



ASWAN FORUM



CHAIR'S SUMMARY

**FINANCING FOR PEACEBUILDING IN  
PEACEKEEPING AND TRANSITION CONTEXTS**

**APRIL 2022**

Chair's Summary

### **Financing for Peacebuilding in Peacekeeping and Transition Contexts**

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#### **CCCPA**

Founded in 1994, the Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping, and Peacebuilding (CCCPA) is an Egyptian public agency; an AU Center of Excellence in training, capacity building, and research; and the Arab world's only civilian training center in the fields of peacekeeping and peacebuilding. It is a major voice of the Global South on a wide range of topics, including conflict prevention and resolution; peacekeeping; peacebuilding; disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR); preventing radicalization and extremism leading to terrorism; combating transnational threats; women, peace, and security; and climate, security, and development. In addition, CCCPA is the Executive Secretariat of the Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development, and the Secretariat of the International Association of Peacekeeping Training Centers (IAPTC).

#### **Aswan Forum**

Egypt, in its capacity as the Champion of Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development in Africa launched the Aswan Forum during its Chairmanship of the African Union in 2019 as a high-level platform that advances home-grown solutions to address the challenges facing the African continent by strengthening interlinkages between peace, security and sustainable development through long term innovative solutions and robust partnerships.

#### **PARTNERSHIPS**



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## KEY MESSAGES

- **As recognized by Member States in the 2020 twin resolutions ([A/RES/75/201](#) and [S/RES/2558](#)) on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, ensuring adequate, predictable, and sustainable financing for peacebuilding remains the most critical challenge facing the UNPBA.**
- **The peace operations landscape has changed significantly since the adoption of the 2016 resolutions ([A/RES/70/262](#) and [S/RES/2282](#)), with peacekeeping budgets witnessing a decline of \$2 billion, reaching \$6.3 billion in 2021 compared to \$8.3 billion five years ago.<sup>1</sup> In contrast, budgets for special political missions (SPMs) have witnessed a 30 percent increase, reaching \$730 million compared to \$561 million in the same period, due to the growing recognition of the role of SPMs in responding to peace and security challenges.**
- **Fragile and conflict-affected states were hit hard by the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.** In 2020, the real GDP contracted by about 6.6 percent and public debt increased by 12.6 percent. While in 2021, inflation increased by more than 10 percent. The COVID-19 pandemic has particularly exacerbated economic instability, poverty, inequality, and exclusion. For this reason, adopting a prevention and sustaining peace approach is crucial for the whole international community.
- **The transition from peacekeeping to peacebuilding necessarily implies an increase in funding that is commensurate with a reduction of troops.** Utilizing assessed peacekeeping funding to support joint initiatives with the UNCT, is essential during the transition of multidimensional integrated peacekeeping operations. Additionally, it is essential for SPMs to have access to assessed funding in order to roll-over mandate delivery. It is also critical to encourage Member States to channel funding through voluntary mechanisms.
- **There is a need for bold and concrete steps towards ensuring adequate, predictable, and sustained financing for the PBF** to enable the development of early resource mobilization strategies with national partners during transitions.
- **PBC Member States could establish principles on when and how to use different funding sources** to best leverage their unique characteristics, avoid duplication and ensure complementarity of effort.

### Chair's Summary

This Chair's Summary synthesizes the key messages and recommendations that were articulated in the high-level panel on "Financing for Peacebuilding in Peacekeeping and Transition Contexts" (October 2021) and the background paper prepared for it.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.un.org/press/en/2021/gaab4368.doc.htm>



## Introduction

Realizing the paradigm shift towards prevention and sustaining peace cannot be more timely than today. The importance of this agenda has been increasing in the last decade, in response to deadlier, more protracted, and internationalized conflicts. Specifically, with the adoption of the 2016 twin resolutions, there has been growing international recognition of the imperative for sustaining peace as “both a goal and a process” that lies within the prerogatives of first and foremost member states and then the United Nations (UN).<sup>2</sup> Additionally, the eruption of the COVID-19 pandemic, termed as a “magnifier” of structural inequalities and systemic grievances, has posed far-reaching and multidimensional risks to peace, security, and development across the globe, and served as an alarming reminder for the urgency of moving from rhetoric to action on the Sustaining Peace Agenda.

