



JOINT STATEMENT

6TH INFORMAL ANNUAL JOINT CONSULTATIVE MEETING BETWEEN THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION AND THE UNITED NATIONS PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION

NEW YORK/ADDIS ABABA, 13 NOVEMBER 2023

1. On 13 November 2023, the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) and the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission (UN PBC) convened the 6th Informal Annual Consultative Meeting in a hybrid format. The 6th Informal Annual Consultative Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Ambassador Abdi Mahamoud Eybe, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Djibouti and Chairperson of the AU PSC for November 2023, and H.E. Mr. Ivan Šimonović, Chair of the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission (UN PBC). The Chair was accompanied by H.E. Mr. Muhammad Abdul Muhith and H.E. Mr. Thomas Peter Zahneisen, Vice Chairs of the Commission, H.E. Mr. Sérgio França Danese, Chair of the Guinea-Bissau Configuration of the PBC, H.E. Mr. Omar Hilale, Chair of the Central African Republic Configuration of the PBC, and H.E. Ms. Anna Karin Eneström, Chair of the Liberia Configuration of the PBC.
2. Participants welcomed the remarks and statements delivered by H.E. Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, the AU Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security; Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General to the African Union and Head of the United Nations Office to the African Union, and Ms. Elizabeth Spehar, the United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support.
3. The AU PSC and the members of the UN PBC underscored the important roles played by the two bodies in support of national and regional peacebuilding efforts in Africa. The members explored opportunities for enhancing cooperation between the two bodies, taking into consideration the comparative advantages and complementarities on peacebuilding and sustaining peace in support of national priorities and activities of regional organizations in Africa. They also underscored the need to enhance cooperation with a view to supporting the AU peacebuilding efforts, including the implementation of the African Union Policy on Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD).
4. The AU PSC and the members of the UN PBC underlined the importance of national ownership, leadership, and full participation of all strata of society, including the youth and women. They further underlined the need for concerted support to the short- and long-term peacebuilding and national prevention plans of countries and regional organizations. Further, the meeting stressed the importance of comprehensive and coordinated approaches to peacebuilding activities in Africa, taking into account the importance of amplifying collective efforts to strengthen regional efforts to address the root causes and drivers of peacebuilding challenges.
5. The AU PSC and the members of the UN PBC commended the contributions made by the AU in the development of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture (2020) through the Common African Position on the 2020 review of the UN peacebuilding architecture. They called for strengthening the partnership between the two bodies through strategic and concrete steps, including in the lead-up to the adoption of the revised AU PCRD Policy, the United Nations Summit of the Future in 2024 and the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture in 2025.
6. The AU PSC and members of the UN PBC reaffirmed the importance of ensuring adequate, predictable and sustained financing for peacebuilding, noting that the amount of voluntary contributions has not been sufficient to meet increasing demands for the support of the Peacebuilding

Fund, and affirmed that other sources of funding, including assessed contributions, could be used to finance the Fund through modalities determined by the General Assembly as a means of achieving this objective, and stresses that assessed funding is not meant to be a substitute for voluntary contributions and innovative funding.

7. The AU PSC and members of the UN PBC underscored the imperative of regularizing the sharing of outcomes to further enhance coordination and collaboration on peacebuilding activities in Africa. They stressed the need for the African Members of the UN PBC to champion priorities identified and communicated by the AU PSC. In this regard, they emphasized the importance of the AU Observer Mission to the UN to play a facilitating role in coordinating joint actions of the AU PSC and UN PBC.

8. The AU PSC and members of the UN PBC called for the implementation of recommendations that emerged from previous consultative meetings and joint statements, particularly the one adopted on 18 October 2016. In this regard, they agreed to institutionalize the holding of the Annual Joint Consultative Meeting between the AU PSC and UN PBC, rotating between Addis Ababa and New York on dates to be agreed by the two parties. They also agreed that the Annual Joint Consultative Meeting should be preceded by the preparatory meetings of the Experts of the AU PSC and UNPBC.

9. The Members of the PSC and the UNPBC agreed to convene their Inaugural Annual Consultative Meeting in New York, in 2024, on a date to be agreed upon by the AU PSC and the members of the UNPBC.