

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN TO THE LINITED NATIONS

TO THE UNITED NATIONS NEW YORK

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SECURITY COUNCIL — OPEN DEBATE - PEACEBUILDING AND SUSTAINING PEACE "INVESTMENT IN PEOPLE TO ENHANCE RESILIENCE AGAINST COMPLEX CHALLENGES"

STATEMENT BY MYRIAM OEHRI, CHARGÉE D'AFFAIRES

DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Mr. President,

Today's debate takes place at a time with most conflicts worldwide since 1945. Peacebuilding and sustaining peace we are discussing today, undoubtedly, must be at the center of our common efforts. Conflict prevention and resolution can only be successful and sustainable when it is fully inclusive. There is clear evidence that the inclusion of women in peace talks increases the probability of lasting peace agreements. And women's full, equal and meaningful participation across all peacekeeping operations improves mandate delivery. While there is no doubt that gender equality offers a path to sustainable peace and conflict prevention, we are moving in the opposite direction, with the reversal of generational gains in women's rights in many parts of the world. We applaud the brave women human rights defenders who have taken to the streets to peacefully protest such reversals, to fight for their rights and the rule of law – from Myanmar, to Belarus to Iran.

The Security Council, with its responsibility under the UN Charter, has an obligation to ensure that peace processes are inclusive and gender-sensitive, in accordance with resolution 1325 and its follow-up resolutions. The Women, Peace and Security agenda must feature across all agendas and country situations, and the empowerment of women as agents of change must be a priority.

Mr. President,

The Peacebuilding Commission, together with the Peacebuilding Fund, plays an indispensable role in implementing many of the thematic agendas outlined by the Security Council. Its advisory, bridging and convening roles have benefitted many country situations. We recognize the PBCs inclusive approach for sustainable peace by integrating gender and youth perspectives in its work. And we encourage efforts to include relevant stakeholders that can further support peace processes and governance.

A crucial aspect of sustainable peace, as reflected in SDG 16, is reconciliation and accountability for the most serious crimes under international law. The PBC and PBF have addressed issues of transitional justice, notably in The Gambia, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Colombia and Sudan. Given the breadth and importance of this work, for example the funding to Colombia's Truth Commission, we would like to see further engagement by the PBC on transitional justice as a standalone topic, along the lines of other similar discussions that have already taken place. In so doing, the PBC would reinforce the vital part it plays in implementing and complementing many of the thematic agendas of the Security Council – an important synergy that Liechtenstein hopes will continue.

We also wish to highlight the added value created by General Assembly Resolution 76/262, also known as the "Veto Initiative", which mandates the Assembly to step in when the Council is blocked by a veto, including on conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts.

I thank you.