

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
6178th 5 August 2009			<b>Rule 37</b> 22 Member States <sup>c</sup>  <b>Rule 39</b> Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Under- Secretary-General for Field Support, Force Commander of UNAMID	All Council members and all invitees	<a href="#">S/PRST/2009/24</a>

<sup>a</sup> Canada, Czech Republic, India, Jordan, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan and Uruguay.

<sup>b</sup> Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic (on behalf of the European Union), Egypt, Germany, Ghana, India, Italy, Jordan, Morocco (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement), Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Spain and Uruguay.

<sup>c</sup> Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Morocco (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement), Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Serbia, South Africa, Sweden (on behalf of the European Union), Thailand, Tunisia, Uruguay and Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

## 38. Post-conflict peacebuilding

### Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held four meetings, and adopted two presidential statements in connection with the item entitled “Post-conflict peacebuilding”. In response to a letter sent to the President of the Security Council from the representative of the United Kingdom and a report by the Secretary-General, two thematic debates were held to explore the challenges faced by United Nations peacebuilding efforts in immediate post-conflict settings. At the other two meetings, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission presented to the Council the annual report on the Commission’s work. The Council discussed key challenges faced by the Commission and important issues related to United Nations peacebuilding initiatives in general.

### 20 May 2008 and 22 July 2009: discussion and presidential statements concerning peacebuilding in post-conflict situations

On 2 May 2008, by a letter addressed to the President of the Council,<sup>703</sup> the United Kingdom transmitted a concept paper that called for a Council discussion on the subject of post-conflict stabilization to identify and address the critical gaps that hampered international efforts to help countries stabilize and

build sustainable peace as they emerge from conflict. Gaps were found in three areas: leadership on the ground; rapidly deployable and skilled civilian capacity; and flexible funding.

On 20 May 2008, in response to that request, the Council held a debate on the subject of ensuring effective peacebuilding efforts, especially in the immediate aftermath of conflict. In his statement to the Council, the Secretary-General emphasized the importance of strengthening the collective response of the United Nations by taking coherent measures in cooperation with other actors, developing sufficient capacity by aligning the respective instruments in the United Nations system, building up civilian expertise and securing early and flexible funding.<sup>704</sup>

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Sierra Leone commented on the peacebuilding effort in his country and made several observations for further reflection, emphasizing the need to balance international intervention and national ownership, pay sufficient attention to local norms and sensitivities and let local actors take charge.<sup>705</sup>

The Senior Vice-President of the World Bank reflected on the expansion of its work in connection with fragile and conflict-affected countries from both

<sup>703</sup> S/2008/291.

<sup>704</sup> S/PV.5895, pp. 3-4.

<sup>705</sup> Ibid., pp. 4-7.

operational and analytical perspectives. He expressed the aim of the World Bank to promote better global understanding of the dynamics that affected fragile situations and effective strategic and operational approaches to assisting them, promoting improved country-level collaboration and delivering visible results through a coherent World Bank Group approach.<sup>706</sup>

Mr. Lakhdar Brahimi asserted that the two important issues were the availability of sufficient funds and the hiring of local qualified staff to build up civilian capacity. He added that mandates had to be based on the actual needs of any given country. Those needs could not be fully understood until the United Nations had been engaged in a dialogue with leaders and civil society, and formed a joint understanding with them.<sup>707</sup>

The discussion that followed centred upon the need to coordinate peacebuilding efforts by various actors at the international level and on the ground, to build up national ownership for the eventual handover to national authorities, to gather sufficient funding for peacebuilding efforts, especially emergency funds in the immediate aftermath of conflict, and to send civilian components alongside peacekeeping troops. Speakers generally recognized that the assistance and advisory roles of the United Nations should not be perpetual and that national actors should be given the chance to build up their own capacity for sustained peace and development. Most speakers also acknowledged the current shortfall of civilian staff in peace missions and agreed that sending troops should not undercut the importance of enhancing civilian capacity. A number of speakers reiterated that the continued financing gap for supporting peacebuilding seriously undermined United Nations operations in post-conflict peacebuilding situations.

