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Report of the Peacebuilding Commission

Security Council
Seventy-eighth year

Report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its sixteenth session

I. Introduction

1. The present report has been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005), in which the Peacebuilding Commission was requested to submit an annual report to the Assembly for an annual debate and review. The report will also be submitted to the Council, pursuant to its resolution 1646 (2005), for an annual debate. The report covers the sixteenth session of the Commission, held from 1 January to 31 December 2022.

2. The report has also been prepared pursuant to identical resolutions on the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture (General Assembly resolutions 70/262 and 75/201 and Security Council resolutions 2282 (2016) and 2558 (2020)), in which the Commission was encouraged to consider diversifying its working methods to enhance its efficiency and flexibility in support of peacebuilding and sustaining peace and to continue strengthening its advisory, bridging and convening roles in support of nationally owned priorities and efforts. In that regard, the structure and content of the present report reflect the work carried out by the Commission in implementing relevant recommendations contained in the resolutions on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, as well as priorities identified in the report of the Commission on its fifteenth session.

II. Work of the Peacebuilding Commission

3. The Commission held a total of 27 meetings during its sixteenth session. The number is consistent with the overall trend of increasing engagements of the Commission since its first meeting in 2006, and in particular since 2016, as shown in figure I. Given the easing of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) restrictions, the majority of meetings were conducted in person or in a hybrid format. After a gap of two years, the Commission undertook two field visits: one to South Sudan by the Chair and Vice-Chairs, and one to Liberia by the Chair of the Commission's Liberia configuration.

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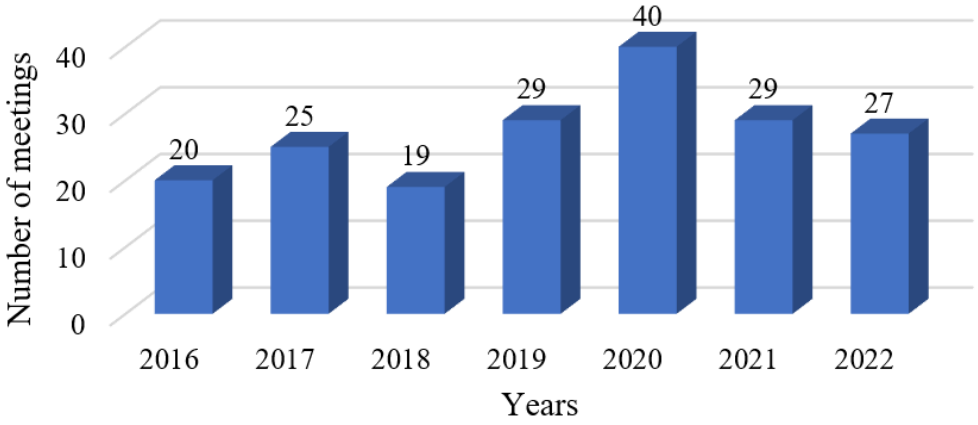
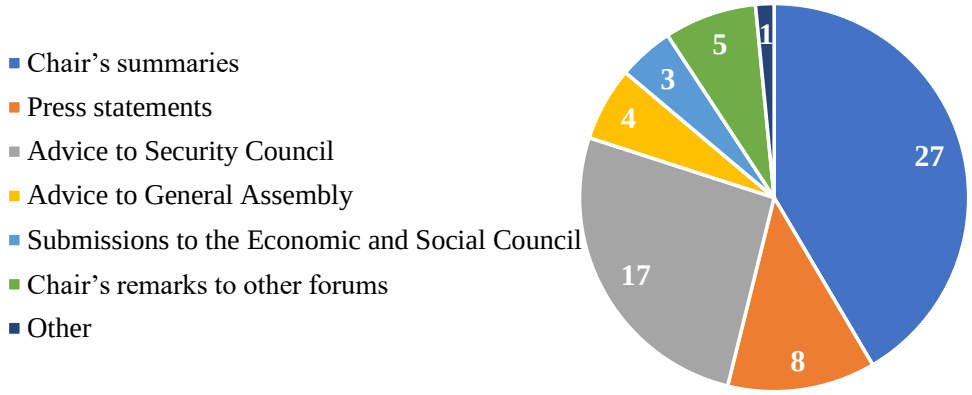
4. The work of the Commission was guided by its provisional programme of work for 2022, which it approved on 4 March. The programme of work, building on the forward-looking agenda contained in the report of the Commission on its fifteenth session and on relevant recommendations of the Secretary-General in his report entitled “Our Common Agenda”, included seven priority areas intended to ensure impactful Commission engagements, namely: (a) greater focus on results and national ownership; (b) continuing emphasis on inclusivity through closer engagements with local actors, including civil society, the private sector, and women and young peacebuilders; (c) sustained attention to United Nations coherence; (d) more effective partnerships with regional organizations and international financial institutions; (e) improved advisory and bridging role; (f) advocacy for peacebuilding financing; and (g) more emphasis on accountability. Following a demand-driven and consultative process, the programme of work also listed 12 countries and 5 regions in Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Pacific Islands, which the Commission stood ready to consider during the session.

Figure I
Number of Peacebuilding Commission meetings annually, since 2016



5. The Commission produced a total of 65 outcome documents (see figure II). The session saw a sharp increase in the number of times the Commission submitted its advice to the Security Council (17 compared with 9 in the previous session), which testifies a growing recognition of the advisory role of the Commission when it comes to sharing peacebuilding perspectives with the Council, the importance of effective coordination between the Council and the Commission, and the need for timely submission, follow-up and integration of the advice in the Council’s work. However, the Chair’s briefings and statements to non-United Nations forums saw a reduction compared with the previous session, which was one factor that contributed to the slight decrease in the total number of meetings and outcome documents.

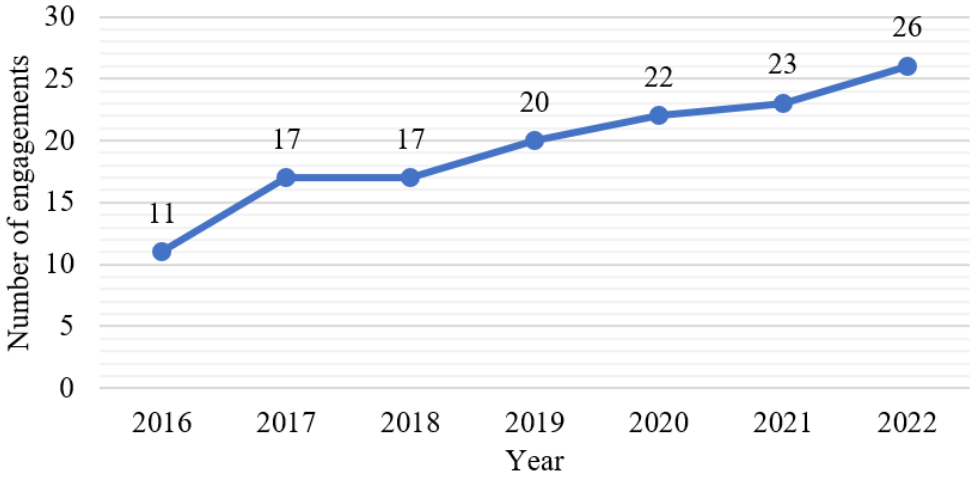
Figure II
Number of Peacebuilding Commission outcome documents in 2022



A. Country- and region-specific engagements

6. In 2022, the Commission engaged in support of 14 separate country- and region-specific settings, broadening its geographical scope, including by holding meetings for the first time on Timor-Leste, South Sudan and Central Asia. With these additions, the Commission has engaged with a total of 26 different countries and regions since its inception (see figure III).

