



# REPORT

## **Global Thematic Consultation** CONFLICT AND FRAGILITY AND THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

**29-30 November 2012**  
**Monrovia, Liberia**



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*



United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office  
United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office



**UNISDR**

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

## SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

- Recognition that eradicating violence is a fundamental part of human progress, but achieving peace is about much more than the absence of violence. The attainment of positive, sustainable peace depends on addressing drivers of violence and developing institutions and approaches that will foster a more peaceful society.
- Participants identified among other gaps in the MDG framework the critical absence of natural resources management and governance and the impact and role of women, girls and youth on development.
- Shared recognition that achieving peace is a multidimensional endeavor and agreement with the United Nations Task Team report that peace can no longer be separated from the world's development framework.
- Unequivocal agreement with the UNTT report that peace and security should be one of four core dimensions of the new development framework.
- The inclusion of peace and security as a standalone goal, entailing specific targets and indicators on many different dimensions.
- Concern about the concentration of development deficit and poverty in countries affected by conflict and violence around the world. The participants welcomed the progressive development of the New Deal and the Peacebuilding and Statebuilding goals by the g7+ and believed the post-2015 framework should be informed by these concepts in crafting commitments that would address conflicts in fragile states.
- Clear aspiration to agree on commitments that would help build positive peace and overcome violence in all countries as these challenges are universal and applicable to all states.
- Call for the post-2015 development agenda to move from words to action. Strong emphasis should be placed on implementation, tracking, accountability and partnership. This will require shared efforts, with states, civil society, the private sector and multilateral institutions co-operating and supporting a more coherent agenda for development that actively supports and upholds peace in innovative and mutually accountable ways.

## Context

The Global Thematic Consultation on Conflict and Fragility and the Post-2015 Development Agenda took place on 29-30 November 2012 in Monrovia, Liberia. The consultation was held under the leadership of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office (UNPBSO), United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and jointly co-hosted by the Governments of Liberia and Finland.

The consultation had more than 75 registered participants from different regions of Africa, Europe and America, with countries in Africa having the highest number of participants.

The format of the consultation was appreciated by the participants and reflected the key principle for the consultations to be bottom-up, inclusive, integrated, and comprehensive. Major efforts were made for genuine participation from multi-stakeholder groups including governments, civil society, youth, women organizations, social movements, think tanks, academia, international and intergovernmental organizations, trade unions, and private sector.

There were participants from national governments of China, UK, Nigeria, Sweden, and United States. Liberia was represented by its President and Co-Chair of the Secretary-General's High-Level Panel, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, and by the Acting Minister of Planning and Economic Affairs, Amara M. Konneh, while the Government of Finland was represented by the Under-Secretary of State for Development Cooperation and Development Policy, Ms. Anne Sipiläinen. Intergovernmental organizations such as the African Union and European Union participated as well. .

Participants deliberated on how issues of conflict and fragility should be reflected in the post-2015 development agenda in four inter-linked sessions. The first session examined evidence and arguments on how conflict and fragility, as drivers of underdevelopment, have impacted on efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The second session identified and discussed drivers of conflict and fragility that undermine peace, security and development, what has worked in addressing them, and what issues should be prioritized in the post-2015 development framework. The third session looked concretely on how to integrate peace and security into the post-2015 development framework. Fourth and final was a session organized to determine a strategy for advocacy, network and coalition building to ensure a peace and security goal will be part of the post-2015 development agenda.



Finland's Under Secretary of State for Development Cooperation and Development Policy, Anne Sipiläinen, speaking at the Monrovia post-2015 consultation, on the left Mr. Dominique Sam, UNDP country director and on the right Mr. Amara, Minister for Finance of the Republic of Liberia.

## Background

With the expiry of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2015 fast approaching, global leaders and citizens everywhere are engaged in dialogue and critical reflection on what has been achieved and what comes next. Governments, regional organizations, civil society organizations, the private sector, and bilateral and multilateral agencies are initiating a number of processes to take stock of progress and reflect on future challenges.

