

Peacebuilding Commission
Virtual Meeting on Women, Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace
Enhancing the Leading Role of Women in Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace Efforts
Wednesday, 13 October 2021, 10:00 AM
Chair Summary

1. On 13 October, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) held a virtual Ambassadorial-level meeting on Women, Peace and Security *Enhancing the Leading Role of Women in Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace Efforts*. The meeting was convened by Mr. Osama Abdelkhalek, Chair of the PBC. In his opening remarks, the Chair thanked DPPA/PBSO for the timely submission of a written update on the implementation of the PBC gender strategy and action plan from October 2020 to October 2021, and for sharing the findings of a recent thematic review on gender responsive peacebuilding undertaken by the Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund (PBF). He stated that the written update allowed the PBC to take stock of its efforts to enhance the role of women in peacebuilding and discuss related input to the Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security. The Chair stressed the importance of expanding partnerships to implement the WPS agenda and the important role of the PBC in amplifying the voice of women peacebuilders across the UN platform to discuss challenges and opportunities and formulating recommendations to enhance meaningful participation of African women in peacebuilding settings.
2. Ms. Rosemary DiCarlo, Under-Secretary-General and head of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) emphasized areas of work that are critical for the promotion of women's and meaningful participation in peace and political processes. These include improvements in gender analysis that guides peace work; support for efforts to expand special measures for women, such as quotas, while also focusing on the meaningful participation in political and peace processes; and linking participation with protection needs by addressing conflict-related sexual violence and other forms of widespread gender-based violence and discrimination. The USG stressed the importance of advocating for adequate, predictable, and meaningful participation and highlighted that the Peacebuilding Fund allocated, for the third consecutive year, \$100 million to support women's empowerment and that the 2021-2022 Year Appeal also dedicates at least 17% of its funding to projects entirely devoted to the WPS agenda.
3. Ms. Sima Sami Bahous, Executive Director of UN Women, presented persisting challenges in the implementation of the WPS agenda, including the fact that, as reported in S/2021/827, only 23 per cent of delegates in peace processes led or co-led by the United Nations were women and only 42 per cent of the over 3,100 policy measures adopted throughout the world to respond to COVID-19 can be considered gender-responsive.

. She also stressed the importance of continuing to improve the gender analysis that guides the work of the UN Secretariat and the intergovernmental bodies of Member States and committed to contributing to this objective through even stronger partnerships with the rest of the UN system.

4. Dr. Meghna Guhathakurta, Executive Director Research Initiatives Bangladesh experience in the development and implementation of a National Action Plan (NAm(ti)-0 1 76 f(tiorhe U()-)-3(pleme)4(ntation)-

organizations and locally driven efforts to implement the WPS agenda, including efforts to ensure sufficient resourcing of NAPs, and underscored the importance of these recommendation