

## **Security Council – Open Debate on Youth, Peace & Security**

Statement by the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission

23 April 2018

at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels are available, including in refugee and displaced settings, and young people are provided with appropriate employment opportunities.

The PBC expresses its support for the peacebuilding initiatives with positive reflections undertaken by young women and young men in conflict-affected countries. Such activities are often launched with limited funding, assistance and recognition by national and international actors alike. The PBC recognizes that a lack of adequate funding to youth-led organizations, in part because of the challenges youth organizations face in accessing existing funding streams, is limiting the contribution of young people to peaceful societies. Significantly, initiatives such as the Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative of the Peacebuilding Fund allocated nearly US\$15 million to programmes on youth and peacebuilding in the past two years, including direct funding to non-governmental organizations. Herewith, 40% of the budget was allocated to local civil society organizations. We also welcome PBF efforts promote initiatives that support the involvement of young people as contributors to political processes.

The PBC encourages the Security Council to take into account the role of young people could play in peacebuilding, From our standpoint, the PBC intends to continue and expand its direct engagement with young people, both in the countries and regions it supports and in its meetings here in New York.

Thank you.