The United Nations Secretary-General has indicated that the next generation of development priorities should not be approached as business as usual, where decisions about new development frameworks were left to political leaders alone. To this end, the Secretary-General constituted a UN System Task Team (UNSTT) in September 2011, drawn from over 60 UN entities and co-led by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The Task Team is mandated to coordinate system-wide preparations and to propose, in consultation with all stakeholders, a unified vision and road map for the post-2015 development agenda.

In its report to the Secretary-General, entitled “*Realizing the Future We Want for All*”, the UNSTT underlines the urgency of a new vision of transformative change; calls for a more rights-based, inclusive, people-centered and sustainable development agenda; and recommends crafting the post-2015 agenda around four inter-dependent dimensions—*inclusive social development, inclusive economic development, environmental sustainability, and peace and security*. The UNSTT reaffirms the Secretary-General’s call for a broad consultative process that represents the voices of all peoples and draws on the outcomes of the Rio+20 *Conference on Sustainable Development*.

The Secretary-General appointed in July 2012 a 26-member High-level Panel (HLP) of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, co-chaired by President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf of Liberia, President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono of Indonesia, and Prime Minister David Cameron of the United Kingdom. The HLP is expected to provide a comprehensive vision and direction for the post-2015 development agenda that will help respond to the global challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, in a comprehensive report to be presented to the Secretary-General by May 2013. The President of the UN General Assembly will convene a Special Event at the 68<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly in September 2013 to make recommendations on the inter-governmental process leading up to 2015, drawing on the report of the Panel.

In support of these efforts the UN Development Group (UNDG) launched the *'Building the Post-2015 Development Agenda: Open and Inclusive Global Consultations Project'*, with the aim to build and lead a strategic coalition of partners to undertake bottom-up thematic and web-based consultations at the global, regional and national levels. The consultations are backed by extensive evidence-based research findings that draw lessons from the implementation of the MDGs and identify new opportunities for inclusive sustainable development.



The Global Thematic Consultation on **Conflict and Fragility and the Post-2015 Development Agenda** — is one of eleven themes around which the UN intends to nurture ‘broad coalitions for change’ to inform the post-2015 development agenda.<sup>1</sup> It is composed of three inter-linked sub-thematic global consultations: *Disaster and the Post-2015 Development Agenda*; *Conflict and Fragility and the Post-2015 Development Agenda*; and *Violence, Citizen Insecurity, and the Post-2015 Development Agenda*. The three global consultations will culminate in a *High-Level Consultation on Conflict, Violence, and Disaster and the Post-2015 Development Agenda* in Helsinki in March of 2013, to be hosted by the Government of Finland.

<sup>1</sup> The other themes include: inequalities, health, education, growth and employment, population, governance, environmental sustainability, food and nutrition security, energy and water.

## Consultation Objectives

The aim was twofold: build consensus on the most important ways by which conflict and fragility impede development; and discuss and offer concrete recommendations for priority goals, targets, and indicators relating to addressing peace and security. Specifically the Monrovia Consultation aimed at:

- Build shared understanding and political consensus among Member States, UN agencies, civil society and the private sector on the nexus between conflict, violence, disaster and development and how to address conflict and fragility in the post-2015 development framework;
- Solicit in a real, meaningful and impactful way, input from a wide range of stakeholders to make the case for addressing conflict and fragility in the post-2015 development framework;
- Propose a menu of strategic options to strongly represent conflict and fragility contexts including concrete goals, targets, and indicators to address conflict and fragility for the post-2015 development agenda; and
- Build strategic and inclusive coalitions among Member States, civil society, and the private sector to advocate for the inclusion of a conflict and fragility nexus agenda in the post-2015 development framework.

In preparation for the Consultation, background papers were developed by a number of entities and individuals and shared in advance of the Consultation. (See *Annex A for complete list of background papers*).

## Meeting Proceedings

The United Nations hosted a welcome cocktail for all the participants on the evening of 28 November 2012. The following morning of 29 November, representatives of the two host governments (Liberia and Finland) and of the United Nations and African Union opened the discussions. Following their remarks were two panel discussions: one to provide evidence on the way conflict and fragility has affected achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa, and the other on mapping the salient drivers of conflict and fragility that undermine peace, security, and development in Africa and global factors impeding peace and security.