Building and sustaining both peace and development are among the most complex challenges facing Africa. They necessitate integrated and inclusive approaches, coherence among local, national, regional, and international actors across the humanitarian-peace-development nexus, and most importantly, they require sustained and flexible funding that enables building the conditions for positive peace to prosper.

While the percentage share of the official development assistance (ODA) to conflict-affected countries has increased in recent years, only 15.3 percent was directed towards peacebuilding between 2010 and 2019.<sup>3</sup> This trend is forecast to continue due to the overall decline in ODA for peacebuilding, exacerbated by the current dwindling of resources and a crumbling commitment to multilateralism in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Furthermore, funding is particularly crucial to the successful implementation of peacekeeping missions’ mandates pertaining to peacebuilding as well as enabling the successful transition from peacekeeping contexts towards long-term development goals, peacebuilding, and sustaining peace. Peacebuilding activities are crucial throughout the life-cycle of peacekeeping missions and are of particular importance during mission transitions, as the Security Council acknowledged in its presidential statement of 21 December 2017<sup>4</sup> and its resolution [S/RES/2594](#), adopted on 9 September 2021. Predictable and sustainable financing for peacebuilding is essential for overcoming the gap in the available capacity and resources that emerges when missions depart, particularly in light of decisions in recent years to proceed with the closure of missions in contexts with a high risk of relapse into conflict and insecurity.

<sup>2</sup> A/RES/70/262 and UNSCR 2282

<sup>3</sup> PBC/PBSO (2021), Background paper on Financing for Peacebuilding: A Primer, 2021 [https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/financing\\_for\\_peacebuilding.primier.211103.for\\_pbc77.pdf](https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/sites/www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/financing_for_peacebuilding.primier.211103.for_pbc77.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> S/PRST/2017/27

Although this is regularly referenced in reports and statements, UN and Member States are yet to identify practical and sustainable solutions to address the “financial cliff” resulting from the transition from peacekeeping to non-mission/Country Team settings.<sup>5</sup>

Against this backdrop, and in light of Egypt’s chairmanship of the 15th session of the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission (UNPBC) and its championship of Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) at the African Union (AU), the Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping, and Peacebuilding (CCCPA)-- in cooperation with the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Permanent Mission of Egypt to the UN-- organized a virtual high-level panel discussion on 28 October 2021, titled “Financing for Peacebuilding in Peacekeeping and Transition Contexts”. The panel discussions were built on the outcomes of the first and second editions of the Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development, and the deliberations of the first regional consultations for the 2020 UN Peacebuilding Architecture (UNPBA) review held in November 2019.

The high-level panel aimed to provide concrete and actionable recommendations on financing peacebuilding programs and activities in peacekeeping and transition contexts, with a view to build on ongoing UNPBC deliberations on peacebuilding finance, including for the upcoming high-level debate on financing for peacebuilding to be organized by the General Assembly during its 76th Session, as mandated by the 2020 twin resolutions on the review of the UNPBA. The panel focused on exchanging lessons learned and best practices on catalytic and targeted financing, in particular the nature of funding needed in the immediate-, short-, medium- and long-terms. The panel also examined how the donor community, and specifically the UN and the AU, along with International Financial Institutions (IFIs), can better coordinate to recalibrate their support to local and national peacebuilding actors using different funding streams.

The panel brought together key stakeholders and donors on financing for peacebuilding, including relevant senior officials, experts, and local, national, regional, continental, and international practitioners-- including representatives from international and regional financial institutions [International Monetary Fund (IMF) and African Development Bank (AfDB)], in addition to field representatives from the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS).

