

**Draft closing remarks by H.E. Mr. Muhammad Abdul Muhith, Ambassador  
and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the UN at the  
ECOSOC-PBC Joint meeting on “Peacebuilding, sustaining peace and  
sustainable development: towards coherence and impact on the ground”  
02 December 2022, 10 am (EST), ECOSOC Chamber**

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**Thank you, Ambassador Stoeva.**

**Excellencies, Distinguished Colleagues,**

Peace and development are both ends and means in themselves. As articulated in the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, “there can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development.”

This is more relevant today as we live through confluence of crises. On one hand ongoing violent conflicts and other threat multipliers - such as, the climate change are jeopardizing achievements of the SDGs; on the other hand, lack of progress in achieving sustainable development goals is fueling discontents and exacerbating conflict, violence and instability.

This vicious cycle must be broken if we want to build and sustain peace. And as the Agenda 2030 itself suggests, this would require the entire United Nations system to work collectively and support the member States’ efforts in a coordinated and coherent manner. In conflict affected countries - such support would require transformative actions on the ground, harnessing synergies between different dimensions of development and harmonizing interventions across all pillars.

## **Excellencies**

Today, the discussions in two sessions have reflected the role of the UN Development System in addressing the root causes of conflict, such as poverty, inequality, and unemployment through preventative approaches. We have heard that the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework works as an effective point of convergence to move beyond siloed approaches and make best use of coordinated actions by peace, development and humanitarian actors, particularly in the conflict affected contexts.

We have also heard, in countries faced with compound climate crisis and conflicts, more investments are needed to support climate-resilient peacebuilding and conflict sensitive adaptation measures. The speakers have also highlighted the need for integrating women peace and security and youth peace and security agendas in the work of the AFPs on the ground.

We have also heard how aligning the work of the UN Development system and the international and regional financial institutions can contribute to peacebuilding and sustaining peace. Today's discussion will further enhance the partnerships between AFPs and IFIs in facilitating a coordinated and coherent support to achieving nationally determined peacebuilding goals.

## **Excellencies**

The most recent peacebuilding resolution - resolution 76/305, which is focused in financing for peacebuilding, has recognized the contributions of the United Nations development system to peacebuilding, and reaffirmed the importance of financing

and implementing the Sustainable Development Goals, for comprehensive peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

While adequate, predictable and sustained financing to peacebuilding has remained a major challenge, Peacebuilding Fund, as a central piece of the peacebuilding architecture – continues to serve as a critical resource, an instrument of first resort, to finance nationally owned conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities.

The PBF as part of a partnership approach, has been financing the actions of a wide range of UN agencies, funds and programmes. The PBF incentivizes joint work and supports the leadership of UN Resident Coordinators to work in collaboration with Governments to identify priorities. The agencies here today are all important partners of the PBF, working on a wide range of issues, whether about infrastructures for peace, engagement of women and youth, addressing rural conflicts between farmers and herders, or addressing cross-border dynamics.

**Dear Colleagues,**

In last year's PBC-ECOSOC joint meeting, the member states called for further enhancing the PBC- ECOSOC partnership, while recognizing that development, peace and security, and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing. This call was heeded when the PBC in its annual programme of work emphasized on enhancing its cooperation with the ECOSOC, its advisory bodies and the Executive Boards of the Agencies, Funds and Programmes in the areas of peacebuilding and development.

This year the PBC provided its advisory support to ECOSOC on a cross cutting thematic issues. Today we are pleased to hear from the President of the UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS Executive Board, as the coordinator of the all Executive Boards. We wish to continue this practice with a view to leveraging the oversight role of Executive Boards in improving the impact of AFP's work on the ground.

Excellencies

We hope the dialogue has been useful. Before I conclude I wish to thank all the distinguished briefers for their contribution today. I also thank the members of the PBC and ECOSOC for their participation and very useful exchange of views with the briefers. I thank the colleagues from ECOSOC Secretariat, DESA and PBSO for their diligent work in making this event a success.

And finally, I thank the President of the ECOSOC, Ambassador Lachezara Stoeva and her team for all of the cooperation extended to my team in organizing this joint meeting.

I thank you all.