

## Executive Summary

### Context and Methodology

The UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) commissioned this Independent Thematic Review on Gender to contribute to knowledge building and operational learning about peacebuilding practices. It is an independent review and as such the analysis does not necessarily reflect the views of PBSO or any of the UN entities. The author accepts full and final responsibility for the report. The Terms of Reference for the Review set out two main areas of work (Annex I). The first is an external focus to scope out in the international domain the emerging good practices in implementing what is increasingly termed 'gender-responsive peacebuilding'. The second area focuses on the PBSO itself and the UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) and its efforts and potential to promote and enhance the implementation of gender-responsive peacebuilding programmes through targeted and mainstreaming approaches.

A Reference Group made up of UN stakeholders was convened under the auspices of the PBSO to support this Review. This inter-agency group included PBSO, UN Women, UNDP, DPA, UNICEF and a representative from the UN Interagency Framework Team. The draft Terms of Reference, inception report (including methodology) and field mission locations were all shared with the Reference Group for feedback and endorsement, as well as the draft final report that was the subject of a Validation Mission to New York in late February 2014.

A range of methods informed the research approach of the Review including: Inception Mission to New York with Inception Roundtable with the Reference Group, September 2013 (Inception Report); Desk Review – collation and analysis of documentation that was an on-going task (Annex 6); Field Visits to Nepal and Guinea – October and November 2013 (Aides Memoire, Annexes 4 and 5); Semi-structured interviews based on Guide Questions for Interviews (Annex 3 and List of Participants, Annex 2); Validation Mission on Draft Report, February 2014.

Good contact was taken up with the PBF Review team undertaking a parallel major review of the Fund. Collaborative efforts ensued to create synergies between the two Reviews, notably, the synchronising of field missions to Nepal and Guinea so we could benefit from working together and engaging with stakeholders and projects. However, both Reviews also faced time pressures and separate ToR. It will be important that PBSO take both reports together to optimise any recommendations related to strengthening the integration and impact of gender as part of PBF practices and processes.

This Final Report of the Thematic Review sets out the core elements of analysis, findings and recommendations. It is divided into two parts. Part One outlines the conceptual tensions and gap between commitments and action that are affecting progress in this field. It goes on to scope out emerging good practices from a selected range of programmatic areas of gender in peacebuilding. Part Two focuses on the PBSO and PBF and reviews findings in terms of the funding, programmatic and reporting progress of the PBF in integrating gender. It suggests ways in which these might be strengthened.

### Main Findings

These findings pertain to the overall field scoped out in this review and cover a range of actors and thematic areas of action on gender-responsive peacebuilding. They reflect themes and issues that emerged as a consensus from a range of interviews carried out as well as desk review of projects and evaluations, and field visits to Nepal and Guinea. The context and detail of these findings can be found in the main sections of the report.

## Emerging Lessons from Efforts to Operationalise Gender-Responsive Peacebuilding

### *The Frameworks for Gender-Responsive Peacebuilding*

- There remains a distinctive gap between policy commitments and the operational reality of implementing gender-responsive peacebuilding although the Review finds some evidence of accelerated efforts across the UN to bridge this gap since the UN Secretary-General's 2010 report on 'Women's Participation in Peacebuilding'.
- Experts, activists and programme managers express frustration at the lack of proper gender analysis to build the still-elusive goal of gender-sensitive conflict analysis that can shape a context-driven understanding of needs and entry points for peacebuilding initiatives. The purpose and use of gender analysis is currently caught up in a distracting debate of woman-centred versus gender relations whereby tensions exist in the interpretation of UNSCR 1325 among peacebuilding actors in terms of women's rights versus the use of gender analysis. This could be addressed or overcome by moving towards more explicit 'theories of change' at project, programme and strategic levels of planning and reporting.
- The use of theories of change in outlining strategy and shaping project design and evaluation could contribute to a clearer articulation of the relationship between gender equality/empowerment outcomes and peacebuilding outcomes and lead to improved narrative of results and impact.
- There is a pressing need driving emerging efforts inside many organisations to provide operational guidance and support to field staff on *how* to implement gender-responsive peacebuilding and *how* to measure results and impact. Current efforts remain at an early stage, dispersed and somewhat disjointed, and would benefit from concerted support to move them forward.
- National Action Plans for UNSCRs 1325 & 1820 (NAPs) are important entry points for gender-responsive peacebuilding particularly at country level and can leverage important sub-regional and regional leadership and networks to inform overall strategy and define programmatic activities. The operationalization of the NAPs remains a challenge in terms of tracking gender, conflict, and peacebuilding dynamics linking better to post-conflict financing and planning processes. It is important to learn and scale up from instances where deliberate planning efforts have been made, and to actively link the NAPs to post-conflict financing.
- There is a need to delineate or clarify for programme staff and operational managers how the NAP and 7PAP inform or are to be used in any planning or design process for gender-responsive peacebuilding projects and activities. The 7PAP is often taken as a useful advocacy document to give a specific sense of what types of action might be considered in gender-responsive peacebuilding but it is not considered to be a programme template, or to replace the close mapping of a NAP and does not mitigate the importance of conducting context-driven gender-sensitive conflict analysis to reveal the dynamics and needs that should be addressed in projects. Guidance for operational engagement with these frameworks and actions plans is critical for PBSO to ensure peacebuilding programmes are designed, implemented and measured to be gender-responsive.