In preparation for the panel, CCCPA commissioned a background paper on “Financing for Peacebuilding in Peacekeeping and Transition Contexts”. The aim of the paper is to outline key political and structural developments at the UN relevant to the issue of peacebuilding financing since the adoption of the 2016 twin resolutions on peacebuilding and sustaining peace. Additionally, the paper presents practical recommendations on how to (i) optimize the use of existing financial resources, and (ii) operationalize the recommendations of the Secretary-General on providing the Peacebuilding Fund with access to assessed contributions.<sup>6</sup>

## Peacebuilding Financing: Milestones and Challenges

As recognized by Member States in the 2020 twin resolutions ([A/RES/75/201](#) and [S/RES/2558](#)) on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, ensuring adequate, predictable and sustainable financing for peacebuilding remains the most critical challenge facing the UNPBA. The UNPBC has supported and continues to support several countries, especially those undertaking critical transitions. However, this role continues to be challenged as a result of insufficient funding, which puts countries at risk of facing a financing cliff, as funding for peacebuilding precisely drops when national authorities and communities assume increased responsibilities for security and peacebuilding.

<sup>5</sup> Chen, Eugene (2021) Financing for Peacebuilding in Peace Operations in Transition Contexts: CCCPA Working Paper. Cairo, Egypt: CCCPA

<sup>6</sup> Chen, Eugene (2021) Financing for Peacebuilding in Peace Operations in Transition Contexts: CCCPA Working Paper. Cairo, Egypt: CCCPA



Nonetheless, peacebuilding has reached six remarkable milestones in recent years: First, the adoption of the 2016 twin resolutions on peacebuilding and sustaining peace provided a comprehensive framework embraced by Member States and the UN across its pillars of peace, development, humanitarian, and human rights. Second, the Secretary-General's reforms aimed at strengthening holistic approaches that support countries at risks of experiencing or transitioning out of conflict. Third, the adoption of the Action for Peacekeeping framework and other initiatives<sup>7</sup> has emphasized the strong recognition of the contribution of peacekeeping to peacebuilding and sustaining peace, and UN integration at large. Fourth, there has been a redoubling of efforts to improve UN transitions in accompanying national transitions and preventing conflict relapse, culminating in UN Security Council resolution [S/RES/2594](#) (2021) on transitions, and building on the UN Security Council [presidential statement](#) on transitions that Egypt pioneered in 2017. Fifth, the PBC and the PBF have supported multidisciplinary and multi-stakeholder solutions to ensure better synergy and cut across the silos in broader geographical and thematic areas. Finally, there has been a greater convergence with development actors and financial institutions, including the World Bank, regional development banks/multilateral development banks, and the IMF on developing strategies and tools to address fragility and build resilience.

To date, there is a mismatch between rhetoric and reality as demand for **peacebuilding financing far outstrips supply**. Financing challenges have been identified as particularly acute during mission transitions and drawdowns. For this reason, the PBF in its current strategy (2020-2024) is allocating a dedicated transition financing window accounting for 35 percent of its annual investments to feed into this endeavor. Additionally, peacebuilding financing in transition contexts calls for innovative approaches. A prime example is the State Liaison Functions (SLFs), which showcased complementarity in the use of peacekeeping programmatic funding and the PBF, providing an incentive for UN integration and allowing the continuity of peacebuilding activities during a mission's drawdown.

Past experiences have demonstrated the fragile achievements of peacekeeping missions in preventing conflict during transitions and drawdowns. This not only demonstrates the importance of peacebuilding activities prior to the departure of missions, but also the need for ensuring available and sufficient funding for peacebuilding activities after the completion of a mission's mandate.

<sup>7</sup> Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding (2018) Cairo Roadmap for Enhancing the Performance of Peacekeeping Operations: From Mandate to Exit. Cairo, Egypt: CCCPA. Available at: <<https://www.cccpa-eg.org/publications-details/364>> [Accessed February 2022].

## Peacebuilding Funding Streams<sup>8</sup>

The peace operations landscape has changed significantly since the adoption of the 2016 resolutions ([A/RES/70/262](#) and [S/RES/2282](#)), with peacekeeping budgets witnessing a decline of \$2 billion, reaching \$6.3 billion in 2021 compared to \$8.3 billion five years ago. In contrast, SPM budgets have witnessed a 30 percent increase, reaching \$730 million compared to \$561 million in the same period, due to the growing recognition of the role of SPMs in responding to peace and security challenges.