Figure III
Peacebuilding Commission country-level and regional engagements annually, since 2016



7. With regard to Burkina Faso, following a coup d'état on 24 January, the Commission submitted advice to the Security Council on 7 February, in which it advocated a swift return to constitutional order and an inclusive political transition and called for enhanced support to address the country's multifaceted peacebuilding challenges. At its meeting on Burkina Faso held on 15 July, the Commission welcomed the progress made in the transition process while noting with concern the serious security, political and humanitarian challenges facing the country and the subregion. The Commission commended the efforts of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to help to address the situation in Burkina Faso,

including through its Ordinary Summit of the Authority of Heads of State and Government on 3 July and the engagement of the ECOWAS Mediator for Burkina Faso. The Commission encouraged Burkina Faso to swiftly implement the transition timetable and to ensure a peaceful and inclusive transition process that ensures respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law. The Commission called upon United Nations entities to enhance integrated support for Burkina Faso in the implementation of the transition timetable and to support the regional and subregional efforts in that regard. The Commission urged international and regional partners to reinforce their support for the country's efforts aimed at combating violent extremism conducive to terrorism, restoring stability and pursuing social cohesion and reconciliation.

8. At the request of the Government of Burundi, the Commission concluded its engagement with that country within the framework of the country configuration, with its final meeting held on 30 November. The meeting was focused on the progress made by Burundi through its engagements with the Commission since 2006 and on areas for future peacebuilding support. In their remarks, the Permanent Representative of Burundi and the Chair of the Burundi Configuration reviewed the Commission's support for Burundi, as well as the country's key peacebuilding milestones over the years. The Resident Coordinator in Burundi briefed the Commission on the preventive approach taken by the United Nations and its coordination with partners and informed the Commission that the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for Burundi was built on the country's many peacebuilding gains and development priorities. Three women representing civil society briefed the Commission on the challenges related to the participation and empowerment of women and the progress made, including government efforts to create the Women's Investment and Development Bank of Burundi. Member States offered their continued support for the country's national priorities and encouraged Burundi to continue its cooperation with the Commission, including by sharing lessons learned and good practices in support of other countries.

9. The Commission continued to support long-term peacebuilding priorities in the Central African Republic, aligned with Security Council resolution 2605 (2021). The support was focused on three priorities for the year, namely the rule of law, local elections, and the National Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan. The Commission utilized an ambassadorial meeting on the rule of law, held on 8 April, as a platform for highlighting the budgetary gaps faced by the Special Criminal Court and the Truth, Justice, Reparation and Reconciliation Commission. The Peacebuilding Commission acknowledged that the newly operationalized transitional justice mechanisms need to be adequately resourced, given their importance as crucial tools in the fight against impunity and in ensuring accountability, justice and national reconciliation. It noted the efforts to strengthen the effectiveness of the judicial sector, including through the framework of the national justice sector reform policy. With regard to the local elections, tentatively scheduled for January 2023, the Commission stressed the urgency of their sufficient and sustainable funding, underscoring that the elections represented a unique and symbolic opportunity to provide support for electoral, democratic and decentralization processes, considering that the previous local elections in the country had been conducted in 1988. The Commission encouraged learning from the valuable lessons of the 2020/21 presidential and legislative elections, during which it had leveraged its convening and bridging roles to contribute to a successful outcome. The Commission recognized the crucial role of the National Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan in fostering socioeconomic recovery and development through the implementation of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic and stressed the importance of providing necessary assistance to the national authorities in that regard. The three identified priorities informed the Commission's annual written advice to the Council,

in advance of the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic.

10. On 11 November, the Commission convened for the first time a region-specific meeting on Central Asia, on the theme of women's leadership for the women and peace and security agenda and the role of women in the context of climate change, with a special focus on the adverse impacts of climate change on women and sustainable peace in Central Asia. The Commission was briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, the Chair of the Committee on the Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms, Halk Maslahaty (People's Council) of the Milli Gengesh (parliament) of Turkmenistan, the Chair of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis (parliament) of Uzbekistan, the Vice-Speaker of the Zhogorku Kenesh (parliament) of Kyrgyzstan, the Chair of the Committee of Women and Family Affairs of Tajikistan and the Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security of the Mazhilis (one of the houses of parliament) of Kazakhstan, as well as the Peacebuilding Support Office and women's civil society organizations. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the representatives of the Women Leaders' Caucus of Central Asia expressed their commitment to further integrating their efforts to support the participation of women in combating the impacts of climate change, through regional cooperation and support for initiatives of local women's organizations. The Commission welcomed the engagement of the Women Leaders' Caucus in its effort to bolster support for regional women's associations and networks and to ensure that issues at the core of the political, social and economic participation of women in Central Asia were made a priority area of regional cooperation.

11. The Commission continued to support the peace process in Colombia. On 13 April, the Commission convened a meeting on the status of implementation of the Final Agreement for Ending the Conflict and Building a Stable and Lasting Peace. The Commission was briefed by the President of Colombia, the Presidential Counsellor for Stabilization and Consolidation, a former combatant representing a local agricultural cooperative, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Colombia and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, the Resident Coordinator in Colombia and the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support. The Commission reiterated that the country's peace process continued to serve as an example of the successful resolution of armed conflict through dialogue, but expressed concern about continued violence in conflict-affected areas. The Commission encouraged the Government's ongoing efforts to build trust with communities and commended the inclusion of Indigenous communities in the political process. They called for the further implementation of the gender provisions of the Final Agreement and for the promotion of youth participation and the prioritization of the ethnic chapter in the implementation of the Final Agreement, with a focus on Afro-Colombian and Indigenous communities. The Commission also called for the strengthening of the Comprehensive System of Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-Repetition. On 12 October, the Chair of the Commission delivered remarks on Colombia to the Security Council, in which he commended the newly elected President's commitment to peace and welcomed his Government's pledge to reduce inequality, to govern with and for women, to ensure zero tolerance for corruption and to hold regional dialogues, as critical steps towards building lasting peace in Colombia.

12. On 18 October, the Commission convened a meeting on the Gambia that was focused on the transitional justice process, including the Government's white paper on the implementation of the recommendations of the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission. The Minister of Justice of the Gambia provided an update of priority areas related to the phase of implementation of the recommendations of

the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission recommendations. A civil society representative shared views and suggestions regarding the implementation of the recommendations, in particular as they relate to gender. The Commission commended the Gambia on its progress in implementing the national transitional justice process, reconciliation and democratic governance and encouraged the country to continue to utilize the Peacebuilding Commission as a platform to share its good practices. The members of the Commission underscored the importance of the timely implementation of the recommendations for sustainable peace and development in the country and welcomed the critical support for the process provided by the Peacebuilding Fund. The Commission recognized the important role of women in implementing the recommendations and underlined the need to address issues of sexual and gender-based violence. It expressed readiness to help to sustain international support for the country's peacebuilding priorities, in particular for the plan to implement the recommendations, and to engage with the Gambian authorities in the context of a stakeholders' conference planned by the Gambia in 2023.

13. The Commission continued its efforts to mobilize support for implementation of the United Nations Strategy for Peace Consolidation, Conflict Prevention and Conflict Resolution in the Great Lakes Region and its action plan. On 31 October, the Commission convened a meeting to discuss peacebuilding challenges in the Great Lakes region, provide an update on political processes in the region and mobilize support for flagship initiatives derived from the action plan. Following briefings by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region, the Special Envoy of the East African Community Facilitator of the Nairobi Process and the United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Member States recognized the increased political and diplomatic efforts in the region, welcomed the conduct of the Luanda and Nairobi political processes and stressed the importance of engaging in dialogue and using the political track in resolving the crises. They commended the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for his good offices in the region and offered support for the flagship initiatives of the action plan, placing special emphasis on the importance of supporting women and young people in peace processes and governance. The Commission provided advice on the Great Lakes region to the Security Council in April and October, highlighting political and diplomatic efforts to promote dialogue and strengthen trust in the region and calling for enhanced coordination between political processes there.