### *Supporting Good Practices*

- ✓ The body of practice for gender-responsive peacebuilding is still emerging and needs serious investment to gain traction; the lack of a critical mass of strategic projects and programmes is a major reason for the weak evidence base.
- ✓ Despite emerging good practices and growing numbers of projects in different thematic areas of gender-responsive peacebuilding, there is a need for greater momentum and scale in these efforts. While many individuals and institutions point to good cases they know in the field or cite particular cases studies in their own work that for them demonstrate good practice in gender-responsive peacebuilding, there is a strong consensus from the research of the need to accelerate the number

and scale of projects and good practices. This would drive greater operational impact at the field level and help to develop the significant bodies of good practice and case studies that can form the evidence base for measuring change and impact in gender-responsive peacebuilding. This requires greater and sustained financial and programmatic support.

- ✓ While there are instances of good coordination and efforts to create overarching strategy, many projects and thematic approaches tend to be stand-alone and require greater strategic planning and programming to enhance coverage, impact and results.
- ✓ Better documentation of practices and operational learning is needed in terms of what works and what does not and how feasible is it to replicate or upscale; many of the studies remain focused on the level of policy and advocacy and summary lessons drawn from brief case studies. Greater thematic learning in all areas is needed that is grounded in operational realities and used to improve practice.
- ✓ There is scope for more interaction by the range of organisations engaged in peacebuilding to build and share knowledge and practice with a view to greater understanding and impact of gender-responsive peacebuilding. This includes better sharing of existing studies, evaluations and lessons learned.
- ✓ Favoured areas of support (though still requiring increased financing) tend to be SGBV (services and combating impunity), peacemaking and conflict resolution, support to women's organisations and stand-alone projects targeting women within larger thematic programmes, for example in terms of rule of law and access to justice or economic recovery. There is also a focus on gender and SSR.
- ✓ Areas where more attention might be directed include stronger approaches to gender-responsive economic recovery that go beyond jobs and quick impact labour schemes and link more to peacebuilding outcomes; explicit strategies for greater participation by women in peace processes/ conflict resolution and elections, that link technical and political responses as critical aspects of peacebuilding; as well as, overall stronger and better gender budgeting practices in programming.
- ✓ Across all the issues of participation a common theme emerges that 'movement building' for civil society and women's organisations remains a critical activity to be supported.

#### *Key Lessons on Economic Recovery*

- The need to see women as economic agents and not just a vulnerable group.
- Thinking beyond subsistence to promoting security by moving beyond 'food for work', 'cash for work' and emergency schemes that have grown out of humanitarian operations to focus on livelihoods; not just food supplies to families which are important as a minimum but the peacebuilding phase could and should be looking to plant the seeds for greater security and opportunity for development linked to peace.
- There needs to be better understanding of the barriers that limit women's and girls' economic participation and empowerment – examples in the literature and interviews include literacy, training, social norms and attitudes, restrictive laws on status of women, vulnerability to SGBV, context of insecurity, transport, lack of access to savings or capital, family responsibilities, and lack of proper consultation and market research with women and communities on opportunities and challenges for programmes and intended outcomes.
- Current programmes are largely focused on targeted subsets of these larger issues and can be reduced to income-generating projects that do not sufficiently consider the larger picture of how economic recovery can drive empowerment and gender equality to strengthen peacebuilding outcomes.