There are three main funding streams within the UN Secretariat:

### i. Trust funds managed at Headquarters:

These are funds managed centrally at Headquarters, the most important of which is the PBF. The PBF is perhaps the best-known mechanism for the financing of UN peacebuilding activities. The Fund, which was established with an initial funding target of \$250 million as part of the 2005 World Summit Outcome, became operational in 2006 as a multi-year standing fund for post-conflict peacebuilding, funded through voluntary contributions, to ensure the immediate release of resources needed to launch peacebuilding activities and the availability of appropriate financing for recovery. It is intended to address critical gaps in the peacebuilding process, particularly where no other funding mechanism is available, and to serve as a catalyst for more sustainable support mechanisms. Under the Fund's 2020-2024 strategy, the PBF plans to invest in around 40 countries at any given time, split between countries receiving larger amounts over five-year periods and countries that receive a limited, time-bound amount in response to urgent requirements. Other funds include the Human Security Fund, the UN Democracy Fund, and the Peace and Development Fund. However, these funds are managed in isolation in accordance to different management structures and financing mechanisms.

- ### ii. Trust funds managed at the field level:
- Several peacekeeping missions have established trust funds to support peacebuilding-related activities. These include the Trust Fund in Support of Peace and Security in Mali, established in May 2014; the DRC Stabilization Coherence Fund, established in November 2015; and the South Sudan Reconciliation, Stabilization and Resilience Trust Fund, established in December 2018. Although these funds differ in their terms of management and governance arrangements, they generally involve both the mission and the UN Country Team (UNCT), with the mission stabilization unit (which generally reports to the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General/ Resident Coordinator / Humanitarian Coordinator) serving as the technical secretariat for the trust fund. Hence, these funds are managed at the level of peacekeeping and peacebuilding missions, aiming to provide support to peacebuilding activities. For example, the Multi-Donor Stabilization Fund in DRC, which was established in 2015 to provide support for national efforts on reconstruction and stability, is co-chaired by the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, the Resident Coordinator, the Humanitarian Coordinator, as well as the National Minister of Planning. Such funds represent a model of integration and synergy between UN agencies in supporting national actors in the implementation of peacebuilding activities.
- ### iii. Assessed Contributions:
- Beyond the general contribution of missions to development, missions have, since the early 2000s, had access to dedicated funding through assessed contributions for peacebuilding-related programmatic activities in areas such as community stabilization; rule of law; peace consolidation; community violence reduction; and disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration.

<sup>8</sup> *ibid*



The Secretariat guidelines on the use of programmatic funds specify that programmatic activities must be derived from a mission's mandate and should be aligned with a system-wide strategic plan, such as an integrated strategic framework or transition plan. For the 2021/22 financial period, the Secretary-General requested a total of nearly \$194 million for programmatic activities; about \$143 million was for mine action, while the remaining amount of approximately \$51 million was requested for programmatic activities other than mine action in six peacekeeping missions (MINUSCA, MINUSMA, MONUSCO, UNISFA, UNMIK and UNMISS). Assessed contributions thus represent the estimated contributions to peacebuilding activities in peacekeeping operations which are carried out through programmatic activities and represent a small percentage compared to available funding through mission trust funds.

## **IFIs Contribution to Peacebuilding Financing**

Fragile and conflict-affected states were hit hard by the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic, with real GDP contracting by about 6.6 percent, public debt increasing by 12.6 percent in 2020, and inflation increasing by more than 10 percent in 2021. The COVID-19 pandemic has particularly exacerbated economic instability, poverty, inequality, and exclusion.

In Africa, over 250 million people are affected by fragility and conflict, with Africa hosting over 29.9 million forcibly displaced persons due to conflicts and climate change. Over 12 million African youth enter the labor markets each year without finding decent jobs, in addition to evasive gender equality challenges. These challenges are compounded by the rising insecurity in hotspot regions, especially in the Lake Chad Basin and the Horn of Africa, largely involving non-state-based conflicts, terrorist attacks, insurgencies, and inter-communal conflicts.