14. The Commission's engagement in support of Guinea-Bissau continued. In view of the attempted coup that occurred on 1 February in the country, the Chair of the Commission's Guinea-Bissau configuration convened a meeting on 22 February to update the Commission on the political situation and to discuss the need for continued support for the implementation of the country's peacebuilding priorities following the closure of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau. Following briefings by the State Secretary for Communities, the United Nations country team and representatives from the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), the Commission condemned the attempted coup and encouraged a transparent investigation. The Commission welcomed the good offices of UNOWAS in coordinating with regional efforts to stabilize the situation, and acknowledged the need for continued support for the country's identified peacebuilding priorities, as well as the need for financing for the United Nations country team. On 29 November, the Chair of the configuration convened another meeting, in which the Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Communities briefed the Commission on the ongoing political dialogue with regard to the legislative elections and reiterated the Government's commitment to creating an enabling socioeconomic environment for poverty reduction and the economic empowerment of young people and women, in line with Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Resident Coordinator

and the Deputy Special Representative for West Africa and the Sahel provided updates regarding United Nations activities and good offices, respectively, in support of the country's national priorities. Two youth representatives briefed the Commission on the importance of youth participation in the country's political, social and economic life. The Commission welcomed the updates on the legislative elections and agreed on the need to revitalize and sustain political dialogue. Noting the importance of legal and institutional reforms in advancing the peacebuilding priorities of Guinea-Bissau, the Commission stressed the need to ensure the meaningful and effective participation of women and young people and to promote economic diversification for stability and development.

15. The Commission continued to engage with the Lake Chad Basin region in support of the Lake Chad Basin Commission and its four member States, namely Cameroon, Chad, the Niger and Nigeria, with regard to the implementation of the Regional Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience Strategy for Areas Affected by Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin Region. At the request of the Lake Chad Basin Commission, on 20 April, the Peacebuilding Commission held a meeting on the peacebuilding challenges facing the Lake Chad Basin, with a view to mobilizing further support for peacebuilding priorities in the region, including targeted investment in local peacebuilding and grass-roots initiatives emanating from the third meeting of the Lake Chad Basin Governors' Forum for Regional Cooperation on Stabilization, Peacebuilding and Sustainable Development, held in October 2021. The Peacebuilding Commission recognized the importance of cross-border approaches, coordination and integration in the implementation of Strategy, as well as enhancing stronger linkages with the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel. The Commission welcomed investments by the Peacebuilding Fund in consolidating peacebuilding dividends in the region, and strengthening cross-border partnerships at the international, regional and local levels.

16. The Commission's engagement in Liberia in 2022 focused on ensuring sustained and coordinated international support for the country's peacebuilding priorities, including the empowerment of women, gender equality and preparations for the 2023 legislative and presidential elections, which will be the first to be held since the departure of the United Nations Mission in Liberia. In a meeting held on 19 May, the Commission received briefings by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection, the Resident Coordinator and a civil society representative. The Commission welcomed the adoption of the revised national gender policy and the second national action plan on women, and underlined the need for greater representation of women in politics. The Chair of the Liberia configuration undertook a visit to Liberia from 5 to 9 June, joined by the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, and met with officials including the President of Liberia, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection, as well as local actors, United Nations representatives and regional actors in the country. The visiting delegation held interactions with women members and leaders of the women's peace hut in Bong County and with representatives of political parties in Monrovia. As an extension of their visit to Liberia, the Chair and the Assistant Secretary-General visited the African Development Bank headquarters in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, where they met with the Senior Vice-President and other senior managers of the Bank and discussed opportunities for enhanced partnership in support of peacebuilding in Liberia and elsewhere. On 14 November, the Commission was briefed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Internal Affairs and the Co-Chair of the National Elections Commission, the Resident Coordinator and a civil society representative where they discussed electoral preparations and related challenges in the lead-up to the 2023 elections.

17. The Commission continued its engagement with the Pacific Islands and, on 31 May, convened a meeting on the impact of climate change on peacebuilding in the region. The meeting featured the screening of the virtual reality documentary experience *Sea of Islands*, developed by the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs with a financial contribution from the Government of Japan, and briefings by subregional organizations based in the Pacific, including the Pacific Islands Forum and the Pacific Community, as well as by the United Nations and the Group of Friends on Climate and Security, comprising 64 members. The Commission exchanged views with the Pacific Island Member States and highlighted the importance of continued support for the regional response to address the adverse effects of climate change on peacebuilding in the Pacific Islands. It underscored the importance of technology and financing, in particular unlocking climate finance, from multilateral climate funds. It stressed the need to strengthen partnerships with international financial institutions and the private sector and to realize the pledge of $100 billion from developed countries in support of national and regional efforts to combat the adverse effects of climate change.

18. The Commission continued to support regional peacebuilding priorities in the Sahel. On 22 March, the Commission convened a meeting on climate-related peace and development challenges facing the region. The meeting featured information on the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on transhumance and conflict prevention, which has been successfully implemented within the framework of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel. Following briefings by the Executive Secretary of the Group of Five for the Sahel (G5 Sahel), Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel, the Directors General of FAO and IOM, UNOWAS, the European Union Special Representative for the Sahel, the Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations, representatives of AfDB and civil society representatives from Mali and the Niger, the Commission underscored, among other issues, the need for effective mechanisms to govern access to natural resources across the region. Speakers noted ongoing efforts under the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel and its support plan, to integrate climate change risk analysis into national sustainable development cooperation frameworks and to conduct regional climate change risk assessments with ECOWAS and the Economic Community of Central African States. Reiterating the need to address the structural causes of instability in the region, such as growing terrorist threats, socioeconomic challenges and climate change, the Commission recognized the critical support provided to countries by the Peacebuilding Fund on cross-border, gender and youth initiatives in the region. On 7 July, the Chair of the Commission briefed the Security Council at its biannual session on West Africa and the Sahel, in which concern was expressed over the deteriorating environment, including the resurgence of coups and the expansion of terrorism in the region, as well as maritime insecurity in the Gulf of Guinea. She echoed the calls made by the African Union, ECOWAS and G5 Sahel to reinvigorate security and democratic governance response initiatives in the region.

19. On 26 October, the Commission convened for the first time a meeting on South Sudan, on the theme “Building peace through institutions and governance”. The meeting provided a platform for the Government to present its peacebuilding efforts to support the implementation of the benchmarks of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan. The Minister of Peacebuilding, the Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs and the Minister of Health briefed the Commission on the country’s peacebuilding priorities, including security sector reform, socioeconomic revitalization and national reconciliation, as well as the challenges ahead. They highlighted the impacts that extreme weather and floods were having on the graduation and deployment of the necessary unified forces, which, if not addressed together with other factors, would increase the risk of relapse into violence

and have implications for sustained peace and stability and the process of transitioning to democracy. They also highlighted the need to prioritize the delivery of basic public services, in particular at the local level, which would contribute to sustainable peacebuilding and facilitate peace and development. Senior officials from the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the World Bank underscored the need to scale up partnerships, focusing on enhancing institutional capacity-building and accountable governance, while the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for South Sudan and Humanitarian and Resident Coordinator in South Sudan noted the importance of operating at the nexus of humanitarian, peace and development work. A woman peacebuilder representing civil society called for restoring trust between public institutions and the people of South Sudan. Member States welcomed the newly established Ministry of Peacebuilding, and some Member States encouraged the Government to continue its efforts to reform public financial management to support the delivery of basic services and to strengthen the social contract between the State and society, especially women and young people. The Commission also encouraged South Sudanese authorities to continue their efforts to implement the road map and to ensure the delivery of basic services to the people. From 6 to 9 December, as part of the Commission's engagement with South Sudan, the Chair and Vice-Chairs, together with Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, undertook a field visit to South Sudan. The delegation met with senior government officials, United Nations senior leadership, key regional organizations, financial institutions, and civil society, as well as representatives from the security sector. They also visited a Peacebuilding Fund project on youth action for reduced violence and enhanced social cohesion in Wau County, and a solar system project installed at United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), in Juba.

20. The Commission convened for the first time a meeting on Timor-Leste, on 26 September, to discuss the country's peacebuilding experiences and good practices. The Commission was briefed by the President of Timor-Leste, the former President and Prime Minister of Timor-Leste, a representative of the Asian Development Bank, two civil society representatives from Timor-Leste and the General Secretary of the Group of Seven Plus, as well as United Nations officials, including the Assistant Secretary-General for the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific, the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support and the Resident Coordinator in Timor-Leste. The Commission commended the progress made by Timor-Leste, through a nationally owned and led process, including in the consolidation of peace and stability, the promotion of social cohesion and the strengthening of institutions, since the drawdown of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste in 2012. The Commission welcomed the leadership role played by the Government, including in its capacity as a founding member and host country of the Group of Seven Plus, in improving international engagement and coordination, as well as South-South cooperation, in support of conflict-affected countries and regions. The Commission recognized the challenges and opportunities facing Timor-Leste, including reducing poverty and inequality, diversifying the economy and continuing to empower women and young people. The Commission expressed its commitment to mobilizing coherent and coordinated international support for Timor-Leste and meeting its peacebuilding priorities.