In addition, participants took part in several working group discussions. The day closed with a dinner and welcome address by the H.E. President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia. The day's events had extensive press coverage.

On 30 November, there were two additional panel sessions on mapping strategic options to address conflict and fragility under a peace and security dimension in the post-2015 development framework and the need for a strategy for advocacy, networking and coalition building to promote conflict and fragility agenda in the peace and security dimension for the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

Participants approved the final outcome document of the Consultation (*see Annex B*), and the meeting concluded at 5:30 p.m.

*The recommendations made over the above sessions can be summarized as follows:*

## **Addressing Conflict and Violence – Identifying Drivers of Conflict**

### **1.1. A look at the evidence**

Participants examined existing evidence on the impact of conflict and violence on development, in particular on efforts to achieve the MDGs. Violence and fragility were discussed as not being an isolated or small issue: 1.5 billion people live in countries affected by fragility, conflict or violence. 526,000 are killed each year by lethal violence. The UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda reports that fragile and conflict-affected countries account for more than 60 percent of the people living in severe underdevelopment: 29 of the 42 countries at the bottom of UNDP's human development index are fragile states. This means that while many developing countries are experiencing progress, countries categorized as 'fragile' tend to perform poorly in many or virtually all of the MDGs.

Participants agreed that aside from claiming lives, causing tremendous physical pain and emotional suffering, conflict and armed violence disrupts markets and economic growth, displaces populations, degrades natural resources and increased conflicts over land, entrenches corruption, leads to impoverishment and unemployment, affects gender equality, destroys schools, clinics and roads, and scars families, communities and societies. While the MDGs largely focus on tangible and measurable aspects of human welfare, aspects that are less easily measured such as the psychological effect of conflict and armed violence are no less important and undermine human, social and economic development.

### **1.2. Drivers of conflict and fragility/drivers of peace**

Violence is directly and indirectly hampering the achievement of all the MDGs, not least because protracted conflicts take the focus and resources away from the MDGs, and also diminish the human resource capacity of a state for planning policy, making decisions and designing programmes.

Participants reached consensus that peace can no longer be separated from the world's development framework. Therefore, they agreed with the UNTT report that peace should be one of the four core dimensions of the new development framework.<sup>2</sup> Human rights and peace and security, including freedom from political persecution, discrimination and all forms of violence, are critical for development and a major component of it. It was clearly accepted that the framework which replaces the MDGs takes account of these elements and includes measures designed to address to prevent and address conflict.

---

<sup>2</sup> The four core dimensions are: inclusive social development, environmental sustainability, inclusive economic development and peace and security. UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda 'Realizing the Future We Want for All', Report to the Secretary-General, New York (June 2012).

At the same time, peace and security, development and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing. This applies not only in areas affected by armed conflict, where the restoration of peace and security is an overriding imperative, but in all societies, including those with significant levels of multiple and hidden forms of violence and injustice.

It was recognized that achieving peace and eradicating violence entails progress on many different dimensions and goes beyond the absence of violence. Eradicating violence is a fundamental part of human progress, but achieving peace is about much more than the absence of violence, and depends on progress in addressing the drivers of violence and strengthening the drivers of peace.<sup>3</sup>

It was agreed that the causal relations between conflict, violence and different aspects of development are hard to pin down. Participants cited a range of factors, such as competition over resources (including commodities such as timber, diamonds, and minerals, as well as those important for subsistence such as water, grazing and farm land), bad governance/management/and coordination of natural resource use, trade and proliferation of small arms, endemic structural unemployment, particularly amongst young people, trans-border armed groups, lack of credible mechanisms for resolving disputes, horizontal inequalities, and/or or exclusion of women and youth as powerful drivers of violence. The participants drew on existing evidence and analysis to conclude that no single factor is the primary cause of conflict in all cases, but that a recurrent set of factors can be identified, that combines in new ways to generate conflict in case after case.

