37; United Nations, Peacebuilding Support Office. *Peacebuilding Support Office*. N.d.



inadequate or unavailable.²² PBC and PBF act in close coordination, with the PBC receiving briefings from the Chair of the PBF's Advisory Group on the PBF's work.²³

²² United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *The United Nations Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund*. N.d.

²³ United Nations, General Assembly. *Report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund (A/75/735)*. 2021.



Bibliography

- United Nations, General Assembly. *An Agenda for Peace: Preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peacekeeping (A/47/277)*. 1992. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/47/277>
- United Nations, General Assembly, Security Council. *Report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (A/55/305-S/2000/809)*. 2000. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: <https://undocs.org/en/A/55/305>
- United Nations, General Assembly. *The Peacebuilding Commission (A/RES/60/180)*. 2005. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/RES/60/180>
- United Nations, General Assembly. *Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture (A/RES/70/262)*. 2016. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/RES/70/262>
- United Nations, General Assembly. *Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture (A/RES/75/201)*. 2020. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/RES/75/201>
- United Nations, General Assembly. *Report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund (A/75/735)*. 2021. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: <https://undocs.org/en/A/75/735>
- United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Mandate*. N.d. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/commission/mandate>
- United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Membership*. N.d. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/commission/membership>
- United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *The United Nations Peacebuilding Commission*. N.d. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/commission>
- United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *The United Nations Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund*. N.d. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/fund>
- United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Role of the PBC Membership and the Relations with UN Principal Organs: Report by the Chair*. 2013. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/relations_with_un_principal_org.-role_of_it_members-report_of_the_pbc_chair-final.pdf
- United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Working Methods Part (I)*. 2013. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/pbc_working_methods_compendium_part_i_formatted_30april2013.pdf
- United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Aide-mémoire on the election to the membership of the PBC Organizational Committee*. 2015. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/151019_elections_to_the_oc.pdf
- United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Informative Brochure. May 2022*. 2022. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/pbc_brochure_eng.pdf
- United Nations, Peacebuilding Support Office. *Peacebuilding Support Office*. N.d. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/supportoffice>



United Nations, Peacebuilding Support Office. *UN Peacebuilding: an Orientation*. 2010. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/peacebuilding_orientation.pdf

United Nations, Security Council. *Post-Conflict Peacebuilding (S/RES/1645 (2005))*. 2005. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: [http://undocs.org/en/S/RES/1645\(2005\)](http://undocs.org/en/S/RES/1645(2005))

United Nations, Security Council. *Post-Conflict Peacebuilding (S/RES/2282 (2016))*. 2016. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: [https://undocs.org/en/S/RES/2282\(2016\)](https://undocs.org/en/S/RES/2282(2016))

United Nations, Security Council. *Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace (S/RES/2558 (2020))*. 2020. Retrieved 20 October 2023 from: [http://undocs.org/en/S/RES/2558\(2020\)](http://undocs.org/en/S/RES/2558(2020))



1. Peacebuilding and A New Agenda for Peace

“People’s sense of safety and security is at a low in almost every country, with six in seven worldwide, plagued by feelings of insecurity. The world is facing the highest number of violent conflicts since the Second World War.”²⁴

Introduction

One in every four people worldwide is directly affected by conflict, and the number of armed conflicts across the world is increasing.²⁵ In 2023, 108 million people were forcibly displaced due to conflict, persecution, disasters, or human rights violations.²⁶ In 2022, military expenditures hit an all-time high at \$2.24 trillion globally.²⁷ In addition, intensifying geostrategic competition, great power rivalries, and the undermining of international norms have been observed in recent years.²⁸ Rising inequalities, persistent violence outside of armed conflicts, and a shrinking space for civic participation pose alarming trends and ultimately interlocking threats to stability and security.²⁹ Additionally, non-traditional threats, such as new and emerging technologies and the climate emergency pose new threats to international security.³⁰ Given these developments, the United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres presented a Policy Brief entitled *A New Agenda for Peace* (2023), which addresses the future of multilateral security cooperation.³¹ *A New Agenda for Peace* is part of a broader envisioned transformation process of the United Nations aimed at increased effectiveness and adaptation to address current global challenges.³² This process was initiated by Member States and put in motion by the Secretary-General through *Our Common Agenda* (2021).³³

A New Agenda for Peace (2023) describes a vision and several recommendations for the future of multilateral security.³⁴ The introduction of *A New Agenda for Peace* (2023) is relevant for the United Nations peacebuilding architecture, as various recommendations are related to peacebuilding and the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC).³⁵ One focus of the policy brief is placed on strengthening prevention, which becomes evident in various proposed thematic areas and recommendations, such as addressing strategic and emerging risks, all types of violence, and the interconnections between development, human rights, and climate action.³⁶ This raises also the question of how PBC can contribute to these recommendations.³⁷ Additionally, *A New Agenda for Peace* calls for additional investment in

²⁴ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Sustainable Peace Cannot Be Built Where Rights of Women Are Ignored, Says Deputy Secretary-General at Security Council Open Debate*. 2023.

²⁵ United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. pp. 4-5.

²⁶ Ibid. p. 5; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. *Global Trends Report 2022*. 2023.

²⁷ United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. p. 4.

²⁸ Ibid. pp. 4,7; Gowan. International Crisis Group. *What’s New about the UN’s New Agenda for Peace?* 2023.

²⁹ United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. pp. 5-6.

³⁰ Ibid. pp. 4-7.

³¹ United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *A New Agenda for Peace*. N.d.

³² United Nations, General Assembly. *Declaration on the commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations (A/RES/75/1)*. 2020.

³³ Ibid; United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Our Common Agenda*. N.d.; United Nations, Secretary-General. *Our Common Agenda*. 2021.

³⁴ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Our Common Agenda - Policy Brief Overview*. 2023.

³⁵ United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. p. 15.

³⁶ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Launching New Agenda for Peace Policy Brief, Secretary-General Urges States to “Preserve Our Universal Institution” amid Highest Level of Geopolitical Tension in Decades*. 2023; United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Our Common Agenda - Policy Brief Overview*. 2023.

³⁷ United Nations, Secretary-General. *Our Common Agenda*. 2021. p. 61.



peacebuilding activities and financing for peace, which can help inform the future of PBC's mandate and work.³⁸

International and Regional Framework

The maintenance of international peace and security is a core function of the United Nations and is enshrined within the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945), the foundational document of the organization.³⁹ The *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) (1948) recognizes the equal and inalienable rights of all humans as the foundation of freedom, justice, and peace in the world and underlines the need to foster friendly relations among nations.⁴⁰ It serves as a crucial tool for the identification of the underlying causes of conflicts and guides the formulation of effective responses to such conflicts.⁴¹ This understanding is paramount for the long-term sustenance of peace and the prevention of future conflicts.⁴² In essence, the UDHR stands as a cornerstone for both conflict prevention and the nurturing of a culture of human rights and respect.⁴³ In 1984, the General Assembly adopted the *Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace*, reaffirming that people have the right to peace and underlining that all Member States and international organizations have the responsibility to promote peace.⁴⁴ The *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2030 Agenda) (2015) with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) underlines the need for peace as part of the shared blueprint for prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future.⁴⁵ SDG 16 (peace justice and strong institutions) is specifically focused on various aspects of peacebuilding, such as reducing violence, promoting human rights, strengthening the rule of law, preventing corruption, and supporting participatory decision-making.⁴⁶ However, since peace and development are mutually reinforcing, peace is not only relevant for Goal 16, but also for the achievement of all the other SDGs.⁴⁷

In 1948, the United Nations authorized its first Peacekeeping Mission, the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization.⁴⁸ While the early missions focused mainly on monitoring ceasefires, the peacekeeping missions became more complex in their mandate aiming to implement complex peace agreements.⁴⁹ In 1992, prompted by a request from the United Nations Security Council to enhance peacemaking and peacekeeping, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali introduced the *Agenda for Peace*.⁵⁰ This comprehensive agenda detailed the strategic pillars of preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, and peacekeeping, aiming for a thorough approach to conflict prevention and resolution.⁵¹ It also introduced the concept of post-conflict peacebuilding and underscored a holistic perspective on peacebuilding that would integrate economic, social, and humanitarian aspects, with a central emphasis on promptly containing and resolving conflicts.⁵²

³⁸ Ibid. pp. 15, 18, 19, 30-32.

³⁹ United Nations Conference on International Organization. *Charter of the United Nations*. 1945.

⁴⁰ United Nations, General Assembly. *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/RES/217 A (III))*. 1948.

⁴¹ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. *The Contribution of Human Rights to Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace*. N.d. pp.1-2.

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ Ibid.

⁴⁴ United Nations, General Assembly. *Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace (A/RES/39/11)*. 1984.

⁴⁵ United Nations, General Assembly. *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. 2015.

⁴⁶ United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. *16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels*. N.d.

⁴⁷ United Nations, General Assembly. *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. 2015.

⁴⁸ United Nations, Peacekeeping. *Our History*. N.d.

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ United Nations, Secretary-General. *An agenda for peace: preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping*. 1992.

⁵¹ Ibid. pp. 11-12.

⁵² Ibid.