21. The Commission submitted written advice to the Security Council on piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea. Building on a meeting held in the previous session and the recent briefings delivered to the Commission by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Commission underlined the need to effectively address the root causes and drivers of piracy in the region, including by ensuring adequate livelihoods for the affected communities. The Commission called for inclusive socioeconomic development, social cohesion, and stability anchored in

sustainable economic activity, following a context-specific, preventive, community-based and whole-of-society approach.

B. Cross-cutting and thematic engagements

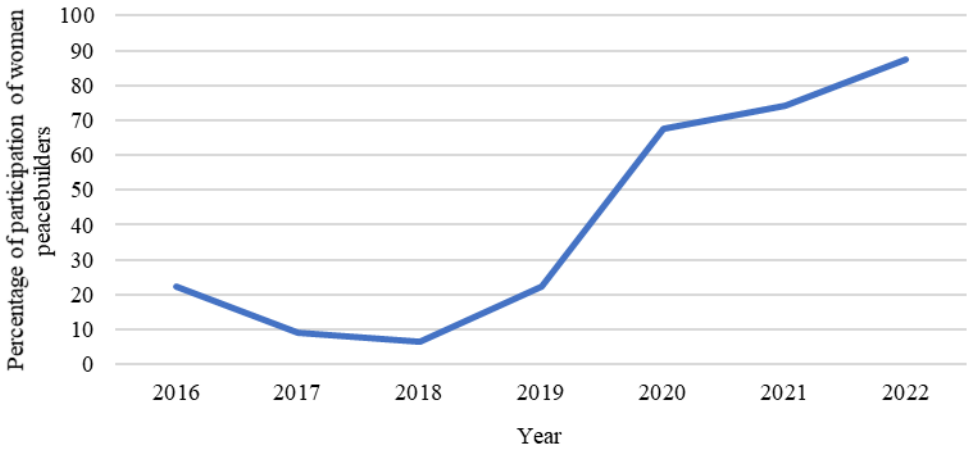
22. The Commission's cross-cutting and thematic engagements were pursued through dedicated meetings and within the framework of country-specific and regional discussions, which provided an opportunity for countries to share their experiences and good practices in peacebuilding (see sect. II.A). Such issues included women and peace and security and youth and peace and security agendas, institution-building, transitional justice and the rule of law, electoral processes, displacement, climate change, socioeconomic development and partnerships for peacebuilding. The Commission considered the socioeconomic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, natural resources, food insecurity and financing for peacebuilding through its engagement with the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council. In that regard, the Commission continued to advance exchanges and the sharing of experiences and good practices on peacebuilding across the global South and among conflict-affected countries, including in the context of South-South and triangular cooperation. Through engagements with a diverse set of briefers, including national and local governments, regional and subregional organizations, regional financial institutions and women's and youth organizations from countries being considered by the Commission and across the global South, the Commission provided a unique platform for sharing experiences and good practices with regard to peacebuilding efforts.

23. On 13 December, the Commission held its annual women and peace and security meeting, on the theme "Complementarity of the roles of uniformed women peacekeepers and women peacebuilders", the first Commission meeting at which women and peace and security and peacebuilding were discussed in the context of peacekeeping. The meeting was briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, the Chair of the Women, Peace and Security Chiefs of Defence Network, the Peacebuilding Support Office, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the Elsie Initiative for Women in Peace Operations fund, a Military Gender and Protection Adviser at UNMISS and a representative of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders. Briefers recognized the essential role of women in peacebuilding and peacekeeping, while noting the institutional, practical, situational and societal obstacles hindering their full, equal and meaningful participation in peacekeeping, peacebuilding and sustaining peace. Member States emphasized the effectiveness and sustainability of peace efforts when women are effectively included in all processes. They recognized that efforts to involve women in peacekeeping and peacebuilding begin at the national level, and efforts to engage women and support their full, equal and meaningful participation need to start there, with support from the continued engagement of the international community. Member States called for investing in local women peacebuilders, their networks and their organizations, and for protecting women peacebuilders, including from sexual and gender-based violence.

24. Throughout 2022, guided by its gender strategy, adopted in September 2016, and its action plan, approved in February 2021, the Commission continued to prioritize women and peace and security objectives and to enhance the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in peacebuilding and sustaining peace efforts. The gender dimensions of peacebuilding were integrated into the Commission's country-specific, region-specific and thematic activities, including country missions, and

reflected the perspectives and priorities of women peacebuilders.[1] The rate of participation of women peacebuilders in Commission meetings continued to grow, reaching 87.5 per cent in 2022, a notable increase from 22 per cent in 2019 and 74 per cent in 2021. Briefers shared with the Commission achievements, challenges and recommendations to better address peacebuilding challenges and improve the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in peacebuilding processes. In country and regional meetings, briefers shed light on the experiences of women in truth and reconciliation processes, peace processes, building trust with public institutions, the economic empowerment of women and the intersection of climate change and gender. On the basis of its work and engagement with women peacebuilders and leaders, the Commission continued to ensure that women and peacebuilding issues were reflected in its advice to the Security Council. In its advice to the Council on 8 March, the Commission highlighted its support of national efforts to promote the economic empowerment of women and their full, equal and meaningful participation in socioeconomic development, with a view to strengthening peacebuilding and sustaining peace. Through its advice, the Commission also called for addressing the root causes of conflict and violence in communities, including those related to gender inequality, and for the inclusion of gender analysis and technical gender expertise in all stages of mission planning, mandate implementation and review, and transitions.

Figure IV
Rate of participation of women peacebuilders in Peacebuilding Commission meetings



25. On 10 May, the Chair convened a meeting on youth and peace and security agenda to explore ways to further strengthen the Commission's contributions in that regard. The Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth, the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support briefed the Commission alongside youth representatives from El Salvador, Indonesia, Kenya and Liberia, who shared their experiences in peacebuilding. Reiterating the importance of the full, effective and meaningful participation of young women and men in peacebuilding efforts, the briefers called for more action to place young people, who make up the majority of the population in many conflict-affected countries, at the centre of prevention and peacebuilding. Some Member States expressed concern about the negative effects of compounded

[1] The term "women peacebuilders", as defined in the Commission's gender strategy action plan, refers to women representatives from civil society organizations, the private sector, academia or think tanks and women independent experts who lead and contribute to peacebuilding and sustaining peace in countries and regions considered by the Commission.

risks on young people, including conflicts and climate change, and stressed the need to increase funding for youth-led peacebuilding initiatives and to ensure flexibility and accessibility in such funding. Noting the recommendations presented in the second report of the Secretary-General on youth and peace and security, the Commission called for the institutionalization of the youth and peace and security agenda globally, including through the adoption of national action plans, and it expressed its commitment to the implementation of the Strategic Action Plan on youth and peacebuilding.

26. In addition to holding a dedicated thematic meeting on youth and peace and security, the Commission continued its advocacy to support the critical role of young people and youth organizations in peacebuilding and sustaining peace, through its meetings and through its advice to other intergovernmental bodies. The participation rate of representatives of youth organizations and initiatives in the Commission meetings was 37.5 per cent in 2022. For example, representatives of the Youth Association for Peace and Cohesion (AJEPAC) in the Niger, the National Youth Network of Mali (RENAJEM), the Canchungo Youth Platform in Guinea-Bissau and Justice Call in the Middle East and North Africa region, as well as a representative of the No Ianda Djuntu project in Guinea-Bissau, which is funded by the Peacebuilding Fund, briefed the Commission during its various country and region-specific meetings. At the High-level Global Conference on Youth-Inclusive Peace Processes held on 20 and 21 January, the Chair of the Commission highlighted its commitment to addressing the need for inclusive and varied modes of financing that meet the needs of young peacebuilders and are diversified, flexible and tailored to the priorities of young people.

