



presented the recommendations included in his trip report to support South Sudan in its transition process such as confidence building measures between the state and its citizens, humanitarian, development and peace efforts, partnership with international financial institutions (IFIs), and engagements with the Commission.

3. **The Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, Ms. Elizabeth Spehar**, expressed appreciation for the continued collaboration between the Peacebuilding Commission and the Government of South Sudan in support of the implementation of the peace agreement and the transition to sustainable development and stability. Referring to the report by the Chair of the visit to South Sudan in which she was also present, she emphasized the importance of prioritizing trust building between the state and its citizens which will require the Government to continue to build effective, accountable, transparent, resilient, and inclusive institutions, and an enabling environment for open, peaceful exchanges, including at the local level. ASG Spehar also stressed the utmost importance of the empowerment of both women and youth in conflict resolution and noted the efforts made by the authorities to enhance inclusivity in the political and institutional framework of the peace process including with the development of the Youth National Strategy . She highlighted the added value of the UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) in enhancing the participation of women and young people in peacebuilding at national and subnational level, both in formal institutions and informal settings. She also welcomed the launch of the first Joint National Steering Committee for the PBF co-chaired by the Minister of Peacebuilding of South Sudan and UN Resident Coordinator, with the participation of civil society and national and international partners as an important step to institutionalize inclusive national ownership. To conclude, she encouraged the Government of South Sudan to remain engaged with the PBC and continue sharing updates on peace and development in the country as well as experiences on peacebuilding with other countries facing similar peacebuilding challenges. Cross-cutting issues like the meaningful empowerment and participation of women and youth in political institutions leave constructive space for sharing experiences and lessons learned in a context of South-South and triangular cooperation, she said.
4. **The Minister of Peacebuilding, H.E. Mr. Stephen Par Kuol** gave an overview on the progress made to date in the implementation of the Revitalized Peace Agreement whose core elements such as, the unification and the graduation of security forces; consultations for the establishment of the Hybrid Court, the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing (CTRH), as well as the establishment of Compensation and Reparation Authority are currently in progress. He also mentioned the on-going preparation of the legislative framework for the conduct of democratic elections in 2024 which will require the development and subsequent adoption of the permanent Constitution. Towards this end, in December 2022, the Ministry of Peacebuilding facilitated a two-day inclusive and participatory political dialogue with support from UNDP that brought together over 100 members of political parties to develop a roadmap for inclusive and peaceful elections in 2024. In terms of peacebuilding priorities specifically in line with Chapters 2 and 5 of the Revitalized Peace Agreement, the Minister referred to the

Sudan; and the support to rule of law to address impunity with the establishment of CTRH. In terms of challenges, the Minister emphasized the need to provide additional resources to

II which inclu

forces, the conclusion of the public consultation for the establishment of the Truth, Reconciliation and Healing Commission under the leadership of the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, the passage of bills such as the Constitutional Process Act 2022, the Transitional Constitution of the

state and its citizens including at the local level. This will help to foster the transition from humanitarian response to long-term development in South Sudan.

They reiterated the need for a cross-pillar approach to peacebuilding, incorporating civil society, regional organizations, IFIs and international partners while ensuring full respect for the notion of national ownership.

10. During the closing segment of the meeting, **the Minister of Peacebuilding** expressed his appreciation for the holding of this second PBC meeting, and welcomed the support expressed by the international community. He recognized the need to support trust building initiatives between the state and its citizens for an inclusive and democratic transition process noting the importance to respect civic space and civil society participation, enhance women representation in political and institutional framework as well as transparency in South Sudan financial institutions. He concluded by underscoring the importance of adopting a Peace to People Approach.
11. In his closing remarks, **the Chair of the Commission** thanked the briefers and reiterated the commitment