

STATEMENT BY THE DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MEXICO, AMBASSADOR JUAN SANDOVAL MENDIOLEA, AT THE ANNUAL SESSION OF THE PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION THE ROLE OF THE PBC IN DIPLOMACY AND POLITICAL ACCOMPANIMENT

New York, 23 June 2016.

Mr. Chairman,

We are currently going through a paradigm shift at the United Nations.

Mexico is optimistic that the reviews on peace operations, the peacebuilding architecture, and the global study of Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) offer an opportunity to redefine the Peace and Security Agenda. Among their main components, Mexico highlights an integrated focus to attend root causes of conflict, as well as to guarantee certainty on the financing of prevention, peacebuilding, and sustaining-peace related activities.

We recognize a profound change in our Organization with the adoption of the new concept of sustaining peace; an inclusive long-range process, in which peace is expected to be built much before conflict emerges. Nonetheless, once conflict has appeared, the only possible way to avoid a relapse –which has human and financial costs that are more unsustainable than ever before- is to work on its "root causes".

As we have witnessed in the last decades, political transitions imply much more than the observation of a peace agreement; they require commitments in the short, medium and long term, that include the strengthening of national capacities in the political, socioeconomic, administration of justice, rule of law, and respect for human rights fields. Reality proves, hence, that the links and mutually-support capacities of the three great that should guide our efforts go beyond the theory.

This paradigm shift also points out to the need of putting people, who live and suffer conflict and post-conflict situations, at the core of our efforts. Let us invest in these communities and preserve a healthy social fabric.

Mexico welcomes the roadmap established in resolutions 70/262 of the UN General Assembly, and 2282 (2016) of the Security Council to implement the concept of sustaining peace, in which many of the valuable recommendations made by the Advisory Group of Experts are reflected.

The establishment of sustaining peace is a systematic challenge that requires us to get rid of fragmentation within the Organization, which calls for the active and coherent participation of the three main organs of the United Nations -where the Commission is called to serve as a bridge, making an efficient use of its role as an intergovernmental consulting organ-, as it does for the Secretariat, agencies, funds, programs, and specialized entities of the Organization and its operations in the field. Additionally, it is necessary to continue promoting the establishment of strategic partnerships and operations with regional and sub-regional organizations, as well as

with international financial institutions. The Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (QCPR), which will be defined this year, is a unique opportunity that we wish to take advantage of to consolidate these changes.

To ensure that the transition processes are effective, it is necessary to establish an effective dialogue between the Security Council and the Peacebuilding Commission, as well as with other key actors in the Organization. In this regard, we acknowledge the call in resolutions 70/262 and 2282 (2016), to regularly look for the Commission's specific, strategic and goal-oriented advice, whose value added would be to bring a long-term perspective in the decision-making on the establishment, review, and reduction of Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions.

Mr. Chairman,

Mexico supports the revitalization of the Commission, for it to serve as a consulting platform that goes beyond the countries included in its agenda. For it to become relevant, the Commission must rethink its working methods and find the flexibility necessary to work more freely and more closely with the countries that need it, with an array of approaches that take into account the context of that particular country or region.

Moreover, the analysis on the financial arrangements that the Secretary General will present at the 72nd session of the General Assembly will be key to underpin and consolidate the transitions.

Mexico will continue to participate actively and constructively in the activities of the Commission, by encouraging these discussions from its role as leader of the Group of Friends of Sustaining Peace, with the aim of achieving sustaining peace for all, knowing that, to change the current inertia, a joint effort from all of us is necessary.

Lastly, Mexico wishes to sincerely recognize the work of Angola and Australia for walking us a long way down this very promising path, and for their continued and keen work to accomplish a change.

Thank you.