



ECOSOC

**Peacebuilding Commission
Ambassadorial-Level Meeting on
Mozambique's Experience in Peacebuilding:
Lessons Learned and Challenges Ahead**

29 March 2023

Statement

by

**H.E. Lachezara Stoeva, President of the Economic and Social
Council**

President of the Republic of Mozambique,
Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Participants and Delegates,

It is an honour to join you at this meeting of the Peacebuilding Commission on Mozambique's experience in peacebuilding.

In 2002, under the leadership of then ECOSOC President Ambassador Šimonovic (Croatia), the Economic and Social Council commemorated the tenth anniversary of the signing of the General Peace Agreement in Mozambique.

The next time Mozambique featured prominently in the Economic and Social Council was in the aftermath of the destructive Cyclone Idai in 2019. In the Presidential Statement issued on the occasion of that special meeting, ECOSOC



called for mobilization of funding to meet the urgent requirements of the humanitarian appeals for the affected countries, including Mozambique. Member States also called for stronger collaboration and complementarity between humanitarian, development, disaster risk reduction and climate action to reduce need, risk and vulnerability, assist those furthest behind and ensure that no-one is left behind in the face of climate change and extreme weather events.

And most recently, in 2020, we welcomed Mozambique to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, where they presented their voluntary national review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. We heard Mozambique's experience in implementing reforms to strengthen its institutional capacity for service delivery, ensure constitutional rights, promote peace, justice, good governance, public integrity and sustainable development.

I commend Mozambique's efforts towards the implementation of the Maputo Accord for Peace and National Reconciliation and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Mozambique's experience underscores the importance of an integrated approach to strengthening peace and promoting sustainable development. Furthermore, the devastation caused by the recent cyclone Freddy in Mozambique underscores the urgency to pursue a risk-informed and resilient implementation of the 2030 Agenda at all levels.

Excellencies,

As we get ready for the 2023 SDG Summit and the 2024 Summit of the Future, it is very timely that the Peacebuilding Commission is focusing on lessons learned and challenges ahead for Mozambique in the context of peacebuilding.

As Nelson Mandela said "Peace is not just the absence of conflict; peace is the creation of an environment where all can flourish regardless of race, color, creed, religion, gender, class, caste or any other social markers of difference." The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is not only a guiding framework for sustainable development. It is also a crucial roadmap that can help us create that environment for peacebuilding and sustaining peace. The implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in its entirety can help us address the drivers of conflict and avoid a relapse into conflict.

The work of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development, therefore, must be seen complementary to the



important work of the Security Council and the Peacebuilding Commission. We must look for ways to strengthen our collaboration to promote comprehensive, integrated solutions across the peace, security, humanitarian and development pillars of the United Nations.

The upcoming SDG Summit is a key opportunity for the international community to reaffirm their strong commitment to the 2030 Agenda and launch transformations needed to reach the Sustainable Development Goals. We must demonstrate our solidarity and strong commitment to support countries' efforts to address the root causes of conflict through sustainable development to fulfil the Agenda's promise of leaving no one behind.

Thank you.