The Council then adopted a presidential statement<sup>708</sup> by which it, *inter alia*, recognized that supporting States to recover from conflict and build sustainable peace was a major challenge facing the international community, and stressed the need to ensure that finance was available from the outset, and underlined that civilian expertise in post-conflict peacebuilding was essential. The Council also invited

the Secretary-General to provide advice within 12 months to the relevant United Nations organs on how best to take forward those issues within the United Nations system and, taking into consideration the views of the Peacebuilding Commission, how to coordinate peacebuilding activities and encourage the mobilization and most effective use of resources for urgent peacebuilding needs.

On 22 July 2009, the Council considered the report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict<sup>709</sup> and discussed strategies through which the United Nations and the international community could effectively support countries emerging from conflict to move towards sustainable peace, reconstruction, economic recovery and development. The Secretary-General introduced his report and reiterated the importance of national ownership, international leadership, coherent efforts by the United Nations system and key partners, a common strategy with a shared approach addressing realistic priorities, and predictable and credible delivery backed by sufficient international capacity.<sup>710</sup>

The Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission emphasized that national ownership would remain an abstract concept unless it was accompanied from the beginning by local capacity-building. He agreed that a common strategy that was nationally owned and internationally supported meant close coordination between the United Nations staff in-country and the Commission. He also reiterated the need for predictable international support, civilian experts and flexible and rapid funding. He emphasized the importance of diaspora communities as a significant resource for civilian capacity and of pooled funding mechanisms, such as the country-level multi-donor trust funds, as crucial funding instruments. He concluded by stressing that coordination and coherence of peacebuilding needed to be backed up by a realistic approach that minimized institutional positioning and turf disputes among multilateral actors, bilateral donors and civil society, including within the United Nations system.<sup>711</sup>

The Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

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<sup>706</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 7-9.

<sup>707</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 9-11.

<sup>708</sup> S/PRST/2008/16.

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<sup>709</sup> S/2009/304.

<sup>710</sup> S/PV.6165, pp. 4-5.

<sup>711</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 5-6.

expressed the commitment of UNDP to post-conflict peacebuilding. He added that peacebuilding should always be built on existing national capacities and draw on the expertise of the in-country United Nations presence, including the humanitarian and development actors, such as the UNDP resident coordinator. He called for special attention to be given to women and youth to make sure that they benefited from peace dividends and that they were fully engaged in planning and decision-making processes.<sup>712</sup>

The Director of the Fragile and Conflict-Affected Countries Group of the World Bank emphasized the importance of coordinating different perceptions of priorities by the international community and partner countries and suggested several points for priority setting. Priorities should be driven by country demand and should provide some short-term results, consistent with midterm priorities and, at the same time, should lay the basis for sustainable development, growth and employment. They should also aim to strengthen the legitimate authority of the State, and include an exit strategy and a plan on how to transfer responsibility to the legitimate State as early as possible.<sup>713</sup>

Speakers focused on the issues of coordinating the international response, civilian capacity-building in peace missions, access to rapid and flexible financing, harmonized partnership with other actors and the fostering of national ownership.

The Council then adopted a presidential statement,<sup>714</sup> by which it, *inter alia*, emphasized the importance of national ownership and the need for national authorities to take responsibility as soon as possible for re-establishing the institutions of Government, restoring the rule of law, revitalizing the economy, reforming the security sector, providing basic services and other key peacebuilding needs. The Council also underscored the vital role of the United Nations in providing support to national authorities in the development of an early strategy, in close consultation with international partners, to address those priorities. In addition, the Council welcomed the recommendation of the Secretary-General for a review to be undertaken to analyse how the United Nations and the international community could help to broaden and deepen the pool of civilian experts, recognized that

post-conflict situations require experienced leadership on the ground, and requested the United Nations to strengthen its efforts in this regard.

