



Quaker United Nations Office



Workshop for Incoming Members of the UN Peacebuilding Commission

*Organized by the Quaker United Nations Office and the International Peace Institute
in collaboration with the UN Peacebuilding Support Office*

February 14, 2011, 8:45-2:45

**International Peace Institute
Trygve Lie Center for Peace, Security & Development
777 UN Plaza, 12th Floor
(Corner of 44th Street & 1st Avenue)
New York**

In 2010, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) underwent a five year review, which resulted in several recommendations aimed at strengthening this important UN body. In the year ahead, the various configurations of the PBC will be tasked with taking forward relevant recommendations from the review. Elections at the end of 2010 have seen a change in membership of the Organizational Committee (OC), with many new members joining the PBC. In order to capitalize on these changes, this workshop will provide an opportunity for new and current members to brainstorm around the recommendations from the review that have been identified by the PBC for action in 2011.

This workshop is organized by the Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO) and the International Peace Institute (IPI) in collaboration with the UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO). It will place a particular emphasis on the practical implications of enhancing the PBC's role in the field, while linking this work back to headquarters in NY. This workshop aims to highlight the current issues of concern to the PBC and offer a space for reflection and critical thinking about how to maintain the political momentum created by the review and how the Commission can continue to improve its impact in the field. New members will benefit from a chance to learn about specific aspects of the PBC in depth, while current members can offer their insights and experience from the PBC's thematic and country-specific work.

This workshop is intended for a group of no more than 40 participants at the working level, drawn from the PBC's Organizational Committee and Country-Specific Configuration. The workshop is organized into three sessions dedicated to specific topics arising from the 2010 review of the PBC and will seek to encourage interactive discussions among the speakers and participants.

8:45 – 9:00 Breakfast

9:00 – 9:30 Welcome and Introduction

Dr. Edward Luck, *Senior Vice President for Research and Programs, IPI*

Mr. Andrew Tomlinson, *Director and Representative, QUNO*

H.E. Ms. Anne Anderson, *Permanent Representative of Ireland to the UN*

9:30 – 11:00 Session 1: Building National Capacity

One outcome of the 2010 review of the PBC was the need to build local capacity. This involves not only the capacity of local government but also of civil society. UN political, peacekeeping missions and United Nations Country Teams in PBC countries play a key role in building local capacity. The outcomes of the Civilian Capacity Review will also have an impact on how the UN addresses this issue moving forward. Some questions for discussion:

- What are some examples from current PBC countries where national capacity has been supported? Where are the biggest challenges and gaps?
- What is the best way to approach capacity building early? What has the PBC's role been in supporting these efforts?
- How can civil society involved in peacebuilding specifically be supported?
- What role do UN missions and United Nations Country Teams play in building local capacity?

Chair: **Dr. Edward Luck**, *Senior Vice President for Research and Programs, IPI*

Speakers: **Mr. Bruno Lemarquis**, *Chief, Central Strategy and Policy Cluster, UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery*
Mr. Henk-Jan Brinkman, *Chief, Policy, Planning and Application Branch, UN Peacebuilding Support Office*
Mr. Graeme Simpson, *Policy and Learning Director, Interpeace*

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee break

11:15 – 12:45 Session 2: Resource Mobilization

Another key recommendation out of the review is the role envisioned for the PBC to mobilize resources for countries on its agenda. Adequate funding is critical for vital peacebuilding activities such as rebuilding government capacity in critical areas including the security and rule of law sectors, reconciliation efforts, and the reintegration of ex-combatants and the displaced. Some questions for discussion:

- How can the role of the PBC, CSMs or their chairs be strengthened for resource mobilization?
- How can and should the PBC coordinate with other actors, UN and non-UN, on funding?
- What is the scale and scope of PBF allocations for peacebuilding? How is the PBF catalytic? What scope is there for more strategic relationship between PBC and PBF?
- What is a "peacebuilding Priority Plan"? What is its role for the Peacebuilding Fund and how does it fit in with other instruments?

Chair: **Mr. Andrew Tomlinson**, *Director and Representative, QUNO*

Speakers: **Mr. Gjermund Saether**, *Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Norway to the UN*
Mr. Dan Schreiber, *Attaché, Permanent Mission of Belgium to the UN*
Mr. Brian Williams, *Chief, Financing for Peacebuilding Branch, UN Peacebuilding Support Office*

12:45 – 2:30 Session 3: Instruments of Engagement (Working Lunch)

As the PBC evolves, so too do the strategies it uses to engage with countries on its agenda. While strategic frameworks have been the standard for the past, different instruments of engagement for PBC countries are now emerging, like the statement of mutual commitments for Liberia. Strategic frameworks are also being more closely coordinated with Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRSs) in order to streamline the international community's response. Some questions for discussion:

- How have the PBC's instruments of engagement with country authorities evolved? What lessons have been learned from existing cases? What range of instruments are at the PBC's disposal and what types of instruments are best suited for particular situations?
- What are the processes to prioritize peacebuilding needs? How can PBC support national ownership of and capacity-building for an efficient prioritization process?
- As the instruments of engagement evolve, how can one ensure ongoing monitoring by the PBC between the field and headquarters, as previously envisioned by the strategic framework bi-annual reviews?

Chair: **Mr. Ejeviome Eloho Otobo**, *Director and Deputy Head, UN Peacebuilding Support Office*

Speakers: **Mr. Youssef Mahmoud**, *Former Executive Representative of the Secretary-General, United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi (BINUB)*
 Mr. Johann Aeschlimann, *Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN*
 Mr. Patrick Travers, *Advisor, Permanent Mission of Canada to the UN*

2:30 – 2:45 Concluding Remarks

Ms. Sibylle Osten, *Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Germany to the UN*
 Mr. Olivier Nduhungirehe, *First Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Rwanda to the UN*