The peacebuilding architecture was established in 2005, following the recommendations of the report of the Secretary-General titled *In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security and Human Rights for All* (2005) and the General Assembly resolution 60/1 on “2005 World Summit Outcome.”⁵³ The aim was to address the gaps and challenges that the United Nations faced in its peacebuilding efforts, such as lack of coherence, coordination, sustained engagement, and predictable funding.⁵⁴ Since then, the peacebuilding architecture has undergone several reviews and reforms to enhance its effectiveness and relevance.⁵⁵ In 2016, the United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 2282 (2016) on “Post-conflict peacebuilding” and the General Assembly adopted resolution 70/262 on “Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture,” concluding the 2015 review.⁵⁶ These resolutions introduced the concept of “sustaining peace” as a comprehensive approach to peacebuilding, encompassing conflict prevention, addressing root causes, facilitating reconciliation, and promoting recovery and development.⁵⁷ Both resolutions emphasized the need for an inclusive approach to peacebuilding and highlighted the crucial role of civil society, women’s groups, and youth in peacebuilding efforts.⁵⁸ The most recent review was conducted in 2020, which resulted in General Assembly resolution 75/201 on “Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture” and the Security Council resolution 2558 (2020) on “Peacebuilding and sustaining peace.”⁵⁹ The resolutions reaffirmed the importance of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture and its role in advancing the United Nations comprehensive approach to sustaining peace.⁶⁰ They also called for strengthening PBC’s advisory and convening functions; enhancing the Peacebuilding Fund’s (PBF) flexibility, responsiveness, and impact; and improving the Peacebuilding Support Office’s (PBSO’s) capacity, partnerships, and coordination.⁶¹

For the 75th anniversary of the United Nations, the General Assembly adopted resolution 75/1 on “Declaration on the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations.”⁶² The declaration reaffirms Member States’ commitment to bolstering global governance for present and future generations, thereby committing to the promotion of peace and prevention of conflict.⁶³ The Declaration tasks the Secretary-General with offering recommendations in response to evolving challenges.⁶⁴ In response, the Secretary-General produced *Our Common Agenda*, the Secretary-General’s vision for global cooperation.⁶⁵ It advocates for inclusive, networked, and effective multilateralism.⁶⁶

A New Agenda for Peace was presented by the Secretary-General in July 2023 and outlines his vision for multilateral efforts for peace and security addressing the evolving challenges to peace.⁶⁷ *A New Agenda*

⁵³ United Nations, General Assembly. *2005 World Summit Outcome (A/RES/60/1)*. 2005; United Nations, General Assembly. *In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all (A/59/2005)*. 2005.

⁵⁴ United Nations, General Assembly. *In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all (A/59/2005)*. 2005. pp. 31-32.

⁵⁵ Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation. *The Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace Agenda*. 2021

⁵⁶ United Nations, General Assembly. *Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture (A/RES/70/262)*. 2016; United Nations, Security Council. *Post-conflict peacebuilding (S/RES/2282(2016))*. 2016.

⁵⁷ Ibid.

⁵⁸ Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation. *The Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace Agenda*. 2021.

⁵⁹ United Nations, General Assembly. *Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture (A/RES/75/201)*. 2020; United Nations, Security Council. *Peacebuilding and sustaining peace (S/RES/2558(2020))*. 2020.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ Ibid.

⁶² United Nations, General Assembly. *Declaration on the commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations (A/RES/75/1)*. 2020.

⁶³ Ibid.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Our Common Agenda*. N.d.

⁶⁶ Ibid.

⁶⁷ United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. p. 3.



for *Peace* acknowledges the changing global order, emphasizing the interconnected issues of geopolitical tensions, human rights violations, and emerging technologies.⁶⁸ It offers twelve comprehensive sets of recommendations under five key areas.⁶⁹ The first area deals with the question of how to advance prevention at a global level by addressing strategic risk and geopolitical division.⁷⁰ The second focus is placed on preventing conflict and sustaining peace.⁷¹ The third area addresses how to advance peace operations and peace enforcement.⁷² The fourth emphasis is put on emerging domains of conflict.⁷³ The last focus area constitutes the question of strengthening international governance in the areas of peace and security.⁷⁴

Role of the International System

Before the launch of the *A New Agenda for Peace*, the Secretary-General extensively engaged with Member States, the United Nations system, and relevant partners to ensure inclusivity in the consultation process, as requested by the General Assembly resolution 76/6 on “Follow-up to the report of the Secretary-General entitled *Our Common Agenda*.”⁷⁵ PBC is a crucial actor in the realization of *A New Agenda for Peace* and is taking part in an ongoing consultation process for its implementation.⁷⁶ PBC has shown its support for the development of *A New Agenda for Peace* and has provided recommendations on its implementation.⁷⁷ These recommendations include strengthening the conflict prevention capacity of the United Nations, promoting an inclusive people-centered approach to peacebuilding, and strengthening the capacities of PBC.⁷⁸ In September 2023, PBC held a ministerial-level meeting on peacebuilding and sustaining peace.⁷⁹ In this context, the meeting addressed how to strengthen the role of PBC within the context of *A New Agenda for Peace*.⁸⁰ During the session, PBC adopted a ministerial statement recognizing *A New Agenda for Peace* as one central point for an upcoming discussion on strengthening the peacebuilding architecture and confirmed its commitment to engage in constructive discussions on peacebuilding in the lead-up to the Summit of the Future in 2024.⁸¹ During the Summit, the international community plans to reaffirm existing commitments and discuss institutional reforms.⁸² The Summit of the Future will involve various stakeholders, such as Member States, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the private sector, and youth.⁸³ Ultimately, the aim is to adopt an action-oriented Pact for the Future that will be agreed by Member States through intergovernmental negotiations.⁸⁴

Several actors contributed to the inclusive consultation process and submission in the lead-up to *A New Agenda for Peace* and are key actors for the implementation of the Agenda.⁸⁵ For instance, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) highlighted the reinforcing linkages

⁶⁸ Ibid. p. 3.

⁶⁹ Ibid. p. 15.

⁷⁰ Ibid.

⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ Ibid.

⁷⁴ Ibid.

⁷⁵ United Nations, General Assembly. *Follow-up to the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Our Common Agenda” (A/RES/76/6)*. 2021.

⁷⁶ United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Ambassadorial-Level Meeting on Peacebuilding in A New Agenda for Peace: Chair’s summary*. 2023.

⁷⁷ Ibid.

⁷⁸ Ibid.

⁷⁹ United Nations, Peacebuilding. *Meetings and Activities of the Peacebuilding Commission*. N.d.

⁸⁰ Ibid.

⁸¹ Ibid.

⁸² Gowan, International Crisis Group. *What’s New about the UN’s New Agenda for Peace? 2023*; United Nations. *The Summit of the Future*. 2023.

⁸³ International Institute for Sustainable Development. *Summit of the Future*. 2023.

⁸⁴ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *The Summit of the Future in 2024*. N.d.

⁸⁵ United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *A New Agenda for Peace*. N.d.



between peace and development in its submission and works towards economic and social development to prevent conflict.⁸⁶ UN DESA has also called for a strengthened relationship between the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and PBC in order to promote economic development for peace.⁸⁷ The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has called for stronger coordination between the humanitarian, development, and peace nexus and scaled-up peacebuilding efforts targeting displacement.⁸⁸ The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) works to advance the role of women in the peace and security agenda.⁸⁹ At the regional level, the African Union has called for a stronger inclusion of the Global South and strengthening the coordination between the United Nations and regional organizations while recognizing its complementary.⁹⁰ Additionally, the European Union has highlighted the need for renewed commitment to a rules-based multilateral system grounded in the rule of law and human rights, as well as reinforced conflict prevention.⁹¹

Prevention as a means to achieve sustainable peace

In the *A New Agenda for Peace*, the Secretary-General calls for a shift toward prevention as a political priority.⁹² In the policy brief, the Secretary-General underlines that a stronger commitment to prevention is inevitable for a successful New Agenda for Peace.⁹³ The increased focus on conflict prevention is visible in several suggested thematic areas and proposals laid out by the Secretary-General in *A New Agenda for Peace*, such as the call to address strategic and emerging risks, all forms of violence, and the linkages between development, human rights, and climate action.⁹⁴ With the introduction of the “sustaining peace” approach to peacebuilding, the United Nations underlined the importance of preventing the outbreak, escalation, continuation, and recurrence of conflict and addressing the root causes of conflict.⁹⁵ The sustained peace approach envisions that peacebuilding is not merely restricted to post-conflict activities.⁹⁶ The focus on conflict prevention has been a cornerstone of Secretary-General António Guterres’ vision for the United Nations during his tenure.⁹⁷ By creating a more proactive, rather than reactive, approach to achieving peace, the United Nations is more likely to save lives, prevent atrocities, and advance development.⁹⁸ In addition to the humanitarian benefits of a proactive approach to peace, conflict prevention results in cost savings by preventing the destruction of infrastructure, lowering military

⁸⁶ United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. *Contribution to A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023.

⁸⁷ Ibid.

⁸⁸ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. *Inputs from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees: Policy brief on the New Agenda for Peace*. 2023.

⁸⁹ United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. *Inputs into A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023.

⁹⁰ African Union Commission. *Proposed African Union Commission Input to the United Nations’ New Agenda for Peace*. N.d.

⁹¹ European Union. *European Union response to the UN Secretariat’s request for input for the ‘New Agenda for Peace’*. 2022.

⁹² United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. p. 11.

⁹³ Ibid.

⁹⁴ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Launching New Agenda for Peace Policy Brief, Secretary-General Urges States to “Preserve Our Universal Institution” amid Highest Level of Geopolitical Tension in Decades*. 2023.

⁹⁵ United Nations, Security Council. *Post-conflict peacebuilding (S/RES/2282(2016))*. 2016; United Nations, General Assembly. *Review of the UN peacebuilding architecture (A/RES/70/262)*. 2016; United Nations Department of Political Affairs. *United Nations Conflict Prevention and Preventive Diplomacy in Action*. N.d. p. 3.

⁹⁶ Böttcher et al. Center for International Peace Operations. *Give „P“ a Chance: Peacebuilding, Peace Operations and the HDP Nexus*. 2021. p. 31.

⁹⁷ United Nations, Secretary-General. *Vision Statement by Antonio Guterres: Restoring Trust and Inspiring Hope*. 2021. pp. 2-4.