However, they also acknowledged that fragility and conflict are not necessarily the opposite of peace – so it may not be sufficient to simply address the drivers of conflict. A number of other elements would need to be addressed in order to build peaceful societies. Inclusive institutions, both formal and informal, good governance and systematic implementation of the rule of law are important foundations of peace. Thus, essential prerequisites to prevent and or reduce violence and fragility, are efforts to build the rule of law as the bedrock of fair and equitable governance, to foster inclusive economic processes, namely economic activity designed specifically to uplift and include disadvantaged and marginalized groups (often too, those groups who would potentially reignite conflict as a result of economic or other forms of grievances); and the creation of the basic social conditions favourable to the human development of capacities and capabilities, such as basic access to education, sanitation, housing, and medical services.

Implementing post-conflict justice and reconciliation programmes, and harmonization of national and local ‘traditional’ justice processes were considered important element in Africa’s quest to attain durable peace and sustainable development.

Participants agreed that not one single issue should be prioritized when addressing both drivers of conflict and of peace - instead the following key issues should be addressed *inter-relatedly and in a multidimensional* way in the post-2015 development agenda:

---

<sup>3</sup> The Institute for Economics and Peace’s work on ‘Structures of Peace’ defines eight factors as associated with peaceful environments and mutually reinforcing of one another: well-functioning government; sound business environment; equitable distribution of resources; acceptance of the rights of others; good relations with neighbours; free flow of information; high-levels of education; and low levels of corruption.



#### *Good Governance:*

- Inclusive institutions, both formal and informal (outside actors should respect local initiatives for sustainable power-sharing and effective decentralization).
- State's ability to manage revenues and perform core functions based on the principles of equity and fair distribution of power and wealth;
- Transparency, accountability and controls on corruption;
- Promotion of inclusive politics, pluralism and civic participation;
- Free flow of information, civil society engagement and robust media;
- Good relations with neighbours; and
- Rebuilding of social capital: reconciliation in communities.

#### *Rule of Law:*

- Ending impunity and ensuring access to political, economic and social justice – including transitional justice;
- Harmonization of traditional and national justice processes; and
- Reducing violence and increasing people's security.

#### *Equity:*

- Fair access to social services and resources (especially education);
- Greater focus on marginalized and vulnerable groups; and
- Resilience of society to crisis: strengthening informal institutions and networks, empowering marginalized and vulnerable groups, particularly women and youth and excluded groups to participate in decision-making;

#### *Economic Management:*

- Shared sustainable growth and access to decent livelihoods, with a focus on marginalized groups;
- Economic empowerment for women and youth;
- Acknowledgement of role played by informal sector.

Further, participants—especially those from fragile and conflict affected states—repeatedly emphasized the cross-cutting nature of natural resources in all of these aspects. Sound and sustainable management of natural resources is critical, both on a national level to economic growth and job creation, as well as on a local level to the livelihoods of conflict-affected people. When managed wisely, transparently and equitably, and when the injustices of resource control under past regimes are addressed, natural resources can act not only as an engine of economic well-being, but also as a platform to pursue reconciliation by (re)building social capital and the legitimacy of the state. The reconciliation value of a natural resource focus is especially visible when confronting conflicts and injustices around those resources that are critical not only to the livelihoods of

vulnerable populations, but are also of central ethnic, spiritual and cultural significance, such as the rights to farming and grazing land.

### **1.2.1. Data collection and analysis**

Participants called for better data collection and analysis in measuring peace, conflict and security. They also stated that targeted research and better analysis of lessons learned would help address drivers of conflict and build lasting peace. Some participants stated that there is a need for a globally led agenda to help develop credible and impartial locally owned capacity to collect comparable quantitative and qualitative data, especially in conflict affected and fragile contexts. These would need to be able to measure the development of effective formal and informal institutional capacities to overcome conflict and violence and foster lasting peace. They would also be able to measure levels of violence and insecurity, as well as monitor conflict dynamics, drawing on both ‘objective’ measures and the views of people on results achieved.

