



**Dag Hammarskjöld
Foundation**

Where are we now on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace

Informal Exchange with Peacebuilding Commission Member States

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305 E47th Street, 10th Floor, New York | Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation Offices

Summary Note

The adoption of [the dual 2025 Resolutions on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace \(S/RES/2805-A/RES/80/11\)](#) provides a viable opportunity to [strengthen the role of the Peacebuilding Commission](#) in sustaining peace and conflict prevention. There are several key shifts called for by the resolutions to go beyond rhetoric to strengthen the Commission in practice.

First, the resolutions encourage strengthening the convening capacity of the Commission to assist Member States in building national peacebuilding and conflict prevention capacities, including through learning and exchange [\(S/RES/2805-A/RES/80/11, OP 1\(b, e\)\)](#) and to engage with international financial institutions (IFIs) and regional development banks (RDBs) to provide resources for building such capacities [\(S/RES/2805-A/RES/80/11, OPs 1\(b\), 8\)](#).

Second, the resolutions speak to a long-standing concern of Member States of the need to improve efforts to measure results, requesting more monitoring and reflection on where the Commission brings about the most impact through regular follow-up and assessment of the implementation of its outcomes [\(S/RES/2805-A/RES/80/11, OP 1 \(d\)\)](#).

Third, the resolutions encourage more awareness raising about the Commission's work [\(S/RES/2805-A/RES/80/11, OP 1 \(i\)\)](#) and more systematized referrals of countries transitioning off the Security Council's agenda [\(S/RES/2805-A/RES/80/11, OP 1 \(c\)\)](#).

Fourth, the resolution encourages improved working methods and practices [\(S/RES/2805-A/RES/80/11, OP 1 \(g\)\)](#) and a more predictable and flexible annual programme of work [\(S/RES/2805-A/RES/80/11, OP 1 \(a\)\)](#).

Fifth, the resolution encourages more timely, strategic and context-specific advice [\(S/RES/2805-A/RES/80/11, OP 2 \(a, d\)\)](#) informed by diverse stakeholders [\(S/RES/2805-A/RES/80/11, OPs 2\(c\), 4, 11\)](#) and delivered to diverse intergovernmental bodies (i.e., the UNSC, UNGA, and ECOSOC) via diverse formats of engagement [\(S/RES/2805-A/RES/80/11, OPs 2 \(a, b, d\), 3\)](#).

Sixth, the resolution encourages a more holistic, system-wide approach of the Commission to include diverse Member States' perspectives on peacebuilding and sustaining peace [\(S/RES/2805-A/RES/80/11, OP 7\)](#) and greater connectivity with the entirety of the UN System, including the field-level UN presences and regional organisations in its work [\(S/RES/2805-A/RES/80/11, OPs 2\(a\), 3, 4, 5, 9, 10\)](#) for the purposes of better coherence.

Member States have a significant role to play in supporting the implementation of these provisions. Some of the concrete ideas and suggestions raised in the discussion include:

1. Member States could support awareness raising about the value proposition for countries engaging with the Commission. Member States of the Commission and those previously having received support from the Commission can play an important role in raising awareness about what the Commission offers and provide useful insights on its impact and good practices. Member States, through their regional groups, could increase knowledge and understanding of the work of the Commission. Good practices exist in the leadership that Australia has demonstrated in encouraging Member States of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) to engage with the Commission.

Communicating through specific positive examples is effective. One such example is that of Papua New Guinea (PNG), where resources from the Peacebuilding Fund was able to unlock additional funding from the World Bank to support PNG in the development of their national prevention strategy. The examples of the Commission's engagement with the AU's Peace and Security Council could similarly serve as a model for strengthening partnerships with other regional organizations. More exchanges and sharing of experiences would improve the understanding of the roles of the Commission and its modes of engagement.

2. Member States could encourage continued reflection on the working methods. Member States could actively encourage that meeting agendas are set with more concrete outcomes and plans for follow up action. In 2025, the Commission had a meeting on Sao Tome and Principe, and as one of the outcomes of the meeting a table of recommendations was generated for follow up. This practice can continue and would likely increase the impact of the Commission's work, with concrete and traceable outcomes.

3. Member States could provide more specific guidance on the analysis useful for the Commission's work. There are various platforms through which the Commission can collect recommendations, analysis, and reflections from diverse stakeholders. In addition to regular Commission meetings, there is the annual CSO-UN Dialogue on Peacebuilding and the newly conceptualised Annual Peacebuilding Week, as well as several good practices of engaging with civil society during UN conferences and meetings (i.e., the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)). However, the advice from civil society is often ineffective and misaligned in terms of informing the work of the Commission. If Member States could provide a clearer understanding of what information is useful to support more strategic advice it would make the partnership with civil society more effective and impactful, rather than tokenistic and ad-hoc. This could allow civil society to develop more targeted engagement strategies and contribute to effective partnerships.

4. Member States of the Commission could take leadership on specific issues they want to champion in furthering the work of the Commission. A more active role of Member States in supporting discussions and knowledge management on various issues pertaining to the work of the Commission could help strengthen the Commission's capacity and effectiveness. For example, Japan has previously shown leadership in advancing the Commission's partnership with IFIs, which helped advance the dialogue on engagement modalities. Similarly, Germany and

South Africa have taken leading roles in exploring pathways for advancing innovative approaches to peacebuilding financing and engagement of the private sector, respectively. Such an approach was actively encouraged by Egypt during its Chairmanship in 2021. Greater engagement by PBC members in taking the lead on certain issues could improve burden sharing in the Commission, broaden thematic engagement and increase its capacity.

5. Member States could more systematically document their efforts and learning from their time on the Commission to ensure that good practices are more readily available for others to follow. This could help to address the steep learning curve that new Member State entering the Commission sometimes face on how to meaningfully contribute to advancing its work. For example, the Republic of Korea prepared a transition note following the end of its term as an informal coordinator between the Commission and the UNSC. Having access to some documentation from former Vice-Chairs, Chairs, and informal coordinators could support the transfer of knowledge and ensure that the work of each Member State builds on that of previous ones. This could also bring closer together the work of the Commission and other bodies (i.e., ECOSOC) that share priority countries on their agendas.

6. Member States could advance the discussion on how to define and operationalise the roles of the Vice-Chairs. Some Member States envision that the Vice-Chairs could support the Chair in developing a more effective and coordinated approach to annual planning. Some Member States envision them to be more active in supporting specific thematic priorities. One idea is for the Vice-Chairs to have responsibility to advance proposals for strengthening the Commission's advisory role through a deeper engagement with UN field presences and civil society. Another idea is for a Vice-Chair to take leadership in follow up after meetings and in acting on suggestions in agreed outcome documents. The continued discussion on the role of Vice-Chairs is linked to efforts to increase the capacity of the Commission and to strengthen its impact.

7. Member States could explore alternative avenues to provide advice to intergovernmental bodies besides the UNSC. An Arria Formula meeting organised by Somalia on "Advancing New Paradigms for Peacebuilding: Fortifying Inclusive and Sustainable Approaches to Peacemaking" in January 2026 is an example of a good practice of bringing peacebuilding conversations into the work of the UNSC. Another example was the session on peacebuilding and development in the Operational Activities for Development Segment of ECOSOC under Poland's leadership in May 2025. Such approaches can increase the integration of peacebuilding across the work of the UN System.