



Remarks

by

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President of the 68th Session of the United Nations

General Assembly

Annual Session of the Peacebuilding Commission

Concluding Session

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H. E. Vitaly Churkin, President of the Security Council,
H. E. Antonio de Aguiar Patriota, Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission
Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to join you for the closing of this annual session of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC).

Let me begin by thanking you, Ambassador de Aguiar Patriota, for the kind invitation to be part of this closing session and also congratulate you for the leadership you have shown in steering the work of PBC. I am confident that under your able leadership, the body will grow even stronger and meet its objectives successfully.

As we all know, the PBC was established in 2005, it was established with high expectations to tackle the daunting challenges of reconstruction and development in countries emerging from conflict. Undoubtedly, over the last three years the PBC has made important strides towards implementing its mandate and core functions as an intergovernmental advisory body of the UN.

As parent organ alongside the Security Council, the General Assembly had a primary role to play in its inception and continues its engagement by participating in the work of the PBC, as well as reviewing its work.

Excellencies,

Over the last nine years or so, the PBC has proven its value in addressing root causes and challenges associated with conflict, instability and underdevelopment, to prevent post-conflict countries from relapsing into conflict.

Countries that have been referred to the agenda of the PBC have benefited from constructive international attention with a focus on their specific needs and challenges. The Country Specific Configurations have provided a platform to foster dialogue and cooperation among all parties involved in the recovery efforts, including original actors, major financial and troop contributors, financial institutions and UN Representatives.

At the county level, i

Next year, the General Assembly and the Security Council will conduct a mandated year review of the Peacebuilding Architecture. This review will be an opportunity to explore how to strengthen the capacity and authority of the PBC to provide advice and specific recommendations on policies that improve the lives of people in countries emerging from conflict.

Distinguished Delegates

An important milestone in the transition of a postconflict country is its removal from the agenda of the Security Council. It is an important benchmark to celebrate, yet it is also a source of risk in D F R X Q W U \ | V W U D Q V L W O R Q H I U R P I Z I O U W E R S U R D E F H technical, financial and political and attention from the international community. These resources are likely to decline with the departure of the Council's mandated mission.

The PBC was created to ease the transition in light of these risks and one of its primary roles has been to mobilise the required resources in postconflict countries. Almost ten years since the establishment of the Commission, this main objective of the PBC remains more critical than ever before. For this reason, the theme for this first annual session H Q W L W O H G 3 6 X V W D L Q D E C S H D F H E X L O G L Q J W K H G R P H V W L F D Q G L Q W H U Q D W L R Q D O D V

I understand that deliberations since the beginning of this first annual session have been positive and constructive. The discussions and themes you selected in your interactive working sessions are all instrumental in charting a way forward to ensure sustainable support for peacebuilding.

Indeed, peacebuilding requires substantial financial and human resources. While it is true that W U D Q V L W L R Q D O D V V L V W D Q F H V X R U C H D E V W A S S I S T A N C E % T H E H Q Y H O R R also a greater need for long-term, sustained financial support to enable postconflict countries to consolidate peace and stability.

