



29 September 2015

Excellencies,

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the UN peacebuilding architecture. In General Assembly resolution 65/7 and Security Council resolution 1947 (2010), the Assembly and the Council called for a further comprehensive review in 2015, five years after the conclusion of the 2010 review. The scope and terms of reference of the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture were outlined in the joint letter from the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General, dated 15 December 2014 (A/69/674 – S/2014/911), following consultations with Member States.

The comprehensive review consists of two stages, which should be planned in accordance with the respective calendars of the General Assembly and Security Council in 2015. In the first, an Advisory Group of 7 experts, designated by the Secretary-General, completed the first phase of the 2015 Review within the stipulated timeframe and in strict compliance with the terms of reference of the 2015 Review. Their analysis, findings and recommendations, anchored in five case studies and based on broad-based consultations at regional and headquarters level within the UN system and beyond, have culminated in the report entitled “The Challenge of Sustaining Peace”, officially issued in the six UN languages on 31 July 2015 under the symbol ‘A/69/968 – S/2015/490’.

His Excellency
Mr. Mogens Lykketoft
President of the General Assembly
New York

His Excellency
Mr. Vitaly Ivanovich Churkin
President of the Security Council
New York

According to the terms of reference outlined in the joint letter "A/69/674 – S/2014/911", the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council, by way of letter dated 6 July 2015, have appointed us to co-facilitate an inclusive inter-governmental process that will review the findings and consider the recommendations of the report of the Advisory Group. We are expected to subsequently summarize and submit the outcome of the intergovernmental process for consideration and decision by the General Assembly and the Security Council. In this, the technical and substantial support of Secretariat to the Advisory Group on the Review of the U.N. Peacebuilding Architecture and the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) will be required throughout the process.

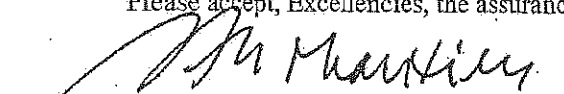
In a time when finding durable solutions to the rapidly increasing number of conflicts on the UN's agenda seems both more urgent and yet more elusive than ever, the need to rethink the UN's approach to sustaining peace is abundantly clear. The report of the AGE has provided us with important input to move forward. Taking inspiration from their guidance, the purpose of the intergovernmental phase of Review of the UN Peacebuilding Architecture is to transform the analysis and recommendations of the first phase – the AGE Report – into practical, realistic and effective benchmarks, ideally through identical General Assembly/ Security Council resolutions.


In discharging our mandate, we propose to launch substantive discussions to understand and unpack the recommendations of the AGE report. Following our appointment on July 6, we have already started informally engaging with member states, in order to gain an understanding on the initial reactions to the report and the ways to move forward. We plan to continue to consult with member states informally until the end of the General Debate of the 70th Session, in an inclusive and transparent manner.

Based on this plan, we have the pleasure, as co-facilitators, to invite you to the first informal meeting to be held on 6 October 2015, at 11 am at the Trusteeship Council, where delegations will have the opportunity to provide their views on the proposed roadmap and programme of work, as well as their general views on their expectations from the outcome of the process as a whole.

We count on your active participation in and support to this process.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of our highest consideration.


H.E. Mr. Ismael Abraao Gaspar Martins
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Angola


H.E. Ms. Gillian Bird
Permanent Representative of
Australia

**The Challenge of Sustaining Peace –
Informal Meeting on 'Setting the Stage'**
For the Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture
6 October 2015

The comprehensive review of the UN Peacebuilding Architecture, the Terms of Reference of which were set in the joint letter from the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General dated 15 December 2014 (A/69/674 - S/2014/911), consists of two stages. In the first, the analysis, findings and recommendations of an Advisory Group of Experts (AGE) designated by the Secretary-General, have culminated in the report entitled "The Challenge of Sustaining Peace", officially issued in the six UN languages on 31 July 2015 under the symbol 'A/69/968 - S/2015/490'.

The second and intergovernmental process of the Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture was launched on 29 June 2015 with the submission of the Report of the AGE to the Presidents of the General Assembly and the Security Council. On 15 September 2015, Angola and Australia were re-appointed as the co-facilitators for the intergovernmental process.

With the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the UN Peacebuilding Architecture, the need to rethink the UN's approach to peacebuilding is clear. The purpose of the intergovernmental phase of the review is to transform the analysis and recommendations of the first phase – the AGE Report – into practical, realistic and effective benchmarks, ideally through joint and identical General Assembly/ Security Council resolutions.

According to the Terms of Reference of the Review, the intergovernmental process will be planned in accordance with the respective calendars of the General Assembly and Security Council in 2015.

The proposed work programme towards joint UNGA/UNSC resolutions is:

- September/ October 2015: Informal discussions on the timelines, desired outcome, key recommendations from the AGE report.
- 6 October 2015: Informal meeting on 'Setting the Stage'
- 30-31 October 2015: PBC Retreat
- Early November 2015: Open informal consultations organized by Co-Facilitators
- Mid-November 2015: Preparation and dissemination of 'zero draft' of identical resolutions, drawing from the AGE Report, language proposals of member states on the zero draft
- End November 2015: Dissemination of first draft
- December 2015: Informal discussions on the revised draft and development of the next draft (Working-level)
- End December 2015: Formal discussions towards finalization of the draft resolution.