### **1.2.2. Financial issues**

The post-2015 development agenda must address the problem of the gap between humanitarian, development and peacebuilding partners, and develop appropriate funding and delivery models that can be adapted to national or local realities. Significant increases in long-term funding need to be allocated for sustainable development and peacebuilding in areas traditionally the domain of humanitarian funding. Institutional donors need also more confidence in programming in fragile environments, through the development of protocols and continuing to build an emerging evidence base. There needs to be agreement about how state and peace-building can include support for health, natural resource governance reforms, and other development goals and vice-versa to ensure the right links between development efforts in different sectors in a more mutually supportive, holistic fashion. In sum the three disciplines – development, peacebuilding and humanitarian, must be co-ordinated and resourced more coherently.<sup>4</sup> This might also include an examination of how to create incentives (and/or address disincentives) for this type of collaborative, coordinated work.

## **1.3. Global factors impeding peace and security**

Participants agreed conflict and fragility are unlikely to decrease without much stronger and comprehensive global action.<sup>5</sup> While the international community plays a limited role in domestic processes of negotiated statebuilding, it has a potentially significant role in confronting a range of global factors that influence conflict and fragility. The cross-border dynamics of armed violence, movement of people (both refugees and combatants), and illicit trade of natural resources, arms and drugs are a challenge to all seeking to transform conflict and build resilient and strong communities. Similarly, the illicit financial flows that drain resources from developing countries and the increasing

---

<sup>4</sup> Beyond 2015 Coalition

<sup>5</sup> The study undertaken by OECD DAC’s International Network on Conflict and Fragility (INCAF) on global factors influencing the risk of conflict and fragility was used as a background document for the discussion.

instability engendered by transnational organized crime can only be addressed through international co-operation. It is worth noting that the criminal networks necessary for this trans-border trafficking are facilitated by the instability and corruption that thrive in fragile and conflict-affected states. Indeed, evidence shows that in “post-conflict” contexts, these networks easily redeploy to criminal trafficking, thereby morphing (but not decreasing) the violence and insecurity plaguing a country from war to crime. A multi-layered response, which thinks beyond and below the state, is needed to address issues of conflict and violence at different levels, be they local, provincial, national, regional or international.

Furthermore, not only can fragile states be especially vulnerable to shocks created or exacerbated by forces of globalization, but they can also be less well-equipped to take advantage of its benefits. Participants agreed that governments, private sectors, and even consumers in developed countries often do not acknowledge the negative role that their trade policies and market and investment behaviors play in disadvantaging fragile states and therefore perpetuating the dynamics undermining peace and security in the developing world.

Participants appealed to developed countries to remove their trade barriers to imports, as these are vital to enabling growth in developing countries, and support the pursuit of economic reforms and growth in conflict-sensitive ways.



## **Strategic Options to Address Conflict and Fragility under a Peace and Security Dimension in the Post-2015 Development Framework**

In one of the key sessions of the consultation, participants considered the question of whether: (a) the post-2015 development framework should simply build on the MDG framework (a modified framework); (b) it should cover conflict and fragility as a single, universal goal, or (c) it should cover conflict and fragility as targets and indicators integrated across other development goals; or (d) it should support peace simply as an ‘enabler’ or underlying principle. The discussions recognized that

to an extent these options are not all mutually exclusive. The recommendations made during this session can be summarized as follows:

### **2.1. Building on the progress achieved by the MDG framework.**

Participants agreed that it was important to build on the progress achieved by the MDG framework and not simply start anew; the goals in the new agenda should retain the simplicity and clarity of the MDGs, and should be interconnected at different levels. Since they were adopted by all UN Member States in 2000, the Millennium Development Goals have raised awareness, convened political will and attracted resources to achieving targets, and shaped a broad vision that remains the overarching framework for development work across the world and have made a huge difference, helping to set global and national priorities and fuel action on the ground.

While the UN development framework for the period after 2015 should build on the progress achieved through the MDGs, it has to encompass a broader view that emphasizes and acknowledges the interlinked and complex relationships between human development, human security and freedom as recognized by the UN System Task Team, “Development, human rights and peace and security are indivisible and interrelated. Each cannot be achieved without achieving the other”.

