



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-eighth session

Agenda item 132

### Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 22 December 2023

[on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/78/664, para. 12)]

### 78/257. Investing in prevention and peacebuilding

*The General Assembly,*

*Recognizing* the vital role of the United Nations in preventing conflicts, assisting parties to conflicts to end hostilities and emerge towards recovery, reconstruction and development and in mobilizing sustained international attention and assistance, and, in this regard, the need for a coordinated, coherent and integrated approach to conflict prevention, peacebuilding, post-conflict response and reconciliation with a view to achieving sustainable peace,

*Reaffirming* Security Council resolution 1645 (2005) and General Assembly resolution 60/180 of 20 December 2005, which established the Peacebuilding Fund, to be funded by voluntary contributions, and recalling General Assembly resolution 76/305 of 8 September 2022, in which it recognized that financing for peacebuilding remains a critical challenge, affirmed its commitment to consider all options for adequate, predictable and sustained financing for peacebuilding, including through voluntary, innovative and assessed funding and other means of resource mobilization, and noted the significance non-monetary contributions can play in peacebuilding efforts, and also affirmed that other sources of funding, including assessed contributions, could be used to finance the Fund through modalities determined by the General Assembly, including considerations related to increased transparency, accountability and oversight, while ensuring the continued flexibility and agility of the Fund,

*Recalling* Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations and rules 153 and 154 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and further affirming that the use of assessed contributions is determined by the General Assembly and is within its purview,



*Recognizing* the critical contribution made by the Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund since their establishment in supporting countries emerging from conflict or at risk of relapsing into conflict,

*Recognizing also* the importance of peacebuilding, and welcoming the valuable work undertaken by the Peacebuilding Fund as a catalytic, rapid-response and flexible pre-positioned pooled fund providing financing to activities to sustain peace in conflict-affected countries, and in advancing strategic alignment within the United Nations system and between the United Nations and the international financial institutions,

*Noting* the fluctuations in voluntary contributions to the Peacebuilding Fund and its narrow donor base, and recognizing that the Fund continues to suffer from persistent funding challenges, stemming in large part from the unpredictability and unsustainability of its exclusive reliance on voluntary contributions, and exacerbated in the past decade by increased demands, including those arising from the transition and closure of United Nations peacekeeping missions,

*Reaffirming* that the use of assessed contributions must be transparent and that the oversight role of the General Assembly in the management and utilization of assessed contributions must be ensured,

*Recognizing* the need to enhance financing to ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and the inclusion of youth in peacebuilding,

*Reaffirming* the primary responsibility of national Governments and authorities in identifying, driving and directing priorities, strategies and activities for peacebuilding and sustaining peace, and in this regard recognizing that national ownership is a condition for access to the Peacebuilding Fund,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>1</sup>
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,<sup>2</sup> subject to the provisions of the present resolution;
3. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and also reaffirms the role of the Fifth Committee in carrying out a thorough analysis of and approving human and financial resources and policies, with a view to ensuring full, effective and efficient implementation of all mandated programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard;
4. *Also reaffirms* the importance of ensuring adequate, predictable and sustained financing for peacebuilding, notes that the amount of voluntary contributions has not been sufficient to meet increasing demands for the support of the Peacebuilding Fund, and affirms that other sources of funding, including assessed contributions, could be used to finance the Fund through modalities determined by the General Assembly as an extraordinary arrangement, on an exceptional basis, and without setting a precedent, notes that voluntary contributions should remain the primary source of funding, and stresses that assessed funding is not meant to be a substitute for voluntary contributions and innovative funding;
5. *Encourages* Member States to make and increase voluntary contributions to peacebuilding, including to the Peacebuilding Fund, to ensure sufficient resources

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<sup>1</sup> A/76/732.