This has forced African governments to increase expenditure on security, thus diverting resources away from development. These developments highlight the need for building regional stability through effective conflict resolution and peacebuilding, especially at the community level. This also underscores the need for supporting national capacity, money debt, and investments. It also calls for enhanced domestic resource mobilization--the most predictable and sustainable source of financing for peacebuilding.

For this reason, sustaining peace and prevention are crucial for the whole international community. For the IMF, fragility and conflict are macro critical--fragile states represent around 20 percent of the IMF's membership, which is quite a significant amount. This significance also lies in acknowledging the spillover effects of conflict and fragility, with conflict effects spreading to neighboring countries and regions through force displacement flows, trans-border security, conflict dynamics, thus destabilizing entire regions. These effects not only impose heavy human costs, but also affect countries' balance of payment, distorting good policies, and disrupting financial flows. Fragility and conflict undermine the development of productive resources, leaving affected countries with few options to correct the disequilibrium in balance of payment.

While the IMF's role is not directly linked to financing peacekeeping in transition contexts, it contributes to restoring macroeconomic stability and promoting inclusive growth in conflict and fragile states, therefore enabling the path towards recovery from fragility. The IMF's efforts include strengthening macroeconomic institutions, administrative functions, budget execution and control, developing bank regulations, and improving statistical capacity. Strong institutions responsible for macroeconomic stability and inclusive economic growth are essential to help countries exit from fragility, avoid relapsing to conflict, and promote resilience.

The IMF has provided countries impacted by fragility and conflict with a total of \$7 billion in emergency financing and disbursement in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. More than 21 countries impacted by fragility and conflict have also benefited from the debt service relief under the Catastrophic Containment and Relief Trust (CCRT), which accounts for \$480 million to date. Additionally, the IMF's Fragile and Conflict-Affected States Strategy (FCS) has been developed to bolster the IMF's involvement in these contexts, including through the provision of macroeconomic policy advice, program design, capacity development, and identifying key drivers of fragility and conflict.

Similarly, the AfDB's Strategy for Addressing Fragility and Building Resilience 2022-2026 relies on the bank's 20-year engagement, lessons learned, and extensive analysis and understanding of the drivers of fragility. In this regard, the AfDB is seeking to scale up its efforts in this endeavor, grounded in its competitive advantage, by strengthening institutional capacities, building resilient societies, and analyzing private investments in fragile settings.

Additionally, the AfDB has diversified its financing instruments over the past years, creating a suite of options for engaging in fragile contexts and leveraging additional resources, including from the private sector, in recognition of its important role in building stability and resilience across the continent. Since 2008, the AfDB has established a special financing vehicle on transition: the Transition Support Facility. It aims to provide additional financing and operational flexibility by addressing the root causes of fragility and building resilience. The use of funds under the Transition Facility is informed by the systematic application of the fragility lens in the design and implementation of projects. The Facility has been instrumental in supporting policy-based operations, capacity building, and investments for construction and rehabilitation and sociability, that typically follow the end period for a conflict/crisis in peacebuilding and transition contexts.

Furthermore, the AfDB has served as an important instrument of assistance for several multi-donor funds, particularly in fragile situations. A typical example is the Multi-Partner Infrastructure Fund for Somalia, established in 2016 as a special window for transitions, with the key objectives of supporting Somalia to develop and rehabilitate, infrastructure, build and strengthen institutions, and reinforce economic governance, complementing the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund and the World Bank Multi-Partner Forum for Somalia.

Partnerships are critical to achieve impactful investments in fragile settings. The AfDB will continue to explore adapting its business model to build synergies with other development partners, and strengthen complementarity between humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding actors across the triple nexus. These partnerships include member states, the AU, Regional Economic Communities and Mechanisms (RECs/RMs), donor communities and IFIs such as the World Bank, the Islamic Development Bank, in addition to Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to effectively support local and national peacebuilding activities and enhance coordination and complementary between different funding sources.