27. The Commission continued its consideration of financing for peacebuilding, including by convening an interactive dialogue with the Secretary-General on 30 March, during which the Secretary-General presented his report on peacebuilding and sustaining peace and reiterated his call for adequate, predictable and sustained financing for peacebuilding. Noting that his call was in line with “Our Common Agenda”, which placed prevention and peacebuilding at the heart of United Nations efforts, the Secretary-General recognized the critical role of the Commission in enhancing United Nations coherence. The Commission provided inputs to the high-level meeting of the General Assembly financing for peacebuilding held from 27 to 29 April, pursuant to Assembly resolution 75/201 and Security Council resolution 2558 (2020) on peacebuilding and sustaining peace. In a letter dated 21 April, which was informed by a series of Commission consultations and other events led by Member States in the past two years, the Chair reiterated the Commission’s view that adequate, predictable and sustained financing remained a critical challenge, and noted its concern that financial flows to conflict-affected countries, in particular official development assistance devoted to peacebuilding, had been under severe pressure and that the challenge was particularly acute in the context of United Nations transitions. Building on its work in support of the women and peace and security agenda and the youth and peace and security agenda, the Commission stressed the importance of enhancing efforts aimed at promoting the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in peacebuilding and greater youth engagement in peacebuilding. The Commission noted with concern that demand for support from the Peacebuilding Fund significantly outpaced available resources and recommended that its donor base be broadened and diversified. The Commission encouraged the Assembly to pursue an action-oriented outcome at the high-level meeting and to consider all options for enhanced financing for peacebuilding, including voluntary, assessed and innovative financing.

III. Towards a more flexible and effective Peacebuilding Commission

A. Advisory and bridging role of the Commission

28. During its sixteenth session, the Commission continued to enhance its advisory and bridging role with respect to the General Assembly and the Security Council, and its bridging role between the Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council. With a view to further enhancing the predictability of the its calendar, the Commission shared its provisional programme of work for 2022 with the Assembly and the Security Council. Another step in further strengthening the advisory role of the Commission was taken in March when, through an exchange of letters between the Commission (S/2022/202) and the Council (S/2022/250), it was agreed that the Commission would receive the advance unedited copies of relevant reports of the Secretary-General.

29. In 2022, the Commission provided its advice to the Security Council 17 times and to the General Assembly 4 times, including in the form of letters and formal briefings. The Commission made a total of three submissions and briefings to the Economic and Social Council, focused on thematic and regional issues. The Commission's advice to the Assembly focused principally on adequate, predictable and sustained financing. The Chair also delivered a statement at the Assembly debate on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, held on 2 September, which included some practical suggestions for enhancing the Commission's advisory role in relation to the Assembly. In addition, the Chair delivered a briefing at the high-level dialogue on the theme "The Africa We Want: Reconfirming the Development of Africa as a Priority for the United Nations System", jointly convened by the President of the Assembly and the President of the Economic and Social Council on 20 July. The Chair also delivered a briefing at a Security Council Arria-formula meeting on transitioning from conflict and fragility into peace through sustainable development, held on 20 December.

30. On 2 December, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission convened a joint meeting on the theme "Peacebuilding, sustaining peace and sustainable development: towards coherence and impact on the ground". Senior representatives of Member States, IOM, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNFPA, UN-Women, the World Food Programme (WFP) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), as well as civil society representatives, participated in the meeting. Speakers raised awareness of how agencies, funds and programmes respond to multidimensional challenges, contribute to peacebuilding and sustaining peace and promote long-term development in conflict-affected contexts. The participants discussed good practices in strengthening impact and coherence on the ground in conflict-affected contexts, including joint analysis, strategies, programmes and cross-border initiatives, while noting the crucial role of the Peacebuilding Fund in advancing collaboration and ensuring a positive impact in that regard. The need to increase predictable and flexible funding and investments in prevention was also emphasized. Moreover, the prioritization of ensuring the inclusion and involvement of women and young people, in particular, as a prerequisite for sustainable peace and development was underscored. Member States called for enhanced coherence and coordination within the United Nations system and with relevant stakeholders, including the international financial institutions. They also acknowledged the important advisory, bridging and convening roles of the Commission and encouraged enhanced interaction between the Council and the Commission.

31. On 18 March, the Chair delivered an address at the opening of the special meeting of the Economic and Social Council on the theme "Natural resources, peaceful societies and sustainable development: lessons from the Kimberley

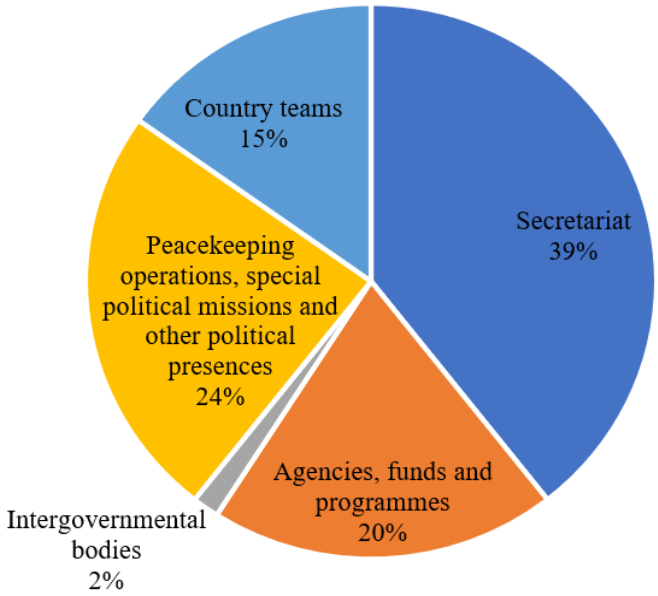
Process", highlighting the importance of promoting the sustainable and transparent management of natural resources with regard to enhancing peacebuilding and sustaining peace. The Chair acknowledged the Commission's work in addressing root causes of vulnerability and instability, including natural resources, while stressing the need for transboundary cooperation, economic diversification, good governance and the full participation of women and young people.

32. On 20 June, the Chair delivered a briefing to the Economic and Social Council at a meeting on the theme "Recurrent crises and sustainable solutions: building resilience and addressing rising food insecurity and displacement", which was focused on the interlinkages between food security and peacebuilding. The Chair underscored the need for coherent international action and effective financing mechanisms in support of inclusive nationally owned and led efforts to support food security and peacebuilding.

B. Promoting United Nations system-wide coherence

33. In 2022, the Commission strengthened its role in promoting the system-wide coherence of the United Nations, bringing together a broad range of United Nations entities at the field and Headquarters levels. In addition to holding a dedicated joint meeting with the Economic and Social Council on United Nations coherence, the Commission engaged with FAO, IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP, demonstrating that the Commission continues to strengthen its outreach to a wide range of humanitarian, development and peace actors. The Commission continued to hear from representatives in the field, especially peacekeeping operations, special political missions and other United Nations political presences, who accounted for 24 per cent of all United Nations briefers at its meetings. Meanwhile, representatives of United Nations country teams accounted for 15 per cent of all United Nations briefers at the Commission's meetings in 2022. Frequent briefings from resident coordinators helped to enhance the understanding of the role of United Nations common country analyses and Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks in support of national peacebuilding priorities.

Figure V
United Nations briefers at Peacebuilding Commission meetings in 2022



C. Fostering partnerships

34. Partnership remained a high priority for the Commission in 2022. In addition to dedicating the theme of its annual session to the topic, throughout 2022, the Commission continued to strengthen its engagement with partners outside the Organization, including international and regional financial institutions, as shown in figure VII, with non-United Nations briefers accounting for 57 per cent of all briefers at the meetings of the Commission.

35. The Commission continued to hear from regional, national and local actors. In 2022, non-United Nations partners that provided briefings at Commission meetings included: national and local government officials; regional and subregional organizations, including the African Union, East African Community, ECOWAS, European Union, G5 Sahel, IGAD, Lake Chad Basin Commission, Pacific Community and Pacific Islands Forum; other intergovernmental organizations, including Group of Seven Plus, civil society organizations; international financial institutions, including AfDB, Asian Development Bank (ADB), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), IMF, Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and World Bank; and private sector actors.

