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The 2025 PBAR outcome document should

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Priority

. Peace-building and sustaining peace is hard to achieve in centralised states<sup>8</sup>, where the response to immediate crises and changes in conflict dynamics cannot be timely addressed by local governments. The New Urban Agenda recognises that the key role of local governments is 'in strengthening the interface among all relevant stakeholders' ([A/RES/71/256](#), OP 42). [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should encourage Member States to promote the engagement of local governments in identifying, driving and directing priorities, strategies and activities for sustaining peace, including by providing them with the necessary authority and resources to manage critical urban, metropolitan and territorial concerns<sup>10</sup>, and in this regard, invite relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to cooperate with local governments to support them in discharging these responsibilities<sup>11</sup>.](#)

([Pact for the Future, Rev.3](#), Action 16, para 37(c)). I4Ps can prevent extreme hardships that conflict inflicts on communities, are more cost-effective than reactive interventions, and connect local actors and national governments to facilitate inclusive responses. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should request Member States to develop and operationalise context-specific early warning systems and other infrastructures for peace, in partnership with local peacebuilding actors and their networks, and in this regard, invite Member States to ensure that such mechanisms are integrated into relevant regional peacebuilding mechanisms<sup>12</sup>.](#)

, building on a shared commitment of Member States to peacebuilding and sustaining peace through assessed contributions ([A/RES/76/305](#), OP 3, OP17). [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should request Member States to 1\) ensure proper financing of infrastructures for peace and national prevention/peacebuilding strategies and approaches<sup>13</sup>; 2\) allocate specific budgetary resources for peacebuilding, distinct from security spending<sup>1</sup>; 3\) mobilise domestic investors and domestic finance with public resources to support sustaining peace<sup>1</sup>, and 4\) where relevant, guide donor coordination towards strategic and impact-oriented investment in national peacebuilding priorities<sup>1</sup>.](#)

([A/RES/70/262-S/RES/ 2282](#), PP9). This includes ensuring the full, effective and meaningful participation of local peacebuilders, including women, youth and other groups in vulnerable situations, in the design, monitoring and implementation of national prevention and peacebuilding efforts ([A/RES/70/262-S/RES/ 2282](#), OP21, OP23; [A/RES/76/305](#), OP7-9) based on the principles of authentic partnership<sup>17</sup>. Sensitisation and awareness raising among communities are required to ensure that they can understand and relate to global policies<sup>18</sup>. Governments should work with existing networks that are already



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The 2016 dual resolutions on peacebuilding and sustaining peace ([A/RES/70/262-S/RES/2282](#)) clearly articulate that an integrated and coherent approach among relevant political, security and developmental actors, within and outside of the UN system, needs to be 'consistent with their respective mandates and the UN Charter' (PP14). The 2015 Report of the High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (['HIPPO report](#)

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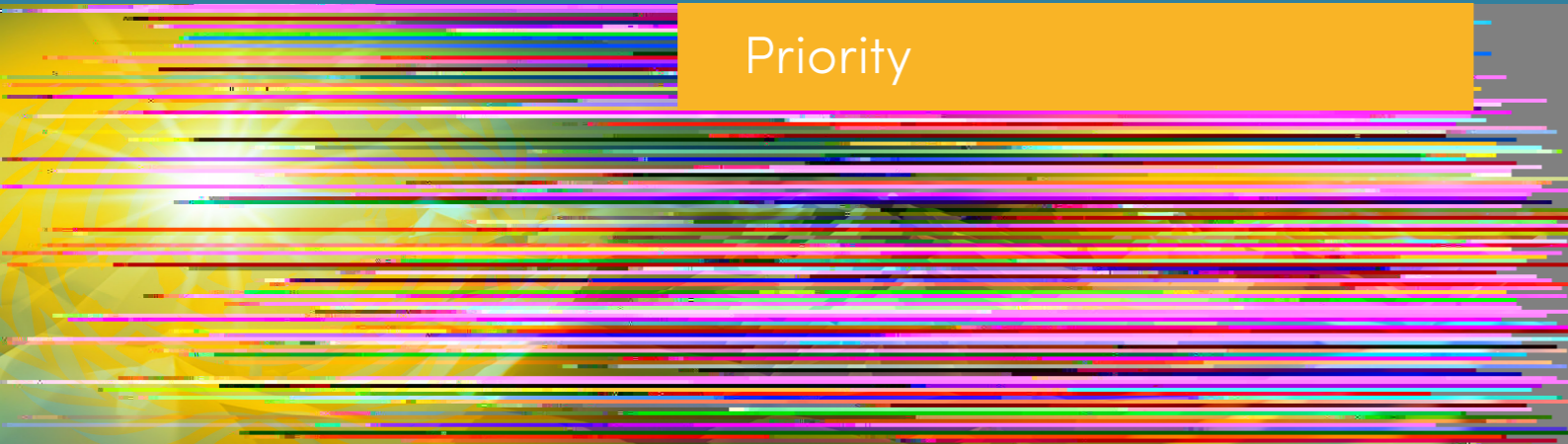
Priority



. In 2020, the UN Secretary-General issued the UN System-Wide Community Engagement Guidelines on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace. However, the Guidelines have not been implemented at the field level, and many offices remain unaware of this resource. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should encourage the UN field presence to fully imple-](#)



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. The PBSO's Funding Dashboard<sup>30</sup> should increase the availability and quality of data from all UN funds that contribute to peacebuilding, including its specialised agencies, such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The data from the Funding Dashboard should be complemented by evidence of the impact of these investments through PBSO's Impact Hub. Peacebuilding networks should also complement existing efforts by collecting evidence of impact of local peacebuilding action. Among Member States, there should be an agreement on what constitutes peacebuilding to develop a peacebuilding marker to track relevant investments. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should encourage Member States to develop a peacebuilding marker and to invest in data collection on financing for peacebuilding and its impact, with a specific indicator for funding available for local peacebuilding.](#)