⁹⁸ United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. p. 11.



expenditures, and lowering the economic externalities of conflict.⁹⁹ According to the World Bank, preventative action is cheaper for the international community and could save up to \$70 billion per year.¹⁰⁰

Despite this recent paradigm shift in the United Nations' approach to peacebuilding, prevention has been historically underprioritized, and a lack of trust has undermined a coherent approach to prevention.¹⁰¹ The Secretary-General has highlighted and criticized an insufficient commitment to prevention by Member States.¹⁰² In addition, prevention efforts are becoming more difficult in light of increasing numbers of ongoing conflict, deteriorating diplomatic relations between major powers, and new and emerging conflict risks throughout the world.¹⁰³

A New Agenda for Peace calls for a better understanding of the underlying drivers of insecurity and increased efforts to combat these root causes in order to prevent conflict.¹⁰⁴ Poverty, inequality, discrimination, and marginalization are regarded as risk factors and drivers of conflict.¹⁰⁵ Thus, *A New Agenda for Peace* highlights the acceleration of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and promoting human rights as central tools of conflict prevention.¹⁰⁶ This is in line with the *Pathways for Peace Report*, a landmark report on the prevention of conflict published by the United Nations and the World Bank in 2018.¹⁰⁷ This report highlights the importance of inclusive and sustainable development for the prevention of conflict and crises.¹⁰⁸ Likewise, the *Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights (2020)* underlines that advancing human rights is to be placed at the center of all United Nations action.¹⁰⁹ The Secretary-General places particular emphasis on the need to transform gendered power dynamics to sustain peace and to strengthen efforts to advance the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda in its entirety, and to address the interlinkages between climate, peace, and security.¹¹⁰ *A New Agenda for Peace* also addresses novel or potential domains of conflict such as the extension of conflict to cyberspace, outer space, or the use of artificial intelligence to prevent novel ways of conflict.¹¹¹ *A New Agenda for Peace* further stresses the need for better-suited national, regional, and international tools and coordination for prevention.¹¹² According to the Secretary-General, it is necessary to support the development of national prevention strategies and capacities.¹¹³ Long-standing regional security architectures that are necessary for conflict prevention are degrading due to a lack of investment.¹¹⁴ In *A New Agenda for Peace*, the Secretary-General highlights the importance of utilizing multilateral tools for conflict prevention such as good offices, mediation, disarmament, and the promotion of human rights, the rule of law, and access to justice.¹¹⁵

In recent years, there have been reforms to restructure the security pillar of the United Nations and to implement a comprehensive, cross-pillar approach to peace to enable closer collaboration with development, human rights, and humanitarian sectors.¹¹⁶ The goal of these reforms is to create a more

⁹⁹ World Bank et al. *Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Conflict*. 2018. p. 2.

¹⁰⁰ Ibid. pp. 2-4.

¹⁰¹ United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. pp. 11. 19.

¹⁰² Ibid. p. 11.

¹⁰³ Ibid. pp. 15-15.

¹⁰⁴ Ibid. pp. 19-22; United Nations, Secretary-General. *Our Common Agenda*. 2021. p. 59.

¹⁰⁵ United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. pp. 19-22.

¹⁰⁶ Ibid. p. 20; United Nations, General Assembly et al. *Peacebuilding and sustaining peace (A/74/976-S/2020/773 (2020))*. 2020. p. 2; United Nations, General Assembly. *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. 2015.

¹⁰⁷ World Bank et al. *Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Conflict*. 2018.

¹⁰⁸ Ibid.

¹⁰⁹ United Nations, Secretary-General. *The Highest Aspiration: A Call to Action for Human Rights*. 2020.

¹¹⁰ United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. pp. 20-21.

¹¹¹ Ibid. p. 26.

¹¹² Ibid. pp. 15, 18, 19, 30-32.

¹¹³ Ibid. p. 19.

¹¹⁴ Ibid. pp. 12, 18..

¹¹⁵ Ibid. p. 14.

¹¹⁶ World Bank et al. *Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Conflict*. 2018. pp. 2-4.



coherent, comprehensive, and holistic approach to peacebuilding.¹¹⁷ For example, the Resident Coordinator's Offices of the United Nations Secretariat have been strengthened, and regional monthly reviews have been introduced to conduct cross-pillar assessments and coordinated action for conflict prevention.¹¹⁸ The shift towards prevention has also become visible in the work of PBC.¹¹⁹ For instance, PBC has implemented a stronger integration of the gendered dimensions of peacebuilding into its work by adopting a gender strategy in 2016.¹²⁰ PBC recognizes the importance of gender-responsive peacebuilding for conflict prevention and sustained peace, and holds annual high-level meetings with ECOSOC to discuss the issue.¹²¹

PBC is a key actor in this paradigm shift towards conflict prevention.¹²² In *Our Common Agenda*, the Secretary-General stated that Member States should consider expanding the role of PBC.¹²³ Specifically, the Secretary-General suggests that PBC should engage with “the cross-cutting issues of security, climate-change, health, gender equality, development, and human rights from a prevention perspective.”¹²⁴ The Secretary-General also recommended that PBC be used to support the implementation of national and regional strategies toward conflict prevention.¹²⁵

Investing in Peacebuilding and Financing for Peace

Investing in peacebuilding and financing for peace is an essential aspect of realizing the Secretary-General's vision in *A New Agenda for Peace*.¹²⁶ The United Nations' central financial instrument for peacebuilding efforts is PBF.¹²⁷ It is closely linked to the mandate of PBC, as PBC is tasked to advocate for the allocation of funds from PBF towards peacebuilding activities.¹²⁸ In general, increased volatility towards financial aid and financing gaps can be observed in conflict-affected countries.¹²⁹ The share of official development assistance (ODA) towards peacebuilding projects has declined over the years, from 19% in 2013 to 11% in 2018.¹³⁰ The Secretary-General also highlighted the growing demand for international investments such as combating the negative risks of the pandemic, which might lead to diverting resources away from peacebuilding efforts.¹³¹ In the last review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture in 2020, the Secretary-General noted that ensuring adequate, predictable, and sustained resources for financing is to be regarded as a key challenge to sustaining peace.¹³² According to the Secretary-General, peacebuilding activities funded by PBF play a very important role in sustaining

¹¹⁷ United Nations, General Assembly et al. *Peacebuilding and sustaining peace (A/74/976-S/2020/773 (2020))*. 2020. pp. 7-11.

¹¹⁸ Böttcher et al. Center for International Peace Operations. *Give „P“ a Chance: Peacebuilding, Peace Operations and the HDP Nexus*. 2021. p. 34; Damplo et al. Universal Rights Group. *Policy or aspiration: Shedding light on the current status of the UN's Human Rights Up Front initiative*. 2019. p. 21; United Nations, General Assembly et al. *Peacebuilding and sustaining peace (A/74/976-S/2020/773 (2020))*. 2020. p. 10.

¹¹⁹ United Nations, General Assembly et al. *Peacebuilding and sustaining peace (A/74/976-S/2020/773 (2020))*. 2020. p. 6; United Nations, Peacebuilding. *Peacebuilding Commission's Gender Strategy*. 2016.

¹²⁰ Ibid.

¹²¹ Ibid.

¹²² United Nations, Secretary-General. *Our Common Agenda*. 2021. p. 61.

¹²³ Ibid.

¹²⁴ Ibid.

¹²⁵ Ibid.

¹²⁶ United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. pp. 14, 19, 32.

¹²⁷ United Nations, Peacebuilding. *The Peacebuilding Fund*. N.d.

¹²⁸ United Nations, Peacebuilding. *About the Commission*. N.d.

¹²⁹ United Nations, Peacebuilding. *Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund: 2020-2024 Strategy*. 2020. p. 3.

¹³⁰ United Nations, General Assembly et al. *Peacebuilding and sustaining peace (A/74/976-S/2020/773 (2020))*. 2020. p. 16.

¹³¹ Ibid.

¹³² Ibid.



peace, by enabling the continuation of programmatic projects beyond the lifetime of peacekeeping operations.¹³³

The demand for peacebuilding funds and financial strains on PBF are increasing.¹³⁴ According to the *Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund: 2020-2024 Strategy* (2020), it has become harder to secure investments for peacebuilding interventions and for countries in transition it has become harder to secure funding.¹³⁵ The WPS agenda, in particular, has been severely underfunded.¹³⁶ However, as PBF is highly dependent on voluntary financing from a few Member States, the fund encounters a high level of unpredictability in its budget.¹³⁷ According to the Secretary-General, to meet its 2020-2024 strategic objectives, a “quantum leap” in contributions to PBF is needed.¹³⁸ For the period 2020-2024, PBF aims to invest \$500.¹³⁹ In recent years, however, the average funding only constituted approximately \$164 million annually.¹⁴⁰

The issue of financing for peacebuilding has been a top priority PBC and the Secretary-General.¹⁴¹ In 2022, the Secretary-General proposed that the General Assembly approve \$100 million annually in assessed contributions to PBF, which would mean that all Member States would contribute to financing PBF.¹⁴² Similarly, the Secretary-General noted in *Our Common Agenda* that the recent efforts on adequate, predictable, and sustained financing for peacebuilding have been insufficient and PBF is significantly outpacing available resources.¹⁴³ With the most recent General Assembly resolution 76/305 on “Financing for Peacebuilding,” the General Assembly reaffirmed the need for adequate and sustainable financing for peacebuilding including through voluntary, innovative, and assessed funding and other means of resource mobilization.¹⁴⁴ While not explicitly approving the call for \$100 million annually in assessed contributions as requested by the Secretary-General, the General Assembly recognized that the provision of assessed contributions would represent a shared commitment and called for further consideration of the Secretary-General's recommendations.¹⁴⁵ It also called upon PBC to strengthen the efforts to mobilize resources.¹⁴⁶

In *A New Agenda for Peace*, the Secretary-General highlighted the lack of progress on securing sustained financing for peacebuilding and dedicating increased resources to PBC and PBF.¹⁴⁷ The Secretary-General also recommends considering a formalization of the relationship of PBC with international financial institutions (IFIs) and regional development banks.¹⁴⁸ This formalization would help to synchronize funding mechanisms with national objectives and to gather resources for peacebuilding

¹³³ Ibid. p. 17.