## Insights from the Field: MONUSCO & UNITAMS

### *United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO)*

The UN's transition in DRC has already begun with the gradual reduction of MONUSCO troops over the past few years, with increasing emphasis on joint initiatives to support stabilization and good governance since the 2018 elections. This has translated in the closure of several offices where the security situation has improved. Currently, MONUSCO is only present in 4 out of 26 provinces in DRC.

The transition from peacekeeping to peacebuilding necessarily implies an increase in funding that is commensurate with a reduction of troops. MONUSCO has been able to gain access to and utilize assessed peacekeeping funding to support a number joint initiatives with the UNCT, which has been a fundamental change in the way transition opportunities are viewed in multidimensional integrated peacekeeping operations. In this regard, MONUSCO has jointly developed the Joint Transition Plan, in consultation with the UNCT, the Government of DRC, bilateral and multilateral partners, IMF and the World Bank, CSOs and international non-governmental organizations.

The transition plan includes 18 benchmarks and related indicators, whose achievements should guide and accompany the progressive drawdown of the mission, leading to the reconfiguration of UN presence in the DRC. This is to be followed by the development of an action plan for transition based on a common vision.

Last year, MONUSCO had access to programmatic funds for joint programs with UNCT in the areas of justice reform, improving the penal system, and reforming the national police, thus contributing to achieving specific benchmarks in the transition plan. MONUSCO has also maintained a minimum of programmatic bridge funds with the approval of the Fifth Committee of the UN General Assembly to avoid the financial cliff during mission withdrawal from certain areas, as agencies are sometimes unable to engage immediately. For this reason, there is a need to support the DRC in becoming eligible for PBF support for a second time during its political transition as well as in the overall transition of the UN system in the country. The current PBF portfolio in DRC includes 13 projects for an implementation of \$29.2 million, as well as 6 new projects currently being developed with a focus on cross-border initiatives.

Another funding instrument is the Stabilization Coherence Fund (SCF) aimed at supporting stabilization initiatives. The SCF focuses on three eastern provinces, providing support for national actors through political engagement, coordination, expertise, capacity building, and monitoring and evaluation. The Fund is co-managed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and MONUSCO, and has received \$78 million since 2016, of which 98 percent has been disbursed to 32 projects. MONUSCO will also have access to \$38.1 million in programming funding, in addition to an expected commitment from donors of up to \$10 million.

### ***The United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS)***

UN Security Council resolution [S/RES/2429](#) (2018) called for the reduction of troops in the United Nations-African Union Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) in preparation for the potential drawdown and exit by June 2020, and requested UNCT to work jointly with the peacekeeping mission to support a whole-of-system transition concept known as the State Liaison Functions (SLFs). This resulted in producing joint analysis, planning and delivery mechanisms for programming in support of the mission's mandate, leading to an increase of \$32.2 million and a total of \$45 million of SLF programs. However, this has been short-term financing as programming was implemented over the course of six months. SLF programming consisted of contracting 10 agencies, funds and programs to deliver on different categories, including land issues, IDPs and refugees return, focusing on areas with limited infrastructure services, livelihoods, and scarcity of resources. These programs were critical as they allowed UNCT to quickly build presence in various areas in Darfur, working collectively with the peacekeeping mission in designing programming.

While the PBF played a crucial role by providing \$32 million for long-term programming, short-term funding for the SLF was unpredictable as it was allocated for only a six-month cycle. There was no provision made for sustaining peace with the termination of UNAMID's mandate.

In addition, there was no possibility of continuing use of assessed funding for the delivery of the peacebuilding mandate. SLF's unpredictable financing thus resulted in huge reductions in peacebuilding programming. To date, UNITAMS is challenged by limited financial resources and capabilities to deliver on peacebuilding programming. To address this gap, UNITAMS attempted to create a voluntary financing modality for peacebuilding in the form of a Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF). The Fund, which only has \$8.3 million, did not result in the desired impact as Member States were not channeling adequate funds through it.

With that in mind, it is essential for SPMs to have access to assessed funding in order to roll-over mandate delivery. It is also critical to encourage Member States to channel funding through voluntary mechanisms. In particular, the PBF needs to channel funding through the MPTF in order to show confidence from within the UN that this is a viable mechanism.