- The vital linkage between economic well-being and empowerment on the one hand and political and social participation on the other is too often overlooked.
- Women are marginalised from critical formal planning process for post-conflict funding mechanisms, national plans for recovery, and financial engagement of the international community at the country level and internationally.

#### *Key Lessons on Political Participation*

- There are positive developments in women's participation in conflict resolution, mediation and peace processes particularly since 2010 including the appointment of women to senior positions as mediator and envoy at UN and as envoy at the AU; systematic guidance and training for mediators at the UN, and increasing profile and role of women's civil society organisations in and around high-level processes.
- There are interesting and growing approaches of NGOs and civil society organisations at all levels of peace processes and conflict resolution from community based capacities to formal talks. There is also an interesting and potentially important web of actions emerging in Great Lakes
- There is a strong consensus of the need to press forward with the momentum of building political will and creating enabling institutional environments so as to increase the political space for women at all levels of peacemaking and peacebuilding.
- The UN DPA and UN Women Joint Strategy (2011-2013) to support women's participation in peace processes, mediation and conflict resolution should consider a review of this new approach so that lessons can be gathered on activities and their impact, organisational capacity, and challenges and opportunities for collaboration to shape future UN entry points for action to increase the participation of women at *all* levels of peacemaking and conflict resolution.
- There is importance and impact in the use of electoral quotas (usually 30%) and other temporary special measures for creating an entry point for women's political participation. However, there is strong agreement that such quotas needs to be shored up by other actions to enable and sustain participation in terms of overcoming barriers to women's participation in terms of candidate selection, campaign financing, media engagement and coverage, as well as support to managing political party and parliamentary processes and institutional contexts.
- Significant efforts have been made since 2010 in supporting gender and elections work, notably, the 2012 UN Guidelines for electoral Needs Assessment Missions (NAMs) and the 2013 Policy Directive on promoting women's electoral and political participation through UN electoral assistance. There are also good examples for technical support projects from Nepal and Guinea experience of elections during 2013. There is an opportunity to work on gender and elections more systematically and with explicit political strategies for women's participation as well as evidence-based learning from electoral support projects that have been funded by PBF in different countries.
- Overall, there is a need and opportunity to link technical programmes on peacebuilding with an explicit political strategy for participation of women in peace process and/or implementation of peace agreements or similar processes of stabilisation, conflict prevention, and national dialogue that frame the conflict and peace being worked with. This involves UN inter-agency action as well as featuring as part of national dialogue and ownership of national government, civil society and non-state actors.

#### **PBSO Experience and Learning on Gender-Responsive Peacebuilding since 2010**

- ✓ The PBSO is to be commended for the momentum of actions since the Secretary-General's 2010 report. These indicate an openness and willingness to learn about and improve impact of gender-responsive peacebuilding. This Review finds very positive space opening up and opportunities to build on the catalytic drive of the Secretary-General's 2010 Report, the Gender Promotion Initiative (GPI)

and the 15% target for funds dedicated to 'address women's specific needs, advance gender equality and/or empower women as their principal objective'; PBSO met its interim target of 10% in 2012.