### **21 October 2008 to 25 November 2009: annual reports of the Peacebuilding Commission**

On 21 October 2008, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission presented to the Council the Commission's annual report.<sup>715</sup> He noted that although the four country-specific configurations produced tangible results to support the respective national efforts in post-conflict peacebuilding, there were many more countries that were still facing the same challenges and could benefit from effective peacebuilding strategies developed by the Commission. He pointed out that the notions of national ownership, sustained partnership with the international community, and mutual accountability and dialogue, which represented a cooperative and participatory approach, were the greatest assets and had added value to the Commission. He also noted that in 2008 the Commission had made a serious effort to enhance partnerships at the highest level. He outlined four priority areas for the future: to produce tangible results on the ground, emphasizing the actual betterment of the population's livelihood and the appropriate United Nations mandate and capacity to support the work of the Commission; to deepen strategic and policy discussions, with post-conflict early recovery and the entry point for the Commission into additional countries as important issues; to strengthen partnerships with major donor agencies; and to ensure the coherence and efficiency of the Commission's activities in order to serve people on the ground.<sup>716</sup>

Council members and other speakers commented on the importance of the Commission as it filled the gap between peacekeeping and achieving sustainable and tangible results in the host countries, especially in Burundi and Sierra Leone. They emphasized that peacebuilding should be a long-term investment and that it was very important for the Commission to keep close relations with other United Nations organs and agencies, the Bretton Woods institutions and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations. They also stressed that cooperation between the Commission and the Council, through regular

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<sup>712</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 6-7.

<sup>713</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 7-9.

<sup>714</sup> S/PRST/2009/23.

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<sup>715</sup> S/2008/417.

<sup>716</sup> S/PV.5997, pp. 2-4.

dialogues and exchanges of information, remained crucial. The need to mobilize potential partners and resources was emphasized as well. Additional topics included participation of private sector entities, relations with host countries, the Council's referral of new countries to be put on the agenda of the Commission, national ownership and the operations of the Peacebuilding Fund.

On 25 November 2009, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission presented to the Council its annual report.<sup>717</sup> He addressed a number of critical policy questions and lessons learned of particular relevance to the Commission's overarching mandate as an institutional mechanism dedicated to addressing the special needs of post-conflict countries. He noted that in 2009, it had consolidated its core advisory role and demonstrated increasing support for the countries on its agenda. In doing so, it had continued to broaden and deepen its partnerships with critical actors, and was striving to ensure the operational relevance of its advice and promote the coherence of peacebuilding strategies. The Chair underscored the Commission's deepened relations with the Council, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as with such regional organizations as the African Union and the Organization of American States. He also stated that the Organizational Committee of the Commission, representing the core group of its members, continued to address possible approaches to enhancing its capacity to implement its core mandates and adapt to prevailing global realities and evolving approaches to critical peacebuilding priorities. On the country level, in the four countries that were on the

Commission's agenda, its country team collectively continued to promote inclusiveness and national ownership of the peacebuilding processes. The Chair also commended the working group on lessons learned for its effort to draw on expertise from within and outside the United Nations system and the Peacebuilding Support Office for its substantive support. He concluded by stating that despite the initial progress in linking the advisory role of the Commission with United Nations and non-United Nations operational entities, it remained underutilized. Therefore, a potential added value of the Commission at the country level was to leverage its weight in order to advance mutual accountability between national actors in the concerned country and its international and regional partners. In particular, it could promote seamless transition from humanitarian to early recovery assistance, synergy between peacekeeping and peacebuilding mandates, and national capacity development in critical peacebuilding priorities.<sup>718</sup>

Council members commended the achievements of the Commission and discussed the challenges ahead, including building the linkages between mediation, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, shifting the focus of countries from a dependency on the United Nations to the cultivation of national ownership, referring new countries to the Commission and financing the Commission in the midst of the financial crisis. Many Council members also highlighted the need to implement the strategy proposed by the Secretary-General in his report on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict.<sup>719</sup>

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<sup>717</sup> S/2009/444.

