

Peacebuilding Commission
Ambassadorial-Level Meeting on Women in Peace and Security: Complementarity of the
Roles of Uniformed Women Peacekeepers and Women Peacebuilders
13 December 2022

1. On 13 December 2022, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), H.E. Mr. Muhammad Abdul Muhith, convened an Ambassadorial-level meeting to discuss the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda with a focus on the role of women in peacekeeping and peacebuilding, and their complementary contributions to conflict prevention and resolution. The meeting was an opportunity to explore the shared roles, successes, challenges, and opportunities of women peacekeepers and peacebuilders to collaborate in advancing s to sustainable peace especially in the conflict affected countries.

2. In his opening remarks, the Chair, **H.E. Mr. Muhammad Abdul Muhith**, highlighted the increasing recognition of gendered dimensions of the peace and security agenda in the United Nations (UN) since the adoption of the Security Council resolution 1325, pointing in peacekeeping operations and peacebuilding initiatives. He mentioned important frameworks for the implementation of the WPS agenda, including the Secretary- for Peacekeeping (A4P), Action for Peacekeeping + (A4P+), and and the results achieved in their implementation. The Chair noted that although the

gender issues in the armed forces, among others. Further recommendations included the need to ensure family support initiatives for female service members and appropriate accommodations as well as assignments. Lastly, he underpinned the need for gender sensitive workplace support initiatives and inclusive policy. He shared his experience that failing these basic requirements leads to early discharge of women military personnel, leading to reversal of hard-earned gains. He expressed the commitment of the network to continuing its efforts towards increasing women's means to advance Women, Peace and Security Agenda.

5. **The Director and Deputy Head of the Peacebuilding Support Office, Ms. Awa Dabo,** underscored

contributes to improving peacekeeping operation effectiveness, ensures better access to local communities and enhances peacebuilding efforts of the peacekeeping missions. She underlined that several barriers underpinned by structural gender norms, power dynamics,

participation in conflict prevention and resolution. Ms. Dabo informed the meeting how PBSO has been integrating gender analysis in the and also facilitating PBC meetings as briefers in order to incorporate gender perspectives in peacebuilding. Further, she elaborated how the Secretary-Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) complements programmatic funding in peacekeeping operations and prioritizes financing for

She emphasized the crucial role of the Fund in transition contexts in an effort to ensuring the sustainability of WPS gains beyond peacekeeping operations. Emphasizing gender-sensitive conflict and political analysis, she stressed the need to ensure that women are fully involved as equal partners in all peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts. She urged to ensure reliable, flexible and long-term investments in local women peacebuilders, their organizations and networks particularly in peacekeeping settings. She called for using the unique convening and advisory role to leverage its support to WPS and engagement in peacebuilding.

6. **The Chief of Peace, Security and Humanitarian Action of UN Women, Ms. Paivi Kannisto,** stressed the need

missions at all levels and in all roles, including senior leadership, highlighting the diversity of knowledge, perspectives, solutions and resources that unfold through gender inclusivity. She underlined the increased effectiveness as well as the improved perception, accessibility and credibility among local populations of gender inclusive peacekeeping missions. She further emphasized the crucial role of women peacebuilders and human rights defenders in peacebuilding and encouraged to strengthen partnerships between peacekeeping missions

She stressed the need to reshape the system-wide responses to peace and security through a more inclusive approach and of a Field Enabling Environment Guidelines to tackle barriers and assisting in the creation of a more enabling environment. She underlined the need for a more concerted effort to

change the status quo and . She
informed about UN Women efforts, including their hosting of the Elsie Initiative Fund for

infrastructure and receptive environments for uniformed women. She concluded by thanking the donors of the Elsie Initiative Fund, and pointing provides further examples of good practices gathered during the implementation of their projects.

9. **Ms. Mavic Cabrera Balleza, the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP),** introduced the network that comprises grassroots

organizations working in crisis and conflict-affected local communities across the world as well as her role as co-chair of the Board of the Compact on Women, Peace & Security and Humanitarian Action, which contributes to the attainment of gender parity in peacekeeping.

as a key pillar of the WPS agenda and the New Agenda for Peace. While welcoming the increase of military and police gender experts and focal points in 2021, she called for addressing the lack of female representation at the Head of Mission level in peacekeeping operations.

accessibility to local populations and encouraging local women, she urged the UN and Members States to step up collective efforts to increase the number of female uniformed peacekeepers, including through implementing the DPOs Uniformed Gender Parity Strategy. She welcomed the Elsie Initiative Fund in this regard. She further called for the integration of the WPS agenda in the Terms of Reference of all senior leaders of peacekeeping operations and stressed the need for those missions to enha Tf1 0eW*ñBTF3 12 Tf1 0 0 1 3

They recognized the progress on the implementation of the WPS agenda and welcomed the A4P, A4P+, the UN system-wide Strategy for Gender Parity, and the PBC Gender Strategy to mainstream gender in the work of the Commission. Member States underlined al and meaningful participation in all aspects of peace processes at all levels.

They acknowledged the important contribution of uniformed women in peacekeeping, including through their engagement with local populations. They called for addressing remaining challenges, including the low number of female uniformed personnel in peacekeeping operations and the lack of representations of women, especially in leadership positions. They welcomed the work of the Elsie Initiative Fund to tackle these challenges. They highlighted the importance of strengthened efforts to facilitate a conducive environment for women peacekeepers, including mitigating discrimination and developing retention strategies.

They recognized that efforts to involve women in peacekeeping and peacebuilding begin at the national level.

them called for protection of women peacebuilders and women human rights defenders, including from sexual and gender-based violence.

11. In his closing remarks, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission stressed the need for attention of all stakeholders to the WPS agenda. Regarding advancing the agenda, he noted contributions of existing policies and initiatives of Member States and the UN as well as examples of successful collaboration between peacebuilders and peacekeepers. He expressed hope that Member States interventions will inform the work of the Commission on promoting WPS. Furthermore, the Chair pointed to the need to address existing challenges and barriers peacebuilding and to strengthen the engagement of women peacebuilding actors, starting on a local level. He expressed the commitment to advance advisory, bridging and convening role in implementing the WPS agenda and in this regard assured that the Commission to other relevant UN bodies, including the Security Council, will take the briefings of the women briefers into account.