- ✓ The extent to which support to gender-responsive peacebuilding commitments are considered or influence the development of Priority Plans is a general concern in how the selection and allocation of PBF funds are performed. There is a vital role for PBSO in working with the UNCTs/ UN Offices on the ground to ensure gender is a more prominent consideration in all peacebuilding priorities and projects.
- ✓ Gender-responsive peacebuilding needs to be a feature of UN policy dialogue with Government counterparts (including military and security contacts) and civil society representatives. The PBC has a critical leadership role to play in terms of creating entry points to bring gender on to the agenda for the Commission and its Country-Specific Configurations.
- ✓ The **PBSO Gender Marker** needs to be strengthened and updated in line with recent UNDG guidance – to move it from being about 'adding women in' to being underpinned by gender-sensitive conflict analysis. The Gender Marker is due to be updated as part of updated PBF Guidelines due in 2014;
- ✓ The **15% target** for funding of gender and peacebuilding requires guidance to enable tracking through the project documentation and subsequent reporting. Currently the 15% target is being tracked by PBF only in terms of GM3 projects and this is creating a perverse incentive of relying on targeted projects for women to raise the spending levels on gender-responsive peacebuilding. There is a need to budget allocations to GM 3 projects and also determine figures on the elements of GM 1 and 2 that can be considered a contribution to spending. A further observation and caution is that when calculating the 15%, the target should be looked at country by country and not simply at an overall portfolio level and global overview; this is important in ensuring accountability and also preventing scenario of 15% being met but relying on a few progressive examples to reach that global figure
- ✓ There is an opportunity and need to learn about **Gender Promotion Initiative** as it is being implemented across the 8 countries that have currently received funds. The emerging trend is that GPI is driving PBSO efforts to reach the target of 10% and later 15%; there needs to be caution about 'unintended consequences'. There is a risk that overly focusing on the 15% target and GPI by PBF could give the unintended message that the other 85% of PBF funding is clear of responsibility to make interventions gender-responsive. Indeed, good practice suggests that targeted projects should be 'complementary' to mainstreaming efforts.
- ✓ That GPI projects exist in some form is important and they *can* be catalytic if linked to driving larger areas of engagement such as SSR, land reform, conduct of elections, national dialogue (given here as examples as critical large interventions will depend on context). Even as stand-alone projects they have merit in building a constituency of action and participation for women in peacebuilding.
- ✓ The **PBSO Strategy 2012-2013 and Performance Management Plan Results Matrix 2011-2013** have already in their current form sought to reference the UN commitments and gender in peacebuilding and call for disaggregated data throughout. They preface the intention to make more use of conflict analysis and gender analysis in setting PBF priorities. The main commitment is to meeting the 15% target through GM3 projects. The document also states a commitment to mainstream gender in all its projects. The scaffolding is thus in place and needs to be strengthened through operational learning and guidance and driven forward by strong leadership in converting the commitments into actions and reporting on progress.
- ✓ Overall, **gender reporting** needs strengthening to demonstrate budget allocations, gender disaggregated data, dynamics of participation and change and results through the projects. **Core project documentation** needs to reflect seriousness of integration of gender and the implementation of gender-responsiveness - Create it, Cost it, Count it. That is to say, a theory of change for gender-responsive peacebuilding has to be set out when designing the project (whether it is mainstreamed

or targeted project), and the budget has to set out the breakdown of activities so that the cost of the gender-related activities or the inclusion of women and girls is counted.

- ✓ **PBSO capacities** are stretched and there is a reliance on PBF Overhead budgets, secondments, and JPOs outside of the regular posts to fill important areas of work including gender. This simply serves to reinforce the precarious position of gender as an agenda item and objective of the PBSO and the PBF. Within the PPAB there is a need to establish a **core post for gender** to ensure stability, consistency and credibility for PBSO engagement internally and with stakeholders.
- ✓ There is a tendency of the PBSO to operate in three separate silos that reflect the branches of the Office. There is greater scope for working together on gender in the respective areas to raise profile of gender-responsive peacebuilding on the PBC and among PBF recipient countries and UN presences at the country level. There is a need and opportunity for PPAB and PBF to work together on **operational learning**, guidance, training and knowledge management.
- ✓ The Lessons Learned configuration of the PBC offers opportunities to create a link on operational learning. There is scope for more structured communications links regarding the countries on the PBC agenda and specific engagements on the PBF portfolio in these countries.

## Recommendations for PBSO from this Thematic Review on Gender

- (1) The Thematic Review recommends that PBSO develop a Gender Strategy and Action Plan to build on the momentum generated since 2010 and to guide PBSO priorities and actions on gender-responsive peacebuilding over the short and medium term (6-24 months). The strategy should reflect that mainstreaming and targeting are equally valid strategies for integrating gender and will receive equal effort and attention. This Gender Strategy and Action plan should reflect the leadership of senior management across the PBSO for the integration of gender into the 3 pillars of its work on support to the PBC, policy, and PBF.
- (2) The Action Plan should reflect a series of concrete activities in the following areas: Programming, Partnerships, Operational Learning and Organisational Capacity. Particular actions are suggested in the other recommendations set out here that can inform this recommended plan of action.