36. The annual session of the Commission, held on 22 November, was focused on partnerships with regional development banks. The Commission was briefed by representatives of regional banks on their respective strategies and approaches, namely the AfDB strategy for addressing fragility and building resilience in Africa, the IsDB policy for fragility and resilience, the ADB fragility and resilience assessment and the IDB first strategic framework on fragility and resilience. The Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support and a representative of the World Bank also briefed the Commission. Member States recognized the important and unique roles played by regional development banks, and welcomed their increasing engagement in addressing fragility, supporting sustainable economic recovery and promoting development, as well as the implementation of relevant strategies and approaches. Member States stressed the need to enhance partnerships between the United Nations and regional development banks, at the field and Headquarters levels, building on General Assembly resolution 76/305 on financing for peacebuilding, and creating synergies, including through joint analysis and assessment. They encouraged regional development banks to continue to promote the participation and empowerment of women and young people. In addition, they called on the Commission to continue to serve as a platform to facilitate dialogue among international and regional financial institutions and a wide range of relevant stakeholders, mobilize the private sector and encourage peace positive investment.

Figure VI
United Nations and non-United Nations briefers at Peacebuilding Commission meetings annually, since 2016

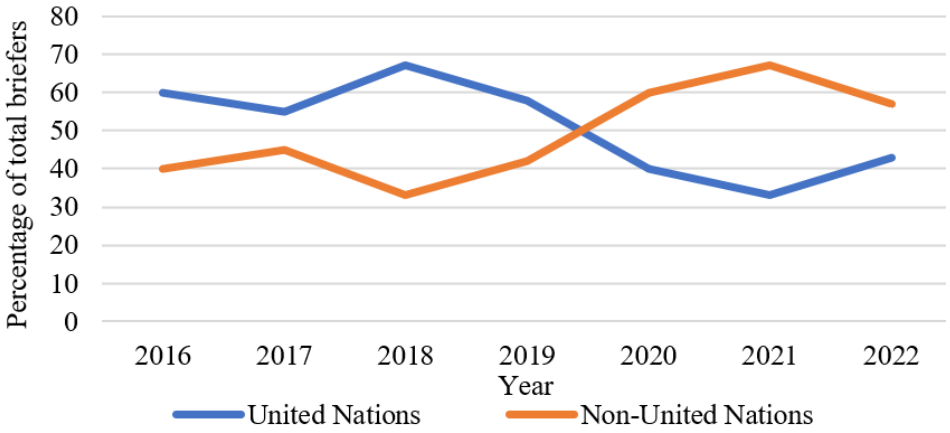
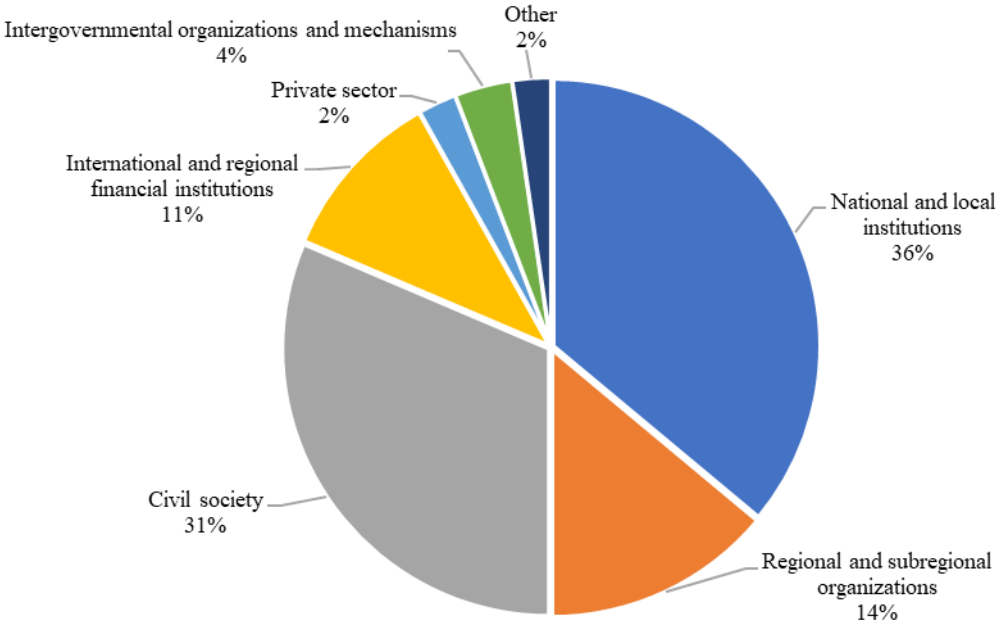


Figure VII
Types of non-United Nations briefers at Peacebuilding Commission meetings in 2022, as percentage of total non-United Nations briefers



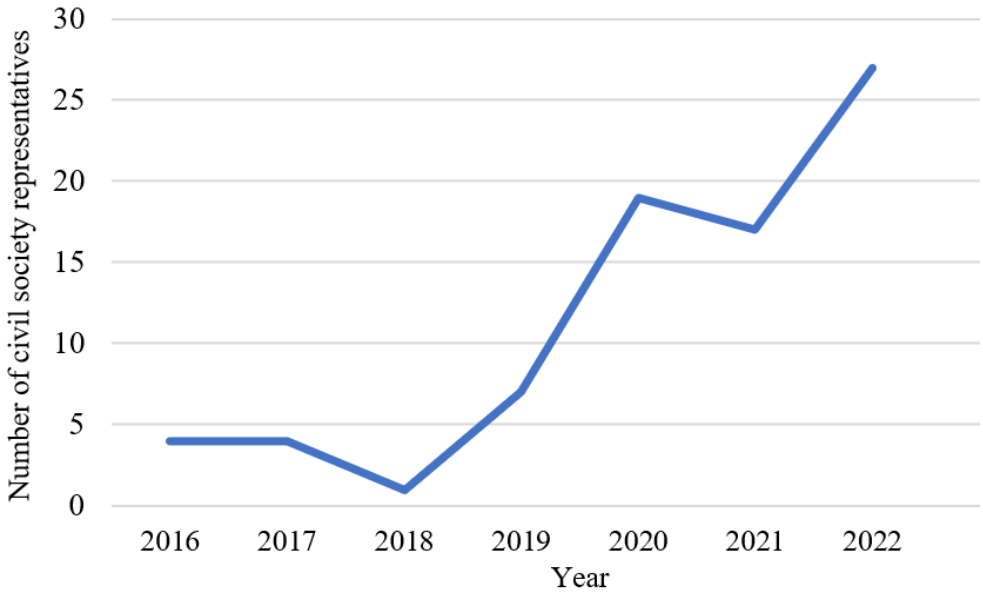
37. On 28 November, the Commission convened its 4th informal consultative meeting with the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, which was focused on strengthening collaboration to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change on peacebuilding in Africa. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General to the African Union and the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support delivered briefings on the importance of a coherent approach to peacebuilding, with an emphasis on gender and youth perspectives, and highlighted the added value of the Peacebuilding Fund in promoting climate-responsive programming in Africa. Noting the Climate Responses for Sustaining Peace initiative launched at the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the States members of the Peace and Security Council of the

African Union and the Commission encouraged the strengthening of responses to climate-change-induced risks in the African Union peacebuilding architecture and called for more predictable climate-responsive financing. The importance of the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and young people was noted, and calls were issued for the enhanced access of women and young people to finance in climate-related peacebuilding investments. Participants underscored the important role of the African Union and other regional and subregional organizations in Africa in fostering regional strategies on security and socioeconomic development, taking into account climate change. The Commission expressed its commitment to working more closely with the Peace and Security Council in mobilizing support for such initiatives.

38. In 2022, the Commission continued to encourage the contribution of civil society at all stages of peacebuilding and sustaining peace, resulting in an increased rate of participation by representatives of civil society at meetings of the Commission. As shown in figure VIII, the number of civil society representatives participating in Commission meetings increased to 27 in 2022.

39. The Commission also continued to foster partnerships through the Chair's participation in external activities, such as the conference on conflict legacies and post-conflict recovery, held in Helsinki on 17 May by the World Institute for Development Economics Research of the United Nations University.