¹³⁴ United Nations, Peacebuilding. *Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund: 2020-2024 Strategy*. 2020. p. 4.

¹³⁵ Ibid.

¹³⁶ Ibid.

¹³⁷ United Nations, General Assembly. *Investing in prevention and peacebuilding (A/76/732)*. 2022. p. 11.

¹³⁸ United Nations, Peacebuilding. *Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund: 2020-2024 Strategy*. 2020. p. 13.

¹³⁹ Ibid.

¹⁴⁰ Wainaina-Maina et al. Center on International Cooperation. *The Secretary-General's Proposal for Assessed Contributions for the Peacebuilding Fund: An Explainer*. 2022.

¹⁴¹ United Nations, General Assembly et al. *Peacebuilding and sustaining peace (A/74/976-S/2020/773 (2020))*. 2020. p. 18; United Nations, Peacebuilding. *PBC Chair's remarks at the General Assembly debate on peacebuilding and sustaining peace*. 2023.

¹⁴² Wainaina-Maina et al. Center on International Cooperation. *The Secretary-General's Proposal for Assessed Contributions for the Peacebuilding Fund: An Explainer*. 2022.

¹⁴³ United Nations, Secretary-General. *Our Common Agenda*. 2021. p. 61.

¹⁴⁴ United Nations, General Assembly. *Financing for peacebuilding (A/RES/76/305)*. 2022; Mahmoud. International Peace Institute. *Financing for Peacebuilding: Beyond Money*. 2022.

¹⁴⁵ Ibid.

¹⁴⁶ United Nations, General Assembly. *Financing for peacebuilding (A/RES/76/305)*. 2022.

¹⁴⁷ United Nations, Secretary-General. *Our Common Agenda*. 2021. p. 61.

¹⁴⁸ Ibid. p. 32.



effectively.¹⁴⁹ Formalizing relationships with IFIs was also discussed by members of the PBC during the 2023 ministerial-level meeting on peacebuilding and sustaining peace.¹⁵⁰

In order to finance the proposed actions and shifts within *A New Agenda for Peace*, the Secretary-General recommends the creation of a mechanism within PBC to mobilize financial support.¹⁵¹ Closely related to the call to action on addressing the interlinkages between climate and security, the Secretary-General recommends addressing climate-related investment in a conflict context.¹⁵² Similarly, the Secretary-General also suggests dedicating resources within PBF for more risk-tolerant climate finance investments.¹⁵³

Conclusion

Conflicts and their root causes have become increasingly complex and increasingly challenging to resolve.¹⁵⁴ In light of the changing nature of conflicts and threats to peace, the Secretary-General introduced *A New Agenda for Peace* which addresses the future of multilateral security cooperation and lays the groundwork for the Summit of the Future in 2024.¹⁵⁵ PBC is a central actor in the achievement of *A New Agenda for Peace*, and the Secretary-General has requested that the international community strengthens the preventative and financial powers of the PBC.¹⁵⁶ *A New Agenda for Peace* underlines the importance of prevention as a priority for sustaining peace.¹⁵⁷ The recommendations center around addressing the root causes and drivers of insecurity; enhancing prevention at the national, regional, and international levels; and using multilateral approaches to peacebuilding and conflict prevention more effectively.¹⁵⁸ The Secretary-General also recommends expanding the role of PBC to address cross-cutting issues and support the implementation of national prevention strategies.¹⁵⁹ *A New Agenda for Peace* also calls for adequate and sustained financing for peacebuilding.¹⁶⁰ According to the Secretary-General, strengthening the capabilities and stability of the PBC and the PBF will be essential to implement *A New Agenda for Peace*, prevent conflict, and promote development.¹⁶¹

Further Research

As delegates conduct further research and consider how to address this topic, they should consider the following questions: How can the United Nations peacebuilding architecture be improved based on *A New Agenda for Peace*, and what commitments should be made at the upcoming Summit of the Future in 2024? How can PBC contribute to *A New Agenda for Peace*? How can the work of PBC evolve? How can PBC contribute to the paradigm shift towards conflict prevention? How can financing for *A New Agenda for Peace* be guaranteed?

¹⁴⁹ Ibid. p. 32.

¹⁵⁰ United Nations, Peacebuilding. *Meetings and Activities of the Peacebuilding Commission*. N.d.

¹⁵¹ United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. p. 32.

¹⁵² Ibid. p. 14.

¹⁵³ Ibid. p. 21.

¹⁵⁴ Ibid. p. 3.

¹⁵⁵ Gowan. International Crisis Group. *What's New about the UN's New Agenda for Peace?* 2023.

¹⁵⁶ United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. p. 32.

¹⁵⁷ Ibid. p. 11.

¹⁵⁸ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Launching New Agenda for Peace Policy Brief, Secretary-General Urges States to "Preserve Our Universal Institution" amid Highest Level of Geopolitical Tension in Decades*. 2023; United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. pp. 14, 19.

¹⁵⁹ United Nations, Secretary-General. *Our Common Agenda*. 2021. p. 61.

¹⁶⁰ United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. pp. 14, 19, 32; United Nations, General Assembly et al. *Peacebuilding and sustaining peace (A/74/976-S/2020/773 (2020))*. 2020. p. 18; United Nations, Peacebuilding. *PBC Chair's remarks at the General Assembly debate on peacebuilding and sustaining peace*. 2023.

¹⁶¹ United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023.



Bibliography

- African Union Commission. *Proposed African Union Commission Input to the United Nations' New Agenda for Peace*. N.d. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: https://dppa.un.org/sites/default/files/auc_submission_to_un_new_agenda_for_peace_final.pdf
- Böttcher et al. Center for International Peace Operations. *Give „P“ a Chance: Peacebuilding, Peace Operations and the HDP Nexus*. 2021. Retrieved 2 September 2023 from: https://www.zif-berlin.org/sites/zif-berlin.org/files/2022-02/ZIF_Studie_HDP_Nexus_EN.pdf
- Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation. *The Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace Agenda*. 2021. Retrieved 2 September 2023 from: https://www.universal-rights.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/URG_NYC_HRuf_report_final_web_page.pdf
- Damplo et al. Universal Rights Group. *Policy or aspiration: Shedding light on the current status of the UN's Human Rights Up Front initiative*. 2019. Retrieved 2 September 2023 from: <https://www.universal-rights.org/urg-policy-reports/policy-or-aspiration-shedding-light-on-the-current-status-of-the-uns-human-rights-up-front-initiative-2/>
- European Union. *European Union response to the UN Secretariat's request for input for the 'New Agenda for Peace'*. 2022. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: https://dppa.un.org/sites/default/files/european_union.pdf
- Gowan. International Crisis Group. *What's New about the UN's New Agenda for Peace?* 2023. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: <https://www.crisisgroup.org/global/whats-new-about-uns-new-agenda-peace>
- International Institute for Sustainable Development. *Summit of the Future*. 2023. Retrieved 2 September 2023 from: <https://sdg.iisd.org/events/summit-of-the-future/>
- Mahmoud. International Peace Institute. *Financing for Peacebuilding: Beyond Money*. 2022. Retrieved 13 September 2023 from: <https://theglobalobservatory.org/2022/10/financing-for-peacebuilding-beyond-money/>
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. *The Contribution of Human Rights to Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace*. N.d. Retrieved 2 September 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/1_ohchr_thematic_paper_on_the_contribution_of_hr_to_sp_and_recommendations.pdf
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. *Global Trends Report 2022*. 2023. Retrieved 2 September 2023 from: <https://www.unhcr.org/global-trends-report-2022>
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. *Inputs from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees: Policy brief on the New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: https://dppa.un.org/sites/default/files/230315_unhcr_statement_on_new_agenda_for_peace_final.pdf
- United Nations Conference on International Organization. *Charter of the United Nations*. 1945. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter>
- United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. *16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels*. N.d. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal16#targets_and_indicators



United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. *Contribution to A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: <https://dppa.un.org/sites/default/files/desa.pdf>

United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Our Common Agenda*. N.d. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/en/common-agenda>

United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *The Summit of the Future in 2024*. N.d. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/en/common-agenda/summit-of-the-future>

United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Launching New Agenda for Peace Policy Brief, Secretary-General Urges States to “Preserve Our Universal Institution” amid Highest Level of Geopolitical Tension in Decades*. 2023. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: <https://press.un.org/en/2023/sgsm21885.doc.htm>

United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Our Common Agenda - Policy Brief Overview*. 2023. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/our-common-agenda-policy-briefs-a-quick-summary.pdf>

United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *Sustainable Peace Cannot Be Built Where Rights of Women Are Ignored, Says Deputy Secretary-General at Security Council Open Debate*. 2023. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: <https://press.un.org/en/2023/dsgsm1825.doc.htm>

United Nations Department of Political Affairs. *United Nations Conflict Prevention and Preventive Diplomacy in Action*. N.d. Retrieved 13 September 2023 from: https://dppa.un.org/sites/default/files/booklet_200618_fin_scrn.pdf

United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: <https://dppa.un.org/en/a-new-agenda-for-peace>

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. *Inputs into the New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: https://dppa.un.org/sites/default/files/un_women.pdf

United Nations, General Assembly. *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/RES/217 A (III))*. 1948. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/>

United Nations, General Assembly. *Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace (A/RES/39/11)*. 1984. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/RES/39/11>

United Nations, General Assembly. *2005 World Summit Outcome (A/RES/60/1)*. 2005. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/RES/60/1>

United Nations, General Assembly. *In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all (A/59/2005)*. 2005. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/59/2005>

United Nations, General Assembly. *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. 2015. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/RES/70/1>

United Nations, General Assembly. *Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture (A/RES/70/262)*. 2016. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/RES/70/262>

United Nations, General Assembly. *Declaration on the commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations (A/RES/75/1)*. 2020. Retrieved 6 August 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/RES/75/1>