The MPTF was created with the establishment of the UNITAMS mandate, creating a modality that led to the development of a programmatic framework for all key areas under UNITAMS. This includes political transition programming, the operationalization and continuation of peace processes, peacebuilding, and rule of law, where the mission works closely with World Bank. From a financing perspective, UNITAMS worked on developing an integrated programmatic framework to support mandate delivery, designing results framework that included the benchmarks at the end of the of the transition period, resulting in a robust programmatic framework that now needs financing.

## Recommendations

- The COVID-19 pandemic and climate change impacts have further stretched resources and capacities, mainly affecting conflict-affected settings disproportionately. Under these circumstances, there is a need to collectively redouble and support nationally owned and inclusive peacebuilding priorities and national capacities. For this reason, there is a need to integrate peacebuilding into recovery plans and policies to ensure building back better with more resilient, peaceful, just, and inclusive societies.
- There is a need for bold and concrete steps towards ensuring adequate, predictable, and sustained financing for the PBF to enable the development of early resource mobilization strategies with national partners during transitions. Relying on voluntary and extra budgetary contributions dismisses the recognition of prevention and peacebuilding as structural and central objectives of the UN--as enshrined in its Charter. For this reason, the Secretary-General's recommendations to allocate \$100 million to peacebuilding activities from assessed contributions will represent a powerful signal of the international commitment of Member States.
- Despite being UN specialized agencies, the World Bank and IMF do not participate in many of the UN's operational coordination mechanisms. Efforts should be made at the country level to fully engage both the World Bank and IMF representatives in the development of integrated strategic frameworks, particularly during transitions, to facilitate information exchange and greater coherence in activities, even if both of these institutions do not formally fall within the scope of the integrated assessment and planning policy.<sup>9</sup>
- There is a need to place emphasis on peacebuilding financing through the budgets of UN agencies, funds, and programs, and the support of bilateral and multilateral donors. A greater share of ODA should be committed to peacebuilding in conflict-affected settings.



<sup>9</sup> ibid

- Strengthening PBC partnerships with IFIs is key for greater coherence and coordination. There is a need to build on the IFI's increased engagement in conflict settings, including the World Bank Strategy for Fragility, Conflict, and Violence (FCV) and the growth of its accompanying financial instruments, as well as the IMF's efforts aimed at adjusting its approaches to better reflect inclusion and social protection. These partnerships must continue to deepen, building on increased collaboration at the country level and efforts to better link the PBC and IFIs.
- PBC Member States could establish principles on when and how to use different funding sources to best leverage their unique characteristics, avoid duplication and ensure complementarity of effort. Such principles would be useful to entities within the UN system in budgeting and resource mobilization as well as in providing clarity on which sources of funding to use for different types of activities. For example, such principles could include clarity on what types of activities should be requested and delivered through assessed programmatic funding vs. mission managed trust funds. They could also suggest the prioritization of the use of centrally managed trust funds for projects in non-mission settings or for cross-border type issues. These principles would also be useful to donors who are unsure of where to apply voluntary contributions in support of their own foreign assistance priorities.<sup>10</sup>
- A major source of the financing cliff is the lack of coordination between donors and governments, as oftentimes different ministries or organizational units are responsible for contributions to peace operations and contributions to the agencies' funds and programs. Therefore, providing greater information to Member States on the totality of requirements in an individual country context can allow better planning and preparation for shifting and funding from peace operations to country teams during transition.<sup>11</sup>
- As much as assessed contributions are viable for sustained financing to peacebuilding, especially in transition contexts, it is essential to consider all options to attract more financing for peacebuilding, including through innovative financing as it could expand partnership opportunities with the private sector. For this reason, there is a need for member states to provide more guidance on the private sector's engagement in peacebuilding investments. Considering all options for financing is also essential for financial planning of mission drawdowns and transitions and should be carried out jointly with teams in the field to ensure that resources are adequately and sustainably allocated in reflection to actual needs on the ground.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> ibid

<sup>11</sup> ibid

<sup>12</sup> ibid



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