Figure VIII
Number of civil society representatives participating in Peacebuilding Commission meetings annually, since 2016



D. Strengthening synergies between the Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund

40. In 2022, the Peacebuilding Support Office continued to regularly update the Commission on the work of the Peacebuilding Fund, in particular on programmatic activities as they pertained to the Commission's country, regional and thematic engagements. On 24 June, the Chair convened a dedicated meeting on the work of the Fund, which included a briefing by the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, who informed the Commission that, in line with the Fund's strategy for the

period 2020–2024, the Fund had built a pipeline for investments in 2022 totalling $295 million for over 40 countries, which would be the highest amount to date and a 30 per cent increase compared with 2021. She updated the Commission on efforts to create innovative means of communicating and disseminating information on the impact of peacebuilding on the ground, including the eventual development of an "impact hub" to systematize and disseminate the Fund's peacebuilding results. She underscored the importance of strong synergies with the Commission and recalled that all countries that are granted eligibility for funding from the Peacebuilding Fund are invited to attend Commission meetings to discuss their peacebuilding plans, challenges and achievements. In addition, she noted that, with a view to further strengthening synergies with the Commission, countries could be invited to discuss their peacebuilding priorities and needs as they developed new requests for Fund eligibility.

E. Rules of procedure and working methods of the Peacebuilding Commission

41. The Commission continued the review of its provisional rules of procedure and working methods initiated during its tenth session, in order to make its work more flexible and effective. In that connection, the Commission, building on the recommendations contained in the annex to its report on its fifteenth session (A/76/678-S/2022/89), convened a number of expert-level consultations that culminated in the annex to the present report. The annex also reflects suggestions made by Member States at the annual retreat of the Commission, held on 5 and 6 May. In 2022, the Commission started organizing expert-level meetings and consultations with relevant Member States, including with the Security Council penholders before submitting advice to the Council, to include views of the members in the first draft of the advice. The Commission notes with appreciation the role of informal coordinators in advancing its advisory role.

42. The Commission also continued to promote a unified approach, inviting the Chairs of the country configurations to report on their activities to the Organizational Committee.

IV. Forward-looking agenda

43. Pending follow-up requests by concerned Member States and the availability of the resources required within the Peacebuilding Support Office to meet increasing demand, the Commission is expected to continue to engage, during its seventeenth session, in support of peacebuilding efforts in at least 15 country and regional contexts. These shall be detailed in the Commission's 2023 programme of work which, once approved, will be shared with the General Assembly and the Security Council to enhance the predictability of the Commission's calendar. The seventeenth session will present opportunities for the Commission to further improve its advisory, bridging and convening roles. In relation to its advisory role, the Commission will continue to enhance the substantive and timely nature of its input and advice to the Assembly and the Council, with a view to providing them with broad peacebuilding perspectives, anchored in substantive and diverse engagements, to consistently inform the deliberations of both bodies, in particular on mandate renewals and transition contexts. In relation to its bridging role, the Commission will continue to foster greater coherence in the United Nations system, including between the Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, and within and across the Secretariat, peace operations and agencies, funds and programmes. In relation to its convening role, the Commission will continue to strengthen its

partnerships with key stakeholders, including regional and subregional organizations, international financial institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector. The Commission will continue to be guided by and to report progress in the implementation of its gender strategy and action plan, as well as its strategic action plan for youth and peacebuilding. In this respect, the Commission will continue to use its convening and advisory role to provide a platform for women peacebuilders and youth representatives from different contexts to share their experiences. The Commission will also explore opportunities to continue to strengthen its visibility and showcase its work to a wider audience within and beyond the United Nations. The Commission notes the additional resources that are required to meet the increasing demand for its country and regional engagements and to support it in fulfilling its enhanced advisory role.

Annex

Working methods of the Peacebuilding Commission

The present annex contains recommendations whose objectives and outcomes have been established as good practices, and that can be addressed through an informal process. These recommendations are accompanied by relevant examples. It also includes additional action areas whose implementation can contribute to the efficiency and flexibility of the Commission. The Commission can implement all of these actions without the need to amend its provisional rules of procedure and within the mandate of the founding resolutions of the Commission, General Assembly resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005), as well as Assembly resolutions 75/201 and 70/262 and Council resolutions 2558 (2020) and 2282 (2016). The review of the Commission's working methods is an ongoing process, and this informal document will be reviewed periodically, through the Commission's annual reports, in order to assess the added value of the recommendations to the work of the Commission.

Recommendations

1. **Leadership**: the Commission should improve the continuity of its Chairs and Vice-Chairs.

Actions:

I. As mandated in paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 70/262 and Security Council resolution 2282 (2016), in which the Assembly and Council encourage the Commission to improve the continuity of its Chairs and Vice-Chairs, and building upon the established practice of having the outgoing Chair serve as Vice-Chair, thus ensuring continuity and support for its leadership, the Commission will continue to explore ways to further strengthen the continuity of its Chairs and Vice-Chairs. Any informal arrangement will not prejudge the change in the membership of the Commission, which takes place every two years and will operate within regional rotation of Chairs, as spelled out in annex I to the Commission's provisional rules of procedure. The decision to endorse a candidate for each post remains a prerogative of the respective regional groups, for action by the Organizational Committee.

II. Make greater use of the Vice-Chairs, in consultation with the Chair, in the organization and conduct of Commission meetings.

2. **Forms of engagement of the Commission**: while recognizing the value of the work done by the Commission in all its configurations and meetings, the Commission should continue to consider flexible options for other forms of engagement in accordance with its mandate, including a more engaged role of the Organizational Committee.

Actions:

I. Make greater use of the Organizational Committee as a platform to convene country-specific, regional and thematic discussions, with the consent of all countries concerned, in accordance with its founding resolutions. When convening regional discussions, references to country-specific situations shall be made with the consent of those countries, which shall be shared with the Members of the Committee.

II. Promote a Commission that can work in a form of "variable geometry", in which the character, focus and duration of its engagement are decided on an ad hoc basis, with the consent of all countries considered and with the consent of its member States, in order to strengthen its efficiency and flexibility, as well as

its mandate to assist Governments partnering with the Commission with their peacebuilding priorities, as appropriate.

III. Strengthen the convening role of the Commission by inviting additional partners, including development partners, as applicable, to participate in its meetings. Such partners, to be invited with the consent of the country considered and that of the Commission's member States, may include Member States that are not members of the Organizational Committee, representatives of relevant entities of the United Nations system, including from the country teams, international and regional financial institutions, regional and subregional organizations, and from civil society organizations, including youth and women's organizations, as well as from the private sector, where relevant.

3. **Role of the membership**: the Commission has a very diverse membership, bringing together seven members from the General Assembly, seven members from the Security Council, seven members from the Economic and Social Council, five members from the top 10 troop-contributing countries and five members from the top 10 financial contributors. Therefore, a stronger and more coherent engagement of all members of the Commission will further enhance its efficiency.

Actions:

I. Make greater use of the perspectives of the organs that elect or designate the members of the Commission: in addition to country-specific interests, Member States elected by the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council are encouraged to bring the perspectives of those bodies into the deliberations of the Commission. For example, members can offer advice on the working methods of their constituencies and can highlight relevant ongoing thematic issues in their respective organs that will add value to the work of the Commission and reinforce synergies between the Commission and the Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the relevant subsidiary bodies, while respecting the mandate of each body. Members elected from the top 10 troop-contributing countries and the top 10 financial contributors are also encouraged to reinforce the synergies of those constituencies with the Commission.

II. Members are encouraged to report back to their constituencies on the work done by the Commission on priority areas that are relevant for the work of their respective organs or groups and to advocate peacebuilding and sustaining peace. This will add to the visibility of the Commission and enhance clarity on the work of the Commission. Similarly, establishing a predictable workplan (see recommendation 4 below) and summarizing results on a regular basis, including through press releases, can lead to a more regular flow of information between the Commission and the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council.

III. Members of the Commission are encouraged to actively engage and support the work of the Chair and the Vice-Chairs, while avoiding duplication of work and enhancing the idea of one Commission.

IV. The Commission could continue its practice of appointing informal coordinators for its relations with the Security Council, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council. The appointment of informal coordinators for relations with troop-contributing countries and financial contributors could also be considered.