United Nations, General Assembly et al. *Peacebuilding and sustaining peace (A/74/976-S/2020/773 (2020))*. 2020. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/74/976>



United Nations, General Assembly. *Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture (A/RES/75/201)*. 2020. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/RES/75/201>

United Nations, General Assembly. *Follow-up to the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Our Common Agenda" (A/RES/76/6)*. 2021. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/RES/76/6>

United Nations, General Assembly. *Financing for peacebuilding (A/RES/76/305)*. 2022. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/RES/76/305>

United Nations, General Assembly. *Investing in prevention and peacebuilding (A/76/732)*. 2022. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/76/732>

United Nations, Peacebuilding. *About the Commission*. N.d. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/about-the-commission>

United Nations, Peacebuilding. *Meetings and Activities of the Peacebuilding Commission*. N.d. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/meetings-and-activities-peacebuilding-commission>

United Nations, Peacebuilding. *The Peacebuilding Fund*. N.d. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/fund>

United Nations, Peacebuilding. *Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund: 2020-2024 Strategy*. 2020. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/pbf_strategy_2020-2024_final.pdf

United Nations, Peacebuilding. *PBC Chair's remarks at the General Assembly debate on peacebuilding and sustaining peace*. 2023. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/pbc_chairs_remarks_at_ga_debate_24_july_-_approved.pdf

United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Peacebuilding Commission's Gender Strategy*. 2016. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/07092016-_pbc_gender_strategy_final_1.pdf

United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Ambassadorial-Level Meeting on Peacebuilding in A New Agenda for Peace: Chair's summary*. 2023. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/230130_chairs_summary_pbc_new_agenda_for_peace_final_0.pdf

United Nations Peacekeeping. *Our History*. N.d. Retrieved 13 September 2023 from: <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/our-history>

United Nations, Secretary-General. *An agenda for peace: preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping*. 1992. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/145749?ln=fr>

United Nations, Secretary-General. *The Highest Aspiration: A Call to Action for Human Rights*. 2020. Retrieved 13 September 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/2020_sg_call_to_action_for_hr_the_highest_aspiration.pdf

United Nations, Secretary-General. *Our Common Agenda*. 2021. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: https://www.un.org/en/content/common-agenda-report/assets/pdf/Common_Agenda_Report_English.pdf



United Nations, Secretary-General. *Vision Statement by Antonio Guterres: Restoring Trust and Inspiring Hope*. 2021. Retrieved 13 September 2023 from: https://www.un.org/sg/sites/www.un.org.sg/files/atoms/files/guterres_VisionStatement_2021.pdf

United Nations, Secretary-General. *A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/our-common-agenda-policy-brief-new-agenda-for-peace-en.pdf>

United Nations, Security Council. *Post-conflict peacebuilding (S/RES/2282(2016))*. 2016. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: [http://undocs.org/en/S/RES/2282\(2016\)](http://undocs.org/en/S/RES/2282(2016))

United Nations, Security Council. *Peacebuilding and sustaining peace (S/RES/2558(2020))*. 2020. Retrieved 22 October 2023 from: [http://undocs.org/en/S/RES/2558\(2020\)](http://undocs.org/en/S/RES/2558(2020))

Wainaina-Maina et al. Center on International Cooperation. *The Secretary-General's Proposal for Assessed Contributions for the Peacebuilding Fund: An Explainer*. 2022. Retrieved 2 September 2023 from: <https://cic.nyu.edu/resources/the-secretary-generals-proposal-for-assessed-contributions-for-the-peacebuilding-fund-an-explainer>

World Bank et al. *Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Conflict*. 2018. Retrieved 13 September 2023 from: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/fragilityconflictviolence/publication/pathways-for-peace-inclusive-approaches-to-preventing-violent-conflict>



2. United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel

Introduction

The Sahel region in Africa encompasses the entirety of the southern portion of North Africa from the Atlantic Ocean to the Red Sea.¹⁶² The region includes all or part of Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Algeria, Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Sudan, South Sudan, Eritrea and Ethiopia.¹⁶³ While the Sahel can be identified as a region with numerous rich and complex cultures and countries, it is also characterized by common security, development, humanitarian, and environmental issues.¹⁶⁴

The countries in the Sahel region have long struggled with a range of challenges, including armed conflicts, terrorism, political instability, poverty, food insecurity, and the adverse effects of climate change.¹⁶⁵ Women in the Sahel region are vastly under-represented in government positions, with only 20% of ministerial posts in Sahel countries being led by women despite evidence that women in leadership positions and peace processes lead to a longer-lasting and more durable peace.¹⁶⁶ Similarly, a lack of climate security, which refers to the ways in which climate change can impact peace and security, also inhibits peacebuilding initiatives in the Sahel.¹⁶⁷ These challenges are reflected in the *United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel* (UNISS), which seeks to ensure coherence in and coordination between humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding efforts at the regional level.¹⁶⁸

UNISS is a comprehensive and multidimensional framework aimed at addressing issues faced by countries in the Sahel.¹⁶⁹ The UNISS, developed in 2013 by the United Nations Special Envoy for the Sahel, seeks to address the region's challenges in an interagency manner.¹⁷⁰ The UNISS was established to break the cycle of conflicts and struggles by promoting collaboration between different United Nations agencies, regional organizations, and governments to achieve peace and stability in the region.¹⁷¹ The framework seeks to advance regional peace and security and is built on thematic pillars: governance, resilience, and security.¹⁷² These three pillars are further broken into 18 objectives and more than 80 indicative actions, ranging from enhancing the participation of women in political processes to climate change adaptation.¹⁷³ While the implementation of the UNISS lies mostly with United Nations specialized agencies, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) has used its platform to address the UNISS and the Sahel region as part of its agenda since 2017.¹⁷⁴

¹⁶² United Nations, Africa Renewal. *The Sahel: Land of Opportunities*. N.d.

¹⁶³ Ibid.

¹⁶⁴ United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *West Africa, Sahel Requires Tangible, Long-Term Support to Eliminate Terrorism, Address Humanitarian Crisis, Special Representative Tells Security Council (SC/15365)*. 2023.

¹⁶⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶⁶ Alliance Sahel. *Investing in Women in the Sahel Creates a Positive Multidimensional Impact on Society as a Whole*. 2023; Council on Foreign Relations. *Women's Participation in Peace Processes*. 2023.

¹⁶⁷ Gaston et al. United Nations University Center for Policy Research. *Climate Security and Peacebuilding: Thematic Review*. 2023. p. 7.

¹⁶⁸ United Nations Development Programme. *Humanitarian, Peace and Development Nexus*. 2023.

¹⁶⁹ United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel. *Implementation of the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel*. 2023.

¹⁷⁰ Ibid.

¹⁷¹ Ibid.

¹⁷² United Nations, Office of Special Coordinator for development in the Sahel. *UNISS*. 2021.

¹⁷³ United Nations, Security Council. *Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Sahel region (S/2013/354)*. 2013.

¹⁷⁴ United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *Joint Meeting of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC): The Situation in the Sahel*. 2017.



International and Regional Framework

The maintenance of peace and security is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations established by Article 1 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945).¹⁷⁵ It established that the United Nations should work to ensure peace through effective measures aimed at preventing war and conflict.¹⁷⁶ Conflict prevention is also the overarching goal of the UNISS, which builds on the long history of peacebuilding frameworks developed within the United Nations system.¹⁷⁷ In 1992, the then United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali presented *An Agenda for Peace: Preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping* to the Security Council, in which he laid out the foundation for United Nations peacebuilding activities.¹⁷⁸ Building on the *Agenda for Peace*, the *Report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations*, regularly referred to as the *Brahimi Report*, provided an independent analysis of the United Nations' peace and security architecture.¹⁷⁹ The *Brahimi Report* recommended that the Secretary-General set out plans for improved development and implementation of peacebuilding strategies and programs.¹⁸⁰ The report further suggested that peacebuilding strategies should engage with local parties in a multidimensional nature.¹⁸¹

As a comprehensive strategy built on three multidimensional pillars, UNISS is underpinned by the *United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel* (2018).¹⁸² The Support Plan provided an updated framework to the UNISS centered around six priority areas: cross-border cooperation; prevention and sustaining peace; inclusive growth; climate action; renewable energy; and women and youth empowerment.¹⁸³ The objective of the Support Plan is to integrate the work on the implementation of the UNISS into the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2015) and the African Union's *Agenda 2063* (2013).¹⁸⁴

Adopted in General Assembly resolution 70/1, the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aimed at addressing a range of global challenges and promoting a more inclusive world by the year 2030.¹⁸⁵ UNISS has close links with several SDGs, including SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 13 (climate action), and SDG 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions).¹⁸⁶ SDG 13 in particular is underpinned by the *Paris Agreement* (2015) and subsequent outcomes of the conferences of the parties to the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (1992).¹⁸⁷ Like the 2030 Agenda, the *Agenda 2063* establishes common goals for African Member States and promotes inclusive social and economic development and democratic governance.¹⁸⁸

¹⁷⁵ United Nations Conference on International Organization. *Charter of the United Nations*. 1945.

¹⁷⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷⁷ United Nations, Office of Special Coordinator for development in the Sahel. *Governance*. 2021.

¹⁷⁸ United Nations, Security Council. *An Agenda for Peace: Preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping (S/24111)*. 1992. p. 16.

¹⁷⁹ United Nations, Security Council. *Report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (S/2000/809)*. 2000.

¹⁸⁰ Ibid. p. ix.

¹⁸¹ Ibid. 7.

¹⁸² United Nations, Office of Special Coordinator for development in the Sahel. *United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel: Working together for a prosperous and peaceful Sahel*. 2018. p.8

¹⁸³ Ibid. p. 12.

¹⁸⁴ Ibid. p. 4.

¹⁸⁵ United Nations, General Assembly. *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. 2015. p. 14.

