cooperation between the two bodies in support of prevention and peacebuilding as well as postconflict reconstruction and development. He stressed the need to reinforce collective commitments for peace in Africa and jointly prioritize conflict prevention drawing also on the United Nations Secretary-General's policy brief on A New Agenda for Peace. The importance of anticipating early on tensions and acting proactively in addressing and solving them was of the "sustainable peace network" to foster cooperation for peacebuilding. Noting that the AU Commission looks forward to the 2024 Summit of Future and the 2025 Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture, he urged to factor the special needs of Africa in advancing joint efforts to robustly prevent conflict.

- 5. H.E. Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General to the AU and Head of the United Nations Office to the AU commended the work and continuous commitment of the UN PBC and the AU PSC in support of peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction and development in Africa. In fostering further the UN-AU partnership, he recommended that policies be more holistic, coordinated and mutually reinforcing with a focus on preventing conflict and building and sustaining peace. While acknowledging that the annual informal consultative meetings of the AU PSC and the UN PBC have created momentum for continued collaboration, he called on the two bodies to commit to deeper and mutually reinforcing engagement. In connection with A New Agenda for Peace, he emphasized the critical importance to prioritize the development of regional, subregional and national capacities to prevent and manage conflict and encourage countries to develop national prevention strategies. He stressed the need to ensure that peacebuilding strategies are inclusive and nationally owned, taking into account all national stakeholders, including the government, women and youth, and civil society organizations. He concluded his remarks with a call for adequate, predictable and sustained financing for peacebuilding in Africa.
- 6. **Ms. Elizabeth Spehar, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support,** emphasized the potential as well as momentum for greater synergies and closer collaboration between the AU PSC and the UN PBC. She conveyed UN Secretariat's commitment to support the partnership between the two bodies, building on both the New Agenda for Peace and the revised AU PCRD Policy. She underscored the critical importance to ensure financing for peacebuilding and called on the AU PSC and the UN PBC to jointly mobilize investment in peacebuilding; support to peace-positive investment of the private sector in fragile and conflict-affected settings; and advance partnerships with international financial institutions. Highlighting the catalytic support provided in Africa by the Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), she emphasized its potential to be scaled up and reinforced with the upcoming projects of the AU Peace Fund. Finally, she reiterated the importance of strengthening partnerships with RECs/RMs, international financial institutions as well as civil society actors, including women and youth, in support of peacebuilding. She noted the AU pivotal role in championing the youth, peace and security agenda and youth's meaningful role in peacebuilding.
- 7. In the ensuing discussion, participants welcomed the briefings and made the following remarks:

They recognized the 2024 Summit of the Future and 2025 Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture as important milestones in strengthening collective support for peacebuilding

and sustaining peace in Africa. They emphasized in that regard the need to take strategic and concrete actions to accelerate this collective effort.

They urged the UN and the AU to continue to enhance the partnership in support of peacebuilding and sustaining peace. Enhanced complementarity and synergies between the two bodies were deemed critical in