4. **Workplan**: a more predictable and longer-term workplan that would allow broader participation of Member States at the meetings of the Commission.

Actions:

I. The Commission is to adopt an annual workplan based on the forward-looking agenda contained in its annual report, reflecting its country-specific, regional and thematic priorities, as well as on regular discussions with the President of the General Assembly, the President of the Security Council and the President of the Economic and Social Council. The Chair is encouraged to hold, as a continuation of good practice, informal consultations with the members of the Commission and with the countries and intergovernmental organizations that engage with it ahead of drafting the annual workplan. The workplan should include a provisional annual calendar. In the middle of each month, the Chair will circulate the provisional calendar for the following month with a view to receiving inputs and suggestions from members of the Commission. Additional previously unscheduled meetings could be added, if required, with adequate lead time.

II. The workplan is to take into account the relevant calendar of work of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, particularly when it comes to activities where the advisory role of the Commission may be sought, such as when requested by the Security Council to assist with the longer-term perspective required for sustaining peace being reflected in the formation, review and drawdown of peacekeeping operations and special political missions mandates (see S/PRST/2017/27). In such cases, the Commission should organize its workplan in a way that strengthens its advisory role.

III. The workplan is to include more regular engagement of the Commission with regional and subregional organizations.

IV. The workplan is to include specific focused meetings at which diverse countries (including Peacebuilding Fund recipients and/or applicants) share their national peacebuilding plans.

IV bis. Once approved by the Commission, the annual workplan should be officially transmitted to the Presidents of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council.

V. The date and theme of the Commission's annual session are to be decided well in advance in order to encourage Member States to participate with capital-based representatives.

VI. Field visits undertaken by the Chair, Vice-Chairs and other members of the Commission, as applicable, are to be reflected in the workplan; a visit concept note should be circulated at least one week before the date of the visit.

5. **Bridging role**: General Assembly resolution 70/262 and Security Council resolution 2282 (2016) stress the importance of the Commission in promoting an integrated, strategic and coherent approach to peacebuilding and sustaining peace and, inter alia, in serving a bridging role among the principal organs and relevant United Nations entities. The resolutions also recognize that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing.

Actions:

I. The Commission is to better utilize its membership to strengthen its links with the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council (see also actions 2.I and 2.II) to efficiently address issues regarding peacebuilding and sustaining peace and to advocate peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

II. Dialogues between the Chair of the Commission and the Presidents of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council should be sought, as necessary, as well as informal meetings of the Commission with those bodies.

III. In connection with the Commission's advisory role to the Security Council, in addition to its engagement so far, when invited to brief the Council it should prepare its briefings by aligning its workplan with relevant Council meetings (see action 3.II). The activities of the Commission in preparation for these briefings may include internal thematic discussions in anticipation of issues to be discussed in the Council, visits to the field, including, when invited by the Council, joint visits with the Council to advance peacebuilding perspectives and the organization of meetings to engage with relevant stakeholders, including international financial institutions, United Nations entities and civil society organizations. In addition to such formal briefings, the Commission could provide its advice in writing and through informal interactive dialogues, as appropriate.

IV. Through this advanced preparation, and the uniqueness of the Commission's convening power, it can have sustained interactions and enhance its efforts to provide the Security Council with substantive advice, upon request, for example, in matters relating to the synergies between security and development. The advisory role of the Commission to the Council is recognized, in particular, in the context of the Council's consideration of peacekeeping operations and special political missions mandates, during which the Commission, is uniquely positioned to provide clear, realistic, applicable and qualitative, peacebuilding perspectives to the Council, if requested. Similarly, regular exchanges between the Commission and other subsidiary organs of the Council should be further enhanced.

IV bis. Prior consultation between the President of the Security Council, the Chair of the Commission and the informal coordinator is encouraged, with a view to improving the timeliness of the requests and submissions. While preparing the advice for the Council at its request, the Commission is encouraged to hold the widest possible consultations, including with the penholders, countries and regions in question and, if needed, with all members of the Commission, to ensure the quality and complementarity of the advice.

V. The Commission is to advocate a coherent, predictable and traceable use of resources for peacebuilding activities, with the use of the Peacebuilding Funding Dashboard, [1] including with international and regional financial institutions, and for innovative financial instruments.

VI. The Commission should also continue to serve as a bridge among the principal organs and relevant entities of the United Nations, including the agencies, funds and programmes, with appropriate emphasis on activities undertaken on the ground.

6. **Synergies between the Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund**: while preserving the agility, flexibility, effectiveness and independence of the Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund, look at ways to strengthen the synergies between the Commission and the Fund with a view to further enhancing the transparency of the Fund and to ensure that Member States remain informed on the ongoing projects of the Fund.

[1] www.un.org/peacebuilding/content/secretary-generals-peacebuilding-funding-dashboard.

Actions:

I. The Commission is to hear presentations by countries receiving funds from the Peacebuilding Fund, in particular when countries have been declared eligible for the Peacebuilding Recovery Facility.

II. The Commission is to invite the Chair and the members of the Advisory Group of the Peacebuilding Fund to meetings of the Commission, when relevant.

III. Regular briefings by the Peacebuilding Support Office on the activities of the Fund at the meetings of the Commission and more regular circulation of Fund documents to the Commission would be useful.

IV. The Commission is to convene an annual meeting to be informed on the work of the Peacebuilding Fund and increase the visibility of the Fund.

7. **Preparation, format, conduct and outcome of Commission meetings**: meetings of the Commission should be prepared well in advance with a view to ensuring substantive discussions and facilitate concrete outcomes. A balance between transparency/outreach and confidentiality of the Commission's deliberations must be ensured when deciding if a meeting should be open or closed. The Commission, in all its meetings and formats, and with the consent of Member States, should enhance inclusivity and ensure that participation reinforces an integrated Organizational Committee and the concept of a unified Peacebuilding Commission. The Peacebuilding Support Office is to continue to ensure that mechanisms of reporting back to the Organizational Committee on all Commission activities are in place. Ensure that there is a balance between time allocated to presentations by briefers and to interventions from the floor, with a view to promoting interactive discussions.

Actions:

I. The Commission should make greater use of expert-level meetings to discuss the purpose and expected outcomes of and follow-up to ambassadorial-level meetings.

II. In preparation for the meetings of the Commission, the Chair will circulate a concept note at least one week before the date of the meeting.

III. In preparation for the meetings of the Commission, the Chair, upon consultation with the countries concerned, should announce whether the meetings are to be open or closed; this information may be reflected in the monthly programme of work, where possible, and meeting status should be updated in that regard.

IV. In preparation for the meetings of the Commission, the Peacebuilding Support Office will ask briefers to limit their interventions to no more than five minutes.

V. In the conduct of the meetings of the Commission, the Chair will remind briefers to limit their interventions to no more than three to five minutes. The Chair will also encourage speakers from the floor to limit their interventions to no more than three minutes.

VI. When inviting participants from the floor to speak, the Chair, upon advice from the Secretary, will prioritize countries from the region and give due consideration to protocol and order of registration.

VII. In addition to Chair's summaries, the Commission is to consider relevant documents to strengthen the outcome of its meetings. These should include, as appropriate, press statements and letters to be agreed upon by the Commission. To strengthen national ownership, particular importance when considering

outcome documents shall be given to input provided by the country and/or region under consideration.

VIII. Documents to be approved by the Commission are to be circulated early enough to allow Member States to provide input and suggestions.

VIII bis. Periodic follow-up meetings are encouraged in country- and region-specific contexts to inform the Commission of the outcomes of its engagements.

8. **Visibility and communication**: there is a need to address the lack of awareness, both within and outside the United Nations, about the work of the Commission and on peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

Actions:

I. The Commission is to explore ways to increase the visibility of its open meetings, in particular high-level events such as the annual session, to attract more attention from the media and the United Nations system. For example, the Commission should issue press releases, as appropriate, after such events. The Commission could also consider developing a communications strategy, in consultation with the Department of Global Communications.

II. The Commission is to explore ways to increase ongoing activity on the Internet and on social media with regard to all of its meetings and country visits.