<sup>2</sup> A/76/821.

to support peacebuilding, and requests the Secretary-General to intensify resource mobilization efforts in this regard;

6. *Notes* that the provision of assessed contributions to financing for peacebuilding represents a shared commitment of Member States to peacebuilding and sustaining peace;

7. *Decides* to establish a dedicated multi-year special account, entitled Peacebuilding Account, as a modality of financing the Peacebuilding Fund;

8. *Also decides* to approve 50 million United States dollars of assessed contributions per annum, under grants and contributions, to fund the Peacebuilding Account, starting 1 January 2025, subject to the revision of the terms of reference of the Peacebuilding Fund;

9. *Further decides*, on an exceptional basis and without setting a precedent, that the assessment rates applicable to the regular budget are applied to half of the grant to the Peacebuilding Account, while the assessment rates applicable to the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations are applied to the other half;

10. *Decides* that this annual grant of 50 million dollars shall be allocated as an earmarked contribution to fund the Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility of the Peacebuilding Fund, and to include programme support costs for Fund management, in accordance with the terms of reference of the Fund;

11. *Also decides* that the Peacebuilding Account shall be managed by the Peacebuilding Support Office in accordance with the relevant Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations<sup>3</sup> and the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, and that these resources shall be administered by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office as an earmarked pool of resources separate from any voluntary funding;

12. *Takes note* of paragraph 21 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

13. *Recalls* its resolution 76/305, and requests the Secretary-General to review the terms of reference of the Peacebuilding Fund in accordance with the provisions of the present resolution, including financial, management and oversight arrangements, for the use of assessed funding, while ensuring that enhancing the flexibility and agility of the Fund shall remain the overall objective of such review, in close consultation with Member States, through a structured process, in coordination with the Peacebuilding Commission and open to the participation of all Member States, and to present the revised terms of reference to the General Assembly during the main part of the seventy-ninth session at the latest;

14. *Affirms* the respective roles of the General Assembly and the Peacebuilding Commission in providing policy guidance on the use of the Peacebuilding Fund, including assessed contributions, and in providing advice and oversight of the Fund, to maximize its impact and improve its functioning;

15. *Encourages* the Peacebuilding Fund to work in close coordination with relevant stakeholders to advance efforts to bring greater coherence to peacebuilding efforts, in support of national peacebuilding priorities;

16. *Stresses* the importance of peacebuilding effectiveness and the need to avoid structural duplication, and encourages the Secretary-General to increase transparency, accountability and oversight of the activities related to peacebuilding;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, on an annual basis, on the proposed programme budget for the Peacebuilding Account, in a format similar to the budget presentation under section 35 of the proposed programme

<sup>3</sup> ST/SGB/2013/4 and ST/SGB/2013/4/Amend.1.

budget, with an annex listing the proposed projects, beneficiary countries, budget per country, and objectives, and also requests the Secretary-General to provide additional supplementary information, such as a summary of available budgetary information, as appropriate, in the course of the sessions of the Fifth Committee;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report annually on the implementation, performance, progress and expenditure of projects funded by assessed contributions, and on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

19. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, through the Peacebuilding Support Office, to provide the Peacebuilding Fund Advisory Group with a list of proposed projects, beneficiary countries, budget per country, and objectives for its review, and seek strategic and practical guidance and actionable recommendations on these projects, and to report thereon to the Peacebuilding Commission;

20. *Recalls* its resolution [75/201](#) of 21 December 2020, and reiterates its call for a further comprehensive review of United Nations peacebuilding in 2025;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat with conducting an evaluation of the Peacebuilding Account, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its eighty-third session;

22. *Recalls* paragraph 33 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Advisory Committee to invite the Board of Auditors to conduct an audit of the Peacebuilding Account, separately from the entities and programmes under volume I of the United Nations financial statements, as well as the cost-effectiveness and cost-efficiency of using resources allocated for peacebuilding activities in the United Nations, and to report thereon at its eighty-second session;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct a comprehensive study of innovative and other means of resource mobilization and options of attaining more non-monetary contributions and their further use in activities carried out by the Peacebuilding Fund, and to report on the conclusions and results of this study to the General Assembly at its eighty-third session;

24. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to review the implementation of the present resolution and to report to the General Assembly, including on projected needs of the Peacebuilding Fund, at its eighty-fourth session.

*50th (resumed) plenary meeting  
22 December 2023*