¹⁸⁶ United Nations, Office of Special Coordinator for development in the Sahel. *United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel: Working together for a prosperous and peaceful Sahel*. 2018. p.8.

¹⁸⁷ Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. *Paris Agreement*. 2015.

¹⁸⁸ African Union Commission. *Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want*. 2015.



The women, peace and security (WPS) agenda is also a central component of the UNISS and its Support Plan.¹⁸⁹ In 2000, Security Council resolution 1325 on “Women and peace and security” established the importance of the empowerment of women in the context of United Nations peacebuilding efforts.¹⁹⁰ It also highlighted women’s contribution to conflict resolution and sustainable peace.¹⁹¹ Since then, the series of Security Council resolutions on WPS has repeatedly emphasized the importance of the participation of women in peacebuilding.¹⁹²

WPS is also central to the most recent update to the *Agenda for Peace*.¹⁹³ In 2023, more than 30 years after the original *Agenda for Peace*, the Secretary-General put forward *A New Agenda for Peace*.¹⁹⁴ The New Agenda for Peace outlined an updated framework for the peacebuilding architecture within the United Nations system and included calls to tear down patriarchal power structures.¹⁹⁵ It provides five recommendations with 12 actions that range from addressing the underlying drivers of violence and insecurity to supporting African Union and subregional peace support operations.¹⁹⁶ In this context, the *New Agenda for Peace* also called for action to address the interlinkages between climate and peace and security.¹⁹⁷ While the impact of the New Agenda is still emerging, the Peacebuilding Commission, at its ministerial meeting in September 2023, considered the *New Agenda for Peace* as a foundation for further discussion on national ownership in peacebuilding efforts.¹⁹⁸

Role of the International System

As an intergovernmental platform to discuss peacebuilding and peace efforts, PBC regularly addresses the UNISS.¹⁹⁹ At the 2017 joint meeting of PBC and the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), Member States called for approaches to address the region-wide challenges to foster stability, build resilience among communities, and enhance economic opportunities.²⁰⁰ Since then, the Sahel region has been the theme of PBC’s Annual Session twice: in 2018 when PBC discussed “Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace in the Sahel Region” and again in 2019 with the Annual Session on “Regional Approaches to Peacebuilding: The Sahel, Lake Chad Basin, and the Mano River Union.”²⁰¹ The engagement of PBC in the Sahel in 2022 mainly focused on addressing peacebuilding challenges for the Member States affected by Boko Haram as well as programs focused on regional stabilization, recovery, and resilience strategies for the Lake Chad Basin.²⁰² In January 2023, PBC reaffirmed its commitments to

¹⁸⁹ United Nations Environment Programme et al. *Gender, climate and security: Sustaining inclusive peace on the frontlines of climate change*. 2020. p. 10.

¹⁹⁰ United Nations, Security Council. *Women and peace and security (S/RES/1325 (2000))*. 2000.

¹⁹¹ United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *Women, Peace and Security*. N.d.

¹⁹² United Nations, Security Council. *Women and peace and security (S/RES/2493 (2019))*. 2019. p. 2.

¹⁹³ United Nations, Secretary-General. *Our Common Agenda Policy Brief 9: A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. p. 35.

¹⁹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁹⁵ Ibid. p. 7.

¹⁹⁶ Ibid. 15.

¹⁹⁷ Ibid. 21.

¹⁹⁸ United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Statement by the Peacebuilding Commission: New York, 22 September 2023*. 2023.

¹⁹⁹ United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *Peacebuilding Commission Support Branch*. N.d.

²⁰⁰ United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *Joint Meeting of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC): The Situation in the Sahel*. 2017. p. 4.

²⁰¹ United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *Peacebuilding Commission Annual Session*. N.d.; United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *The Peacebuilding Commission Annual Session: “Financing for peacebuilding”*. 2021. p. 2.

²⁰² United Nations, Security Council. *Report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its sixteenth session (S/2023/86)*. 2023. p. 7.



the Sahel region and noted its concern regarding the recent unconstitutional changes of government in the region but applauded the success of legislative elections in Senegal in 2022.²⁰³

The Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) is PBC's financial instrument that provides funding to peacebuilding projects in Member States at risk of or affected by violent conflict.²⁰⁴ PBF was established to fill gaps in funding and support, respond to peacebuilding needs, and provide resources in high-risk situations.²⁰⁵ PBF provides financial support to projects of United Nations entities, governments, regional organizations, and civil society organizations in partnership with multilateral banks, national trust funds, and other bodies.²⁰⁶ Between 2006 and 2021, PBF provided 65 countries with nearly \$1.67 billion US dollars in funding.²⁰⁷ In 2020, a total of \$257.1 million US dollars was approved by PBF for use in the Sahel region.²⁰⁸ The following year, 35% of PBF's financial disbursements were allocated to the Sahel.²⁰⁹

Established in 2005, the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) supports PBC in preparing its meetings and Annual Sessions and also manages the PBF.²¹⁰ PBSO is hosted by the United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), which assesses global developments to detect and address potential political and societal conflicts.²¹¹ DPPA also hosts the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), a political mission based in Dakar, Senegal.²¹² UNOWAS, formally known as the United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA), was created following the merging of UNOWA and the Secretary General's Office of the Special Envoy for the Sahel in 2016.²¹³ In the UNISS, UNOWAS plays a central role in coordinating efforts towards sustainable peace in the Sahel region alongside the Office of Special Co-ordinator for Development in the Sahel.²¹⁴ UNOWAS often collaborates with United Nations agencies, such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and other regional bodies, including the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).²¹⁵ UNDP in particular is the leading specialized agency on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, with one of its focus areas being democratic governance and peacebuilding.²¹⁶

Among the regional bodies is the African Union (AU), an intergovernmental organization established in 2002 to promote peace, security, and democratic principles and institutions within its 55 Member States on the African continent.²¹⁷ Within the AU system, the Peace and Security Council, like its United Nations counterpart, is the main organ responsible for conflict prevention and peacebuilding.²¹⁸ The Peace and Security Council can deploy the African Standby Force (ASF) to act on its behalf and intervene in a

²⁰³ United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Written Submission of the Peacebuilding Commission to the Security Council on West Africa and the Sahel: 6 January 2023*. 2023. pp. 1-3.

²⁰⁴ United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *The Peacebuilding Fund*. 2023.

²⁰⁵ Ibid.

²⁰⁶ Ibid.

²⁰⁷ Ibid.

²⁰⁸ United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *The Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund: The Sahel*. 2020.

²⁰⁹ United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Peacebuilding Commission Ambassadorial-level meeting on the Sahel: Chair's Summary*. 2023. p. 4.

²¹⁰ United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *About Us*. N.d.

²¹¹ Ibid.

²¹² United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel. *UNOWAS Mandate*. 2023.

²¹³ United Nations, Security Council. *Letter dated 14 January 2016 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2016/88)*. 2016. p. 1.

²¹⁴ United Nations, Security Council. *Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Sahel region (S/2013/354)*. 2013.

²¹⁵ United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel. *UNOWAS Mandate*. 2023; Amu. UNDP Oslo Governance Centre. *Addressing climate change-related security risks: The experience of a regional special political mission*. 2020. p. 3.

²¹⁶ United Nations Development Programme. *About Us*. 2023.

²¹⁷ African Union Commission. *Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want*. 2015.

²¹⁸ African Union Commission. *The Peace & Security Council*. N.d.



Member State under grave circumstances, such as genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity.²¹⁹ ASF is composed of military, police, and civilian personnel with the ability to be deployed to both active circumstances as well as in an effort to prevent conflicts from escalating or spreading.²²⁰ The ASF also works in a peacebuilding capacity, which can include post-conflict disarmament and demobilization.²²¹

The African Union Development Agency (AUDA), also referred to as the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), is an AU program that focuses on socio-economic and political factors that can contribute to national and regional instability.²²² NEPAD is responsible for post-conflict reconstruction and mobilizes resources provided by the AU's Peace Fund.²²³ In Mali, for example, NEPAD has funded projects focused on women's inclusion in society, participation in local governance, and the reduction of gender inequalities.²²⁴ In its post-conflict reconstruction work in particular, NEPAD also applies a nexus approach that combines peace, security, and development.²²⁵

Promoting Gender Equality in Peacebuilding and the Implementation of the UNISS

Gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment are an integral part of the UNISS and its United Nations Support Plan.²²⁶ For example, Objective 1.1 of the UNISS calls for the fostering of active and meaningful participation of women and girls in the political life of their countries through partnerships with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and UNDP.²²⁷ Objective 1.7 of the UNISS calls for the support of women and gender experts in peacekeeping processes, such as negotiations of peace agreements and national reconciliation efforts.²²⁸ Similarly, the *United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel* integrates gender equality into two of its priority areas: inclusive growth and women and youth empowerment.²²⁹ Overall, the UNISS and its Support Plan highlight the need to empower women and girls to take an active role in both society and politics in the countries in the Sahel.²³⁰

In recent years, PBC has worked to integrate a gender-responsive approach into its work on conflict and peacebuilding.²³¹ Gender-responsiveness refers to approaches in conflict prevention and peacebuilding that aim to reduce gender inequalities in a community or region.²³² As part of its efforts, PBC adopted a gender strategy in 2016 with the objective of better engaging on gender-related issues in peacebuilding by ensuring that women's perspectives and needs are taken into account.²³³ The strategy takes into account how conflicts affect people not only based on gender, but also age, sex, or ethnicity and how

²¹⁹ African Union Commission. *The African Standby Force (ASF)*. 2019.

²²⁰ Ibid.

²²¹ Ibid.

²²² Khadiagala. The State of Peacebuilding in Africa. *The African Union in Peacebuilding in Africa*. 2021. p. 202.

²²³ Ibid.

²²⁴ African Union Development Agency. *NEPAD / Spanish Fund for African Women's Empowerment*. 2023.

²²⁵ African Union Development Agency. AUDA-NEPAD's quest for a holistic approach to post conflict reconstruction and development. 2023.