### **2.2. New deal and the g7+**

Participants were pained by the concentration of development deficit and poverty in countries affected by conflict and violence around the world, and welcomed the progressive formation of the g7+ group of fragile countries, the development of the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States and the development of Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals and indicators by the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding.<sup>6</sup> Their design as a set of interim goals for addressing structural causes of conflict and fragility as a precursor to meeting the existing MDGs was considered significant and valuable. They stated that they believe the post-2015 framework should be informed by those concepts in crafting commitments that would address conflicts in fragile states. However, they also recognized that there are gaps in this peacebuilding framework, and they would like to see commitments elaborated that would help build peace and overcome violence globally as these challenges are universal and applicable to a broad spectrum of countries – rather than only states that have recognized their ‘fragility’.

### **2.3. Regional/national and local ownership**

It is important to have country-owned prioritization and implementation frameworks for sustainable development processes. Participants agreed that a high degree of policy coherence between the global, regional, national and sub-national is required. Thus a clear global vision with measurable

---

<sup>6</sup> The PSGs are: Legitimate politics: Foster inclusive political settlements and conflict resolution; Security: Establish and strengthen people’s security; Justice: Address injustices and increase people’s access to justice; Economic Foundations: Generate employment and improve livelihoods; Revenues & Services: Manage revenue and build capacity for accountable and fair service delivery.

commitments to address key drivers of conflict is needed. However the post-2015 framework should also allow context-specific assessment of challenges, priority setting and sequencing.

A plea was made for the active and meaningful involvement of local communities in the design, implementation, management and monitoring of national strategies dealing with peacebuilding, statebuilding and sustainable development. The overall statement was that the development agenda has to work in favour of inclusive and context-sensitive responses to regional, national and local peacebuilding challenges.

Participants stated that the development agenda post-2015 should also bring a change in donors' attitude: donors should prioritize working not only with governments but also with local civil society and communities. Without fundamental change to this approach, civil society will continue to be overlooked as donors will continue to favor (and direct resources toward) national governments, as absent and weak as they might be. At the heart of the new framework should be the involvement and development of local capacity, together with an approach that seeks to maximize the optimum working relationship between local civil society, governments and international organizations, with the latter involved where absolutely needed.<sup>7</sup>

#### **2.4. Standalone goal on peace and security**

One option identified by participants was the inclusion of peace and security as a standalone goal, entailing specific targets on many different dimensions, going beyond the absence of violence, to address the drivers of violence and foster lasting peace. While reducing violence is a necessary first order goal, a standalone goal on peace should aim to identify and measure the positive steps and processes that help reduce violence and also cut across many other development themes. It could include specific country-level targets for peace and security, human rights, people's security, the rule of law, democracy and inclusive politics. Participants concluded that it should be an aspirational and universal goal (with national prioritization and implementation) and be guided by principles of human security, freedom from want and fear, political voice and justice.

#### **2.5. Peace and security as targets across the goals**

Achieving peace is a multidimensional endeavor. Thus, as an alternative or addition to a standalone goal, commitments related to peace and security could be included as targets and indicators under the additional three core dimensions proposed in the Report of the UNTT (inclusive social development; inclusive economic development and environmental sustainability). Participants agreed that achieving peace and security (the fourth dimension proposed by the UNTT) requires a holistic approach, given the synergies across all four dimensions. Thus, following substantive areas could be integrated under all the *impending* development goals:

- Justice,
- People's security (gender targets),

---

<sup>7</sup> Beyond 2015 Coalition

- Corruption/accountability and rule of law,
- Inclusive politics and civic participation,
- Shared sustainable growth and access to decent livelihoods,
- Tolerance and trust,
- Fair access to services (in particular education), and
- Transparent and equitable resource management, including of natural resources.

More generally, participants also underscored that across the post-2015 framework, it will be important to realize a vision for better governance that leads to inclusive, responsive, accountable and fair state-society relations. The issue of equality needs to be addressed across all goals, targets and indicators so that no group is left behind. Therefore targets need to be disaggregated by gender, ethnicity, religion, caste, age, and geography.