### PBSO/PBF Programming

#### *Gender Marker*

- (3) The PBSO Gender Marker to be updated in line with recent UNDG Guidance, requirements for the UN System Wide Action Plan on Gender Equality, and established good practice
- (4) The MPTF Gateway for PBF to list the Gender Marker score as part of the public core information and on projects and also to indicate whether projects are IRF or PRF so as to strengthen the profile and information on gender-responsiveness.
- (5) All ProDocs to be required to include a Gender Marker score and the scores should be evaluated in terms of the accuracy of the self-assessment as part of the approval process.
- (6) PBSO to develop and roll out clear, concise operational guidance on using the Gender Marker that is practical and can be easily used by project managers, teams and partners at country level. PBSO, and other partners such as UNDP and UN Women, could make technical expertise on the gender marker available to PBF countries to build their capacity on the use of the Gender marker as well as drawing on good practices from country teams and sharing them.
- (7) Consideration to be given to including a set of guide questions in the ProDoc to guide the formulation of a narrative section justifying the proposed Gender Marker score. This would ensure some

reflection on the use of the Gender Marker and would also require demonstration that some level of meaningful gender analysis has taken place. Consideration to also be given to using the Gender Marker in the monitoring of projects to take account of any changes that negatively or positively impact on the integration of gender equality over the duration of projects.

- (8) Consideration to be given to dropping the use of the zero (0) score and to focus on encouraging an increasing volume of GM2 and GM3 projects.

#### *Gender Budgeting and tracking the 15% in both GM2 and GM3 projects*

- (9) Gender-budgeting practices need to be supported to improve the gender-responsiveness of PBF funding, allocation and planning processes and to better track the 15% target. This needs to include mainstreaming as well as targeted projects (i.e. at least GM 2 and GM3 projects). Project teams to be supported and advised on developing more detailed budgets that set out gender-related commitments and spending so that the 15% target can be tracked. This requires PBSO to develop operational guidance, training and field support options for building capacities for gender-budgeting linked to the PBF.
- (10) PBSO learn from and share the Nepal example of the 2012 funding round of PBF with a view to inform its development of operational guidance on use of the gender marker and tracking of the 15% target that is recommended in this Review.

#### *Operational Guidance*

- (11) PBSO to prioritise the development of clear and practical 'how to' guides on critical themes and tools of gender-responsive peacebuilding for the accompaniment process at country level to help programme managers/staff and intended beneficiaries translate commitments into meaningful actions and programmes. This could help enhance effectiveness and impact of projects and strategies.
- (12) PBSO to also support training and advocacy actions that have operational intent and impact in setting out the implications of SCR 1325 and the usefulness of the 7PAP by demonstrating how to integrate gender in all steps of the PBF process – identification and design of project, consultations with partners and beneficiaries, gender budgeting, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting on results and impact.
- (13) PBSO needs to improve the measurement of 'success' and 'effectiveness' of gender-responsive peacebuilding. This requires gender data, indicators, results framework, and articulation at project and portfolio levels of well-grounded theories of change for gender-responsive peacebuilding. These efforts should engage with the relevance and usefulness of the existing 26 indicators that were developed by UN system for UNSCR 1325. The work on operational learning and developing PBF operational guides on critical themes of gender-responsive peacebuilding featured in these recommendations should give priority to supporting this important monitoring and evaluation work.
- (14) The updating of the PBF Guidelines provides an opportunity to signpost elements of operational guidance and learning on gender-responsive peacebuilding that will be worked on as part of proposed PBSO Gender Strategy and Action Plan.

#### *Gender Promotion Initiative*

- (15) PBSO needs to continue tracking and learning from implementation and impact of the current round of GPI projects and to address the emerging trend of addressing 15% funding target exclusively through targeted programmes including the GPI.

(16) PBSO should consider a further round of GPI projects to continue building the programmes and evidence base for gender-responsive peacebuilding. Any future round should give greater consideration to the potential catalytic potential of GPI projects to leverage entry points in larger peacebuilding programmes (e.g. SSR, National Dialogue, Land Reform, Electoral Support etc.) to integrate gender effectively.

### **PBSO Operational Learning**

(17) PBSO requires a commitment to operational learning and digging deeper on the projects, reports and outcomes of both the GPI as well as the overall PBF portfolio to more effectively support the mainstreaming of 'gender in peacebuilding' into all projects, decisions, and results. This requires closer working relations and planning on operational learning between the Policy Branch and PBF including a shared Strategy for Operational Learning.

(18) A robust and systematic lessons learned system is needed to draw on the rich experience of the PBF and provide necessary accountability and learning from the implementation of the funds to promote and implement gender-responsive peacebuilding.