²²⁶ United Nations, Security Council. Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Sahel region (S/2013/354). 2013. p. 14.

²²⁷ Ibid.

²²⁸ Ibid. p. 17.

²²⁹ United Nations, Office of Special Coordinator for development in the Sahel. *United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel: Working together for a prosperous and peaceful Sahel*. 2018. p. 14.

²³⁰ United Nations, Security Council. *Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Sahel region (S/2013/354)*. 2013. p. 14.

²³¹ United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Peacebuilding Commission's Gender Strategy*. 2020. p. 1.

²³² United Nations Children's Fund et al. *Gender responsive and/or transformative approaches: Joint Evaluation of the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation: Accelerating Change Phase III (2018-2021)*. 2021. p. 2.

²³³ United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Peacebuilding Commission's Gender Strategy*. 2020. p. 1.



these categories may affect recovery efforts.²³⁴ PBC's Gender Strategy also promotes gender mainstreaming, which refers to the assessment of any implications of policies on gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment.²³⁵

In the context of the Sahel region, the implementation of PBC's Gender Strategy led to more representation of and engagement with women peacebuilders in high-level meetings and briefings to PBC.²³⁶ For example, in 2021, PBC regularly invited women peacebuilders to brief Member States on the progress towards implementing the UNISS in their countries, in particular on the positive contribution of the UNISS towards women's and girls' empowerment.²³⁷ However, gender issues are still highly prevalent in the region and the ability of women, especially young women, to meaningfully participate in governance is often inhibited by restrictive local norms and attitudes, including from their families and communities.²³⁸

On the project side, PBF has successfully mainstreamed gender-sensitive programming throughout the projects it funds.²³⁹ According to an independent review of the fund's activities between 2020 and 2022, 107 out of 142 projects funded by PBF were at least strongly gender mainstreamed.²⁴⁰ While PBF provided a record amount of funding to gender mainstreaming projects, funding towards the empowerment of women and girls in peacebuilding in the Sahel region remains low.²⁴¹ An analysis of general funding trends for UNISS projects revealed that only 4% of the funding that was disbursed by United Nations agencies in the Sahel in 2020 targeted the empowerment of women.²⁴² Additionally, PBF has also been criticized for giving limited attention to other marginalized groups, including LGBTQIA+ people.²⁴³ In 2020, only 3 PBF projects targeted the inclusion of LGBTQIA+ people in peacebuilding activities, none of which were in the Sahel.²⁴⁴

Climate Security and Peacebuilding in the Sahel

Projections indicate that the Sahel region will experience a rise in temperature between 2 and 4.3 °C by 2080.²⁴⁵ The climate crisis will likely have a significant adverse impact on the crops found in the region, such as maize, millets, and sorghum, increasing the risk of political violence due to the region's reliance on agriculture.²⁴⁶ More specifically, the overreliance on agriculture-based jobs raises the risk of violence and disapproval towards the governing authorities in the countries that are severely affected by climate change.²⁴⁷ The availability of water per capita is also projected to further decline in the region, which can further disrupt the ability of its population to exist peaceably.²⁴⁸ Poor economic and living conditions can

²³⁴ Ibid.

²³⁵ Ibid.

²³⁶ United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *Implementation of the PBC's Gender Strategy and Action Plan*. 2021. p. 5.

²³⁷ Ibid.

²³⁸ Plan International et al. *Adolescent Girls in Crisis: Voices from the Sahel*. 2020. p. 1.

²³⁹ Nimaga et al. *UN Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund Strategy 2020-2024: Mid-Term Review*. 2023. p. 21.

²⁴⁰ Ibid; United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *PBF Guidance Note on Gender Marker Scoring*. 2019. p. 3 f.

²⁴¹ United Nations, Office of the Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel. *Rapid Assessment of UN investments in the Sahel (2016 - 2020): Reflections on UN and partner investments in the region*. 2021. p. 71.

²⁴² Ibid.

²⁴³ Nimaga et al. *UN Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund Strategy 2020-2024: Mid-Term Review*. 2023. p. 22.

²⁴⁴ Ibid.

²⁴⁵ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees et al. *Climate Risk Profile: Sahel*. 2023. p. 1.

²⁴⁶ Council on Foreign Relations. *Climate Change and Conflict in the Sahel*. 2022.

²⁴⁷ Ibid.

²⁴⁸ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees et al. *Climate Risk Profile: Sahel*. 2023. p. 1.



exacerbate resentment and bolster the terrorist groups already operating in the region, including Boko Haram and Islamic State.²⁴⁹

The third objective of the UNISS is entirely dedicated to promoting long-term resilience by improving climate security and peacebuilding.²⁵⁰ In particular, Objective 3.5 of the UNISS aims to promote programs and projects on climate change adaptation and mitigation in the Sahel region.²⁵¹ Likewise, the *United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel* prioritizes climate action and seeks to ensure humanitarian and developmental efforts allow for climate change adaptation and conditions suitable for peace.²⁵² While climate action is thoroughly mainstreamed into the larger strategic frameworks for the Sahel region, the extent to which those frameworks are fulfilled is varied.²⁵³

PBC regularly addresses concerns about the adverse effects of the climate crisis in the Sahel region.²⁵⁴ In 2022, several of its high-level meetings centered around climate change and peacebuilding, with one meeting in particular discussing the challenges countries in the Sahel region face at the nexus between development and peace.²⁵⁵ In its advice for the Security Council meeting on “Peace consolidation in West Africa” in July 2023, PBC encouraged the Security Council to continue to call for measures to address the effects of the climate crisis on the Western Sahel region and also called for more support to peacebuilding initiatives in the region.²⁵⁶

On the project side, an evaluation of PBF’s work in Sahel countries, which was conducted by the United Nations University Center for Policy Research and its partners, found that PBF’s crossborder programming in the region is well suited to address the adverse effects of climate change and thereby help achieve the objectives of the UNISS.²⁵⁷ Between 2016 and 2021, more than 63% of all PBF-funded projects focusing on climate security were in the Sahel region.²⁵⁸ Nonetheless, the evaluation recommends that PBF focus more on impact by prioritizing investing in the most populous countries in the Sahel region.²⁵⁹ However, while peacebuilding projects receive an adequate amount of funding to address climate security-related challenges, the larger picture for funding and political support for climate adaptation and mitigation remains insufficient.²⁶⁰ As the climate crisis continues to impact human security, conflicts are more likely to occur in a drought-prone region such as the Sahel and the international community regularly assesses how to implement comprehensive approaches that address the region’s humanitarian, developmental, and peacebuilding situation.²⁶¹

²⁴⁹ Center for Preventive Action. Council on Foreign Relations. *Violent Extremism in the Sahel*. 2023.

²⁵⁰ United Nations, Office of Special Coordinator for development in the Sahel. *United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel: Working together for a prosperous and peaceful Sahel*. 2018.

²⁵¹ United Nations, Security Council. *Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Sahel region (S/2013/354)*. 2013.

²⁵² United Nations, Office of Special Coordinator for development in the Sahel. *United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel: Working together for a prosperous and peaceful Sahel*. 2018.

²⁵³ Ibid.

²⁵⁴ Gaston et al. United Nations University Center for Policy Research. *Climate Security and Peacebuilding: Thematic Review*. 2023. p. 57; United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Peacebuilding Commission advice to the Security Council on West Africa and the Sahel: 25 July 2023*. 2023.

²⁵⁵ Ibid.

²⁵⁶ Ibid.

²⁵⁷ Gaston et al. United Nations University Center for Policy Research. *Climate Security and Peacebuilding: Thematic Review*. 2023. p. 15.

²⁵⁸ Ibid.

²⁵⁹ Ibid. p. 16.

²⁶⁰ Blaine. United States Institute of Peace. *The Peacebuilding Implications of the Latest U.N. Climate Report*. 2022.

²⁶¹ Ibid.



Conclusion

The UNISS and its Support Plan provide the framework for the United Nations system to tackle the root causes and drivers of instability in the Sahel region.²⁶² Countries in the Sahel are affected by environmental, political, and security-related concerns and conflicts, which the UNISS framework seeks to address in a coordinated and comprehensive way.²⁶³ The international community continues to assess how best to assist the Sahel region in implementing strong security measures and adapting to climate change to build a climate for peace.²⁶⁴ As the foremost intergovernmental advisory platform for discussions on peacebuilding issues, PBC continues to explore approaches to peacebuilding and transformative programs in the Sahel.²⁶⁵

Further Research

As delegates conduct further research on this topic, they should consider the following: Aside from the ongoing climate crisis and the persistent gender inequalities in the Sahel region, what other challenges exist that hamper the implementation of the UNISS? What is the role of civil society in the implementation of the UNISS? Since PBC is not an implementing body, how can it galvanize support for the UNISS? Is the funding for peacebuilding activities in the Sahel region sufficient?

²⁶² United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Ambassadorial-Level Meeting of the Peacebuilding Commission on the Sahel region and the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel: Chair's Summary*. 2021. p. 3.

²⁶³ United Nations, Africa Renewal. *The Sahel: Land of Opportunities*. N.d.

²⁶⁴ United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Peacebuilding Commission advice to the Security Council on West Africa and the Sahel: 25 July 2023*. 2023. p. 2.

²⁶⁵ United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Peacebuilding Commission Ambassadorial-level meeting on the Sahel: Chair's Summary*. 2023. p. 4.