## **2.6. Peace and security as an enabler**

There was an overwhelming consensus among participants that the peace and security dimension is too important to be included as an enabler (or underlying principle) necessary for achieving development - even if such enablers consisted of tangible targets backed by credible indicators of progress and monitoring mechanisms.

## **2.7. Key peacebuilding issues for inclusion in the post-2015 framework**

Participants also endorsed Saferworld's framework of existing common key peacebuilding issues to explore for inclusion in the post-2015 framework. They agreed that these objectives – derived from existing global policy frameworks and evidence bases, are worth pursuing because they address drivers of conflict and support sustainable peace.

- All social groups have access to decent livelihoods, and to critical resources to sustain life such as adequate food, clean water and air;
- All states are able to transparently manage revenues and perform core functions effectively and accountably;
- All social groups can participate in the decisions that affect society;
- All social groups have equal access to justice;
- All social groups have access to fair, accountable social service delivery;
- All social groups feel secure; and
- The international community is effectively addressing the external stresses that lead to conflict.

## **Conflict and Disaster Interface**

Participants agreed that the interface between disasters and conflicts is overwhelmingly harmful, worsening the risk of future crises, undermining coping capacities and increasing poverty levels. They believed the answer lies in building resilience to a multitude of shocks – as a key prerequisite to sustainable development. Resilience can be understood as the capacity to absorb stress or destructive forces through resistance or adaptation; the capacity to manage or maintain certain basic functions and structures during disastrous events, and the capacity to recover after the event. The idea of resilience is relevant for thinking about a society's ability to cope with a wide range of problems, from disasters (they would be minimized), through economic shocks, to conflict and violence, to slow onset changes in the natural environment. For this reason, when the focus is on how to both learn from and assist the most vulnerable, building resilience beginning at the community level is especially critical. Participants also believed fragile and conflict-affected countries are at greater risk of disaster because they have less capacity to respond to unexpected events, or to prepare for slow onset changes. Participants highlighted the difficulty of building resilience in contexts affected by conflict or fragility. Yet - it was agreed - the process of building resilience might provide an opportunity to bring communities together in a common endeavor which, if designed appropriately, provides a potential opportunity to build long term peace.

## **Advocacy, Networking and Coalition Building**

If peace and security is to be considered one of 4 key dimensions in the post-2015 development agenda (as per the UNTT report) and a standalone goal on peace and security is to be pursued, a constituency will need to be built through outreach and diplomacy in the lead up to 2015. Having outlined the commitments needed in the new framework, participants noted the need for a strategic approach, requiring long-term as well as short-term thinking, and systematic in mapping out relevant timelines, objectives and actions to be taken to achieve results.

A number of advocacy targets were identified: 'The Secretary-General' High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (special attention to be given to H.E. Ms. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, President of Liberia); international intergovernmental organizations (IMF, WB); regional organizations (EU, AU); members states of the G20 and of the G8+5 Group; and the Group of 77 at the United Nations; Participants also considered it important to understand the political approaches and concerns of different member states of the United Nations, to inform policy dialogue and coalition building.

It was noted the need to build partnerships and alliances, across regions and stakeholder groups, to assist in mobilising broad-based support: civil society groups (universities and think-tanks) and grassroots organizations "global grassroots" (a new term that was used to refer to the "masses", such as youth, global organizations, women groups. etc.) were considered of primary importance.

The media – radio, television, press and online media – were considered to have a particular role to play. Though, using the media would require some planning, including building contacts, knowing the media audience, writing press releases, placing stories, being interviewed, and organising

newsworthy events. Identification of *Champions/Goodwill Ambassadors* (distinguished individuals, carefully selected from the fields of art, music, literature and sports, who would agree to help focus worldwide attention on the need to have peace and security reflected in the post-2015 development agenda) was considered an option worth pursuing.

The private sector and parliamentarians were also considered stakeholder groups of key importance. Participants noted the need for the private sector to develop and enforce meaningful codes of conduct that would address their role in building peace and security. Some good models were given as examples: the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights that were developed by the extractives industry (jointly with HR groups and key bilateral countries) but could be applied more broadly to other NR sectors, and the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative for the transparency of extractive revenues (which also has both bilateral countries and civil society participation), but was expanded by Liberia to also include agriculture and forestry.