(19) PBSO should seek to formalise learning across all PBF countries on implementing gender-responsive programming and sharing good practices. This cross-learning from PBF good practices PBSO requires structured follow up with a possible initial focus on GPI recipients.

(20) Given the general concern about the existence and quality of gender-sensitive conflict analysis this is an area of concern that should be part of any gender strategy and action plan in terms of (1) knowledge building with a wider range of partners who are grappling with this issue (2) drilling down for operational learning from PBF projects and country level experience and (3) piloting and supporting better practice in this area as a consideration of funding in certain test cases. PBSO could explore with UN stakeholders, NGOs and specialists with experience of conflict analysis the possibility of organising working sessions on developing good practice and hands-on guidance for PBF projects in this area.

### **PBSO Partnerships**

(21) PBSO can learn from and build upon the past *partnership with UN Women* to focus and harness the PBSO-UN Women partnership as a basis for strengthening the operationalization of gender-responsive peacebuilding in the PBF portfolio. Elements of a renewed partnership with UN Women could include: Training and knowledge development to support operationalization of policy commitments including guidance for field staff; Generating and organising cross-learning to bring lessons from one country to another by learning from the main implementers of PBF funds.

(22) PBSO could usefully engage with innovative and critical work being undertaken on programme approaches and gender analysis and theories of change by particular *INGOs, civil society organisations and private foundations*. Specific partnerships and events should be explored in this regard.

(23) Serious consideration to be given to *direct funding to INGOs and CSOs* to promote innovation and learning on gender-responsive peacebuilding. This could be considered at a global level with a vetted number of organisations and/or be carried in consultation with the UN SRSG or UN RC at country level.

(24) PBSO should explore and consider the potential of regional and sub-regional initiatives in terms of possible learning on gender-responsive programming as well as future possibility of PBF funding to

cross-border programming in this area. The examples of the Great Lakes and Mano River Union are indicative of the potential in this area.

- (25) PBSO to explore the opportunities of engaging The UN Senior Peacebuilding Group at the senior/Principal level and the UN Peacebuilding Contact Group at the technical level to gain support and enable coordination for taking forward the specific actions recommended here to advance the policy and operational agenda of gender responsive peacebuilding.
- (26) PBSO to work closely with the relevant SRSGs, Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams in taking these recommendations forward as they provide the vital platform for PBF in the development of priority plans with the national authorities and the implementation and programming of PBF projects. The operational learning and development of guidance needs also to emerge from and be supported at the country level.
- (27) It is recommended that *PBSO and PBC* explore plans for more structured communications regarding the countries on the PBC agenda and specific engagement on the PBF portfolio in these countries. These contacts could also be more informal and focused on linking political level discussions with the impact and change that the PBF seeks to bring about at country level. The Lessons Learned configuration of the PBC also offers opportunities to create improved linkages on operational and country-specific learning.
- (28) The PBC could be encouraged and supported by PBSO to promote more structured engagement with gender and UNSCR 1325 commitments on women peace and security in its work at global and country level.

#### **PBSO Organisational Capacity**

- (29) PBSO needs to strengthen its internal gender capacities and training for all PBSO staff; a dedicated full time post at a minimum rather than relying on *ad hoc* secondment and temporary arrangements. Her/his role would be advise, guide, initiate and provide technical assistance at HQ and field level to ensure PBSO staff get the appropriate support and training and advisory inputs to take gender-responsive peacebuilding into their daily work and outcomes.
- (30) There is scope to explore different models of funding and deploying technical assistance and support in countries with large PBF portfolios including (1) full-time funded post for a fixed period (2) surge capacity in the form of field missions by PBSO gender and monitoring and evaluation staff (3) joint missions with UN entities receiving funds from PBF (4) draw on partnerships with NGOs and consultants to design and deliver specific support and training packages.

The next 18 months provide important entry points at the UN for the advancement of the work on gender-responsive peacebuilding and the implementation of all aspects of UNSCR 1325. These were highlighted in the course of the Review. They include an open debate on women, peace and security at the Security Council in April 2014, the preparations of a global study in anticipation of the High-Level Review of the implementation of UNSCR 1325 planned for 2015, the annual PBF Stakeholders Meeting and preparation for the 2013 Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture, as well as on-going discussions on the Post-2015 development agenda following the MDGs that have been in place since 2000. It is hoped that this Review can make a modest contribution PBSO engagement with those opportunities.