Bibliography

- African Union Commission. *The Peace & Security Council*. N.d. Retrieved 2 November 2023 from: <https://au.int/en/psc>
- African Union Commission. *Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want*. 2015. Retrieved 5 November 2023 from: https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/36204-doc-agenda2063_popular_version_en.pdf
- African Union Commission. *The African Standby Force (ASF)*. 2019. Retrieved 14 September 2023 from: <https://www.peaceau.org/en/page/82-african-standby-force-asf-amani-africa-1>
- African Union Development Agency. *NEPAD / Spanish Fund for African Women's Empowerment*. 2022. Retrieved 5 November 2023 from: <https://www.nepad.org/overview/nepad-spanish-fund-african-womens-empowerment>
- African Union Development Agency. *AUDA-NEPAD's quest for a holistic approach to post conflict reconstruction and development*. 2023. Retrieved 2 November 2023 from: <https://www.nepad.org/news/auda-nepads-quest-holistic-approach-post-conflict-reconstruction-and-development>
- Alliance Sahel. *Investing in Women in the Sahel Creates a Positive Multidimensional Impact on Society as a Whole*. 2023. Retrieved 12 October 2023 from: <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/news/gender-equality-sahel-interview-aissatou-aisa-dosso/>
- Amu. UNDP Oslo Governance Centre. *Addressing climate change–related security risks: The experience of a regional special political mission*. 2020. Retrieved 14 September 2023 from: https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/migration/oslo_governance_centre/3997d7381d0e3a90b20f4113b189114de7db009e2cc2343218844c35dbae0f.pdf
- Blaine. United States Institute of Peace. *The Peacebuilding Implications of the Latest U.N. Climate Report*. 2022. Retrieved 4 November 2023 from: <https://www.usip.org/publications/2022/03/peacebuilding-implications-latest-un-climate-report>
- Center for Preventive Action. Council on Foreign Relations. *Violent Extremism in the Sahel*. 2023. Retrieved 17 August 2023 from: <https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/violent-extremism-sahel>
- Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. *Paris Agreement*. 2015. Retrieved 13 October 2023 from: http://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf
- Council on Foreign Relations. *Climate Change and Conflict in the Sahel*. 2022. Retrieved 13 October 2023 from: <https://www.cfr.org/report/climate-change-and-conflict-sahel>
- Council on Foreign Relations. *Women's Participation in Peace Processes*. 2023. Retrieved 1 November 2023 from: <https://www.cfr.org/womens-participation-in-peace-processes/>
- Gaston et al. United Nations University Center for Policy Research. *Climate Security and Peacebuilding: Thematic Review*. 2023. Retrieved 4 November 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/climate_security_tr_w_e_b_final_april10.pdf
- Khadiagala. *The State of Peacekeeping in Africa. The African Union in Peacebuilding in Africa*. Retrieved 10 October 2023 from: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-46636-7_12



Nimaga et al. *UN Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund Strategy 2020-2024: Mid-Term Review*. 2023. Retrieved 3 November 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/20230201_mtr_report_final_1.pdf

Plan International et al. *Adolescent Girls in Crisis: Voices from the Sahel*. 2020. Retrieved 2 November 2023 from: https://plan-international.org/uploads/2021/12/adolescent_girls_in_crisis-voices_from_the_sahel_eng_0321.pdf

United Nations, Africa Renewal. *The Sahel: Land of Opportunities*. N.d. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/sahel>

United Nations Children's Fund et al. *Gender responsive and/or transformative approaches: Joint Evaluation of the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation: Accelerating Change Phase III (2018-2021)*. 2021. Retrieved 2 November 2023 from: https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/admin-resource/thematic%20note%201_gender_final.pdf

United Nations Conference on International Organization. *Charter of the United Nations*. 1945. Retrieved 6 August 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-1>

United Nations, Department of Global Communications. *West Africa, Sahel Requires Tangible, Long-Term Support to Eliminate Terrorism, Address Humanitarian Crisis, Special Representative Tells Security Council (SC/15365)*. 2023. Retrieved 15 September 2023 from: <https://press.un.org/en/2023/sc15365.doc.htm>

United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *About Us*. N.d. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: <https://dppa.un.org/en/about-us>

United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *Peacebuilding Commission Annual Session*. N.d. Retrieved 5 November 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/commission/annual-session>

United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *Peacebuilding Commission Support Branch*. N.d. Retrieved 1 November 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/commission>

United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *The Peacebuilding Fund*. N.d. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: <https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/fund>

United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *Women, Peace and Security*. N.d. Retrieved 6 August from: <https://dppa.un.org/en/women-peace-and-security>

United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *Joint Meeting of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC): The Situation in the Sahel*. 2017. Retrieved 12 October 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/ecosoc-pbc-joint-meeting-summary_28_june_2017.pdf

United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *PBF Guidance Note on Gender Marker Scoring*. 2019. Retrieved 3 November 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/pbf_guidance_note_on_gender_marker_scoring_2019.pdf

United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *The Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund: The Sahel*. 2020. Retrieved 14 September 2023 from:



https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/country_brief_the_sahel.pdf

United Nations, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. *Implementation of the PBC's Gender Strategy and Action Plan*. 2021. Retrieved 2 November 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/2021_pbc_gender_strategy_and_action_plan_written_update_0.pdf

United Nations Development Programme. *About Us*. 2023. Retrieved 14 September 2023 from: <https://www.undp.org/about-us>

United Nations Development Programme. *Humanitarian, Peace and Development Nexus*. 2023. Retrieved 17 September 2023 from: <https://www.undp.org/crisis/humanitarian-development-and-peace-nexus>

United Nations Environment Programme et al. *Gender, climate and security: Sustaining inclusive peace on the frontlines of climate change*. 2020. Retrieved 23 September 2023 from: <https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/Headquarters/Attachments/Sections/Library/Publications/2020/Gender-climate-and-security-en.pdf>

United Nations, General Assembly. *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. 2015. Retrieved 22 September 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/A/RES/70/1>

United Nations High Commission for Refugees et al. *Climate Risk Profile: Sahel*. 2023. Retrieved 6 August 2023 from: <https://www.unhcr.org/media/representative-concentration-pathways-climate-risk-profile-sahel-region>

United Nations, Office for West Africa and the Sahel. *Implementation of the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel*. 2023. Retrieved 6 August from: <https://unowas.unmissions.org/implementation-united-nations-integrated-strategy-sahel>

United Nations, Office for West Africa and the Sahel. *UNOWAS Mandate*. 2023. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: <https://unowas.unmissions.org/unowas-mandate>

United Nations, Office of Special Coordinator for development in the Sahel. *United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel: Working together for a prosperous and peaceful Sahel*. 2018. Retrieved 4 November 2023 from: <https://unis-sahel.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/UNSP-EN.pdf>

United Nations, Office of Special Coordinator for development in the Sahel. *Governance*. 2021. Retrieved 5 November 2023 from: <https://unis-sahel.org/governance/>

United Nation, Office of the Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel. *Rapid Assessment of UN investments in the Sahel (2016 - 2020): Reflections on UN and partner investments in the region*. 2021. Retrieved 4 November 2023 from: https://unis-sahel.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Rapid-assessment-report_8.10.21.pdf

United Nations, Office of Special Coordinator for development in the Sahel. *UNISS*. 2021. Retrieved 12 October 2023 from: <https://unis-sahel.org/uniss-2/>

United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Peacebuilding Commission's Gender Strategy*. 2016. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/07092016-_pbc_gender_strategy_final_1.pdf

United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Ambassadorial-Level Meeting of the Peacebuilding Commission on the Sahel region and the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel: Chair's*



Summary. 2021. Retrieved 14 September 2023 from:

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/chairs_summary_pbc_meeting_on_sahel_and_uniss_28_april_2021.pdf

United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *The Peacebuilding Commission Annual Session: "Financing for peacebuilding"*. 2021. Retrieved 13 October 2023 from:

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/211203_chairs_summary_pbc_annual_session_financing_for_peacebuilding.pdf

United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Peacebuilding Commission advice to the Security Council on West Africa and the Sahel: 25 July 2023*. 2023. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from:

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/pbc_advice_on_unowas_july_2023_-_approved.pdf

United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Peacebuilding Commission Ambassadorial-level meeting on the Sahel: Chair's Summary*. 2023. Retrieved 14 September 2023 from:

<https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/chairs-summary-meeting-sahel>

United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Statement by the Peacebuilding Commission: New York, 22 September 2023*. 2023. Retrieved 5 November 2023 from:

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/pbc_ministerial_-_outcome_statement_-_adopted_0.pdf

United Nations, Peacebuilding Commission. *Written Submission of the Peacebuilding Commission to the Security Council on West Africa and the Sahel: 6 January 2023*. 2023. Retrieved 14 September 2023 from:

https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/unowas_pbc_written_advice_-_approved.pdf

United Nations, Secretary-General. *Our Common Agenda Policy Brief 9: A New Agenda for Peace*. 2023. Retrieved 5 November 2023 from:

<https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/our-common-agenda-policy-brief-new-agenda-for-peace-en.pdf>

United Nations, Security Council. *An Agenda for Peace: Preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping (S/24111)*. 1992. Retrieved 14 October 2023 from: <https://undocs.org/en/A/47/277>

United Nations, Security Council. *Report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (S/2000/809)*. 2000. Retrieved 23 September 2023 from: <https://undocs.org/en/S/2000/809>

United Nations, Security Council. *Women and peace and security (S/RES/1325 (2000))*. 2000. Retrieved 13 October 2023 from: [https://undocs.org/en/S/RES/1325\(2000\)](https://undocs.org/en/S/RES/1325(2000))

United Nations, Security Council. *Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Sahel region (S/2013/354)*. 2013. Retrieved 30 July 2023 from: <https://undocs.org/en/S/2013/354>

United Nations, Security Council. *Letter dated 14 January 2016 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2016/88)*. 2016. Retrieved 12 October 2023 from: <http://undocs.org/en/S/2016/88>

United Nations, Security Council. *Women and peace and security (S/RES/2493 (2019))*. 2019. Retrieved 5 November 2023 from: [https://undocs.org/en/S/RES/2493\(2019\)](https://undocs.org/en/S/RES/2493(2019))

United Nations, Security Council. *Report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its sixteenth session (S/2023/86)*. 2023. Retrieved 12 October 2023 from: <https://undocs.org/en/S/2023/86>