## ***ANNEX A***

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Papers are published online on:

[http://www.worldwewant2015.org/node/285356/list?field\\_user\\_tags\\_value%5B0%5D=145800](http://www.worldwewant2015.org/node/285356/list?field_user_tags_value%5B0%5D=145800)

Saferworld Issue Paper 1 “Addressing Conflict and Violence from 2015 – The Impact of Conflict on achieving development” (November 2012)

Saferworld Issue Paper 2 “Addressing Conflict and Violence from 2015 – What are the key challenges? What works in addressing them?” (November 2012)

Saferworld Issue Paper 3 “Addressing Conflict and Violence from 2015 – Rising powers and conflict” (November 2012)

United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office “Peace and Security, Thematic Think Piece”, UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda, (May 2012)

Kwesi Aning and Mustapha Abdallah, “Exploring the Nexus between Conflict, Fragility, Development and the Achievement of the MDGs: The West African Perspective” Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Center, (November 2012)

UNDP/BCPR “Conflict, fragility and governance: How to ensure the next development compact reflects the need for a supportive enabling environment?” (November 2012)

UNPBSO “Think piece on the inclusion of goals, targets and indicators for peace and security and related areas into the post-2015 development framework – first draft” (November 2012)

Emily Harwell, Douglas Farah, Arthur Blundell “Forests, Fragility and Conflict” PROFOR (June 2011)

United Nations Global Compact “The Private Sector, Fragility, and Peace” (November 2012)

Institute for Economics and Peace “A Holistic Approach to Measuring Peace and Conflict” (15 November 2012)

UN Women “Women Working for Recovery: the Impact of Female Employment on Family and Community Welfare after Conflict” (October 2012)

UN Women “What Women Want Planning and Financing for Gender-Responsive Peacebuilding” (October 2012)

Beyond 2015 “Beyond 2015 Position Paper” (November 2012)

Fanie du Toit “From the Sins of the Past to a Fairer Future: Post-Conflict Justice and Inclusive Development in Africa” (November 2012).

Henk-Jan Brinkman and Cullen S. Hendrix “Food Insecurity and Violent Conflict: Causes, Consequences, and Addressing the Challenges” World Food Programme (July 2011)

OECD/DAC, “Think global, act global: Confronting global factors that influence conflict and fragility” (September 2012)

## ***ANNEX B***

### **Outcome Document**

### **Peace and Security Goal**

#### **Overall structure:**

- We have reached consensus that peace can no longer be separated from the world's development framework.
- We therefore agree with UNTT report that peace should be one of four core dimensions of the new development framework.
- We recognize that achieving peace and eradicating violence entails progress on many different dimensions and goes beyond the absence of violence. Eradicating violence is a fundamental part of human progress, but achieving peace is about much more than the absence of violence, and depends on progress in addressing the drivers of violence.
- We are pained by the concentration of development deficit and poverty in countries affected by conflict and violence around the world, and welcome the progressive development of the New Deal and the PSGs by the G7+. We believe the post-2015 framework should be informed by these concepts in crafting commitments that would address conflicts in fragile states. We would like to see commitments elaborated that would help build peace and overcome violence in all countries as these challenges are universal and applicable to all states.

#### **Possible peace commitments:**

##### **Underlying principles:**

- Achieving peace is a multidimensional endeavor. Commitments in the following areas could be included as goals in their own rights or as targets under the three other dimensions.
- Across the post-2015 framework, it will be important to realize a vision for better governance that leads to inclusive, responsive, accountable and fair state-society relations.
- The issue of equality needs to be addressed across all goals, targets and indicators, so that they ensure that no group is left behind. Therefore targets need to be disaggregated by gender, ethnicity, religion, geography, age and caste.

## Substantive areas

- Justice
- People's security (gender targets)
- Corruption/accountability
- Transparency/access to information
- Inclusive politics and civic participation
- Shared sustainable growth and access to decent livelihoods, and adequate resources for life including food, clean water and air
- Tolerance and trust
- Fair access to services, in particular education
- Equitable resource management, including natural resource management