



General Discussion on the 2020 Report of the Secretary-General on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace

Friday September 11 2020, New York

Swiss statement

Mr. President

We join other delegations in thanking the Secretary-General for his briefing and in welcoming his report on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace.

Switzerland appreciates the progress made over the past fifteen years and in particular with regard to the implementation of the 2016 Twin Resolutions. These resolutions have put us on the right trajectory by providing a strong conceptual and policy framework. Through concrete examples, the Secretary-General's report illustrates the achievements that are possible through a **multidimensional and cross-pillar approach**.

The impact of COVID-19 around the globe underscores the need for continued attention to the **concept of sustaining peace in all its dimensions**, including those that have seen progress over recent years. It is important that **implementation** remains high on the agenda of the UN System and of member states, including through regular reporting, and that we continue paying close attention to **results on the ground**.

Switzerland welcomed the inclusive **informal phase** of the Review. We recognize that the Secretary-General's report echoes a number of insights that were shared by different stakeholders throughout this process. This collective stock-taking has reinforced our sense that progress is happening in the right direction. At the same time, it highlighted **important avenues for continued improvement**. We attach particular importance to the following:

- First, the imperative to **address the root causes of conflict** and to **mitigate the risks** arising from inequality, exclusion and discrimination. Putting **human rights at the heart of UN action throughout the system** is key to prevent conflict and sustain peace. Peace and security, as well as inclusive and sustainable development are not possible without the protection and promotion of human rights.
- Second, the importance of implementing peacebuilding efforts in ways that support and build on **efforts at the local level**. In particular, the **contributions of women and youth** must be fully integrated.
- Third, the necessity to tackle collectively the urgent task of securing adequate resources for peacebuilding. This requires both **innovative approaches to financing** and **effective partnerships** to ensure that available means are used in the most efficient way.

Mr. President

Against the backdrop of the global pandemic, we share the sense of urgency expressed by the Secretary-General to **place the prevention of crisis and human suffering at the heart of our efforts**. We must ensure that we continue to have solid guidance for what we do collectively, as member states and for the UN system, to build and sustain peace. Switzerland is ready to work with the co-facilitators and all member states to achieve this goal during the formal phase of the review.