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. Donor countries should consider spending a dedicated share of their development assistance on peacebuilding priorities (A/74/944-S/2020/678, p. 11). [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should endorse the Secretary-General's proposals for the donor community to commit to spending at least 20 percent of ODA on peacebuilding priorities in conflict-affected settings<sup>31</sup>, and in this regard, establishing a peacebuilding marker to track relevant allocations.](#)

. The avenues to support sustaining peace include increased assessed and voluntary contributions, innovative financing mechanisms, including blended finance, bonds, and guarantees, and strengthened partnerships among all financial actors, such as the private sector, international financial institutions (IFIs), and regional development banks ([A/72/707-S/2018/43](#), para. 49; [A/RES/70/262-S/RES/2282](#), OPs 18, 24). [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should 1\) recall the request to the Secretary-General to develop a strategy for resource mobilisation from the private sector in support of financing for peacebuilding<sup>32</sup>, 2\) call upon the Peacebuilding Commission to develop a strategy for engagement of all financing partners in its meetings<sup>33</sup>, and 3\) encourage the UN field presences to collaboratively explore innovative funding modalities with relevant financing partners<sup>3</sup>.](#)

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. Donors should include diverse local peacebuilders and their networks in governance, advisory, funding and review boards and committees. Quality financing includes testing innovative funding models to provide local peacebuilders with quality funding through their networks, which can then assess and address their own capacity needs. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should emphasise the need for adequate, predictable, sustained and accessible \(or quality\) financing for peacebuilding and encourage testing innovative and participatory funding models.](#)

. Donor coordination mechanisms should have clear mandates and adequately resourced capacities. Coordination also requires donors to relinquish their authority over funding in favour of priorities developed in an inclusive process at the national level<sup>36</sup>. Involving the national government in donor coordination

<sup>35</sup> LPI, DHF, GPPAC 'Principles for Quality Financing for Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention', April 2022: <https://gppac.net/resources/principles-quality-financing-peacebuilding-and-conflict-prevention-practical-avenues>.



## The 2025 PBAR should

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The 2 July 2020 Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) Chair's letter encourages measuring the success of peacebuilding and sustaining peace 'in terms of impact rather than outputs'<sup>39</sup>. There is a growing recognition among donors and policymakers that the impact of peacebuilding policy and programming stems from context-specific action driven by local realities, experiences and needs. However, there is still no common understanding of what localisation looks like in practice. Localisation involves shifting decision-making power from donors and policy-makers to local stakeholders (i.e., local governments, security forces, traditional leaders, local peacebuilders, and diverse community groups) who jointly develop inclusive priorities. This approach requires a certain degree of 'letting go' and is resource-intensive.

Localisation of peacebuilding and sustaining peace includes the following principles:

- Diverse local peacebuilders are equal stakeholders in efforts to implement the resolutions on peacebuilding and sustaining peace ([A/RES/75/201-S/RES/2558](#), OP1). Both dual resolutions underline the importance of inclusivity to ensure that the needs of all segments of society are taken into account ([A/RES/70/262-S/RES/ 2282](#), OP3; [A/RES/75/201-S/RES/2558](#), PP5). National governments, the donor community and development partners must consult with diverse local actors as equal partners (see, [2015 AGE Report](#), para. 46) through intentional 'co-design' or 'co-creation' at every stage of the process. In order to make these consultations impactful, global policies need to be translated into local languages, awareness-raising campaigns and training for all local actors need to be conducted, and consultations in jargon-free language need to be held. A way to achieve inclusion in such processes is through systematic and institutionalised engagement with peacebuilding networks. These networks are already representative and accountable to their members<sup>40</sup>, providing a foundation for consistent, coherent, and impactful peacebuilding engagement. **The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should encourage all peacebuilding stakeholders to engage systematically and meaningfully with locally-led peacebuilding networks in designing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating peacebuilding policies and programmes.**

<sup>39</sup> UN, 'Letter dated 2 July 2020 from the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council (A/74/935)', 7 July 2020, Accessible at: [https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org/peacebuilding/files/a\\_74\\_935-2009035e\\_1.pdf](https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org/peacebuilding/files/a_74_935-2009035e_1.pdf).

<sup>40</sup> 'Unpacking a Network Approach: The Role of Networks, Movements and Coalitions in Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace.' Informal Learning Session for the Civil Society-UN Dialogue Initiative Summary Note, January 2024. Accessible at: <https://www.gppac.net/resources/unpacking-network-approach-role-networks-movements-and-coalitions-peacebuilding-and>

. At the field level, this requires developing institutionalised community engagement strategies based on the [UN System-Wide Community Engagement Guidelines on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace](#) and appointing a dedicated focal point for civil society engagement. In global forums, such as the PBC, local peacebuilders' participation must be independent and present a complementary perspective to that of national governments. The PBC Chair can cancel meetings where independent civil society is not present. To ensure systematisation of civil society engagement, Member States could organise informal dialogues with civil society networks both in the field and at the UN headquarters to gather perspectives from diverse network members around pressing concerns<sup>41</sup>. The UN country teams can guide Member States in ways to ensure meaningful engagement of local peacebuilders in these processes. The [annual CS-UN Dialogue on Peacebuilding](#) provides a platform to regularise such informal dialogues. [The resolution on peacebuilding and sustaining peace should express full support to the initiative of the PBSO to hold an annual CS-UN Dialogue on Peacebuilding, emphasise the importance of the full, effective and meaningful participation of local peacebuilders in the design, monitoring and implementation of peacebuilding](#)