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<sup>718</sup> S/PV.6224, pp. 2-5.

<sup>719</sup> S/2009/304.

Meetings: post-conflict peacebuilding

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
5895th 20 May 2008	Letter dated 2 May 2008 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2008/291)		<b>Rule 37</b> 36 Member States <sup>a</sup> <b>Rule 39</b> Senior Vice-President of the World Bank; Mr. Lakhdar Brahimi; Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission	Secretary-General, all Council members, all invitees <sup>b</sup>	<a href="#">S/PRST/2008/16</a>
5997th 21 October 2008	Report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its second session (S/2008/417)		<b>Rule 37</b> 7 Member States <sup>c</sup> <b>Rule 39</b> Chair of the Commission	All Council members and all invitees <sup>d</sup>	
6165th 22 July 2009	Report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict (S/2009/304)		<b>Rule 37</b> 24 Member States <sup>e</sup> <b>Rule 39</b> Chair of the Commission, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery of UNDP, Director of the Fragile and Conflict-Affected Countries Group of the World Bank	Secretary-General, all Council members, <sup>f</sup> all invitees <sup>g</sup>	<a href="#">S/PRST/2009/23</a>

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
6224th 25 November 2009	Report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its third session (S/2009/444)		<b>Rule 37</b> 10 Member States <sup>h</sup>  <b>Rule 39</b> Chair of the Commission	All Council members and all invitees <sup>i</sup>	

<sup>a</sup> Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina (Chairman of the Council of Ministers), Brazil, Chile, Egypt, El Salvador, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Jamaica, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Netherlands (Minister for Foreign Affairs), New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Serbia, Sierra Leone (Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation), Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Switzerland, Thailand and Turkey.

<sup>b</sup> The representative of Jamaica made a statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, and the representative of Slovenia made a statement on behalf of the European Union.

<sup>c</sup> Bangladesh, El Salvador, Guinea-Bissau, Netherlands, Norway and Sierra Leone (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation).

<sup>d</sup> The representative of France made a statement on behalf of the European Union.

<sup>e</sup> Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burundi, Canada, Central African Republic (Minister Delegate at the Presidency of the Central African Republic in charge of National Defence, Veterans' Affairs, Victims of War, Disarmament and Restructuring of the Army), Egypt, Germany, Guatemala, India, Italy, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, Somalia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), South Africa (Deputy Minister for International Relations and Cooperation), Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and Uruguay.

<sup>f</sup> Uganda was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the United Kingdom by its Minister for Africa, Asia and the United Nations.

<sup>g</sup> The representative of Sweden made a statement on behalf of the European Union.

<sup>h</sup> Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, El Salvador, Finland, India, Republic of Korea, Sweden and Switzerland.

<sup>i</sup> The representative of Sweden made a statement on behalf of the European Union.

## **39. Items relating to the maintenance of international peace and security**

### **A. The maintenance of international peace and security: role of the Security Council in supporting security sector reform**

#### **Overview**

During the period under review, the Security Council held two consecutive meetings in connection with its role in supporting security sector reform, one at which it heard briefings on the role of the United Nations in security sector reform and the other at which it adopted a presidential statement on the importance of and the need for continued engagement of the United Nations in supporting security sector reform.

#### **12 May 2008: presidential statement concerning security sector reform**

On 12 May 2008, the Council heard briefings by the Secretary-General, who presented his report on the role of the United Nations in supporting security sector reform,<sup>720</sup> and three other speakers. All speakers emphasized the sovereign right and responsibility of countries in implementing security sector reform and recognized the importance of coordinated support by the United Nations in sustaining the security sector reform process. The representative of Slovakia pointed out the need for continued United Nations capacity-building in security sector reform.<sup>721</sup> The representative of South Africa emphasized that the new concept of security included not only military aspects

<sup>720</sup> S/2008/39.

<sup>721</sup> S/PV.5889, pp. 4-6.