

clear regional perspective is necessary as most conflicts have interlocking political, security, humanitarian and economic dynamics across borders. The Council underscores in this respect the need for enhanced cooperation and, where appropriate, coordination between United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in peacebuilding, based on a more integrated approach and with the aim of maximizing use of available resources and capabilities.

The Council stresses the importance of a comprehensive international and regional approach to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants that is not limited to the political and security aspects, but also addresses its social and economic aspects, including special needs of child soldiers and women.

The Council stresses the special needs of Africa in post-conflict situations and encourages the international community to pay particular attention to those needs. It welcomes the ever-closer partnership between the African Union, the African subregional organizations and the United Nations in the area of peacemaking and peacekeeping and stresses the importance of extending this partnership to peacebuilding efforts.

The Council underscores the importance of cooperation between United Nations peacekeeping operations and the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies. The Council stresses the importance of ensuring that planning and implementation of United Nations humanitarian, peacekeeping, political and developmental activities at country level are well coordinated system-wide, including through the development of shared strategic objectives. The Council stresses that the United Nations should function as one integrated entity at country level under effective overall leadership in post-conflict peacebuilding.

The Council stresses the need to ensure adequate and timely financing for peacebuilding priorities at all stages of the peace process and stresses the need for sustained financial investment in peacebuilding over the medium to longer-term period of recovery. It recognizes the importance of rapid initiation of peacebuilding activities to meet immediate needs and encourages the building of capabilities that can be incorporated rapidly.

The Council welcomes the submission of the report of the Secretary-General of 21 March 2005 entitled "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all" and of the report by the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change entitled "A more secure world: our shared responsibility". The Council acknowledges institutional gaps, identified in the reports, in the United Nations institutional machinery with respect to effectively, coherently and comprehensively helping countries with the transition from conflict to lasting peace and sustainable development.

The Council takes note with interest of the important proposal by the Secretary-General to establish a peacebuilding commission and shares the objective of improving United Nations capacity to coordinate with donors and troop contributors and to perform peacebuilding activities, in particular from the start

of peacekeeping operations through stabilization, reconstruction and development. The Council recognizes the important role that this body could play to bridge the gap between maintenance of international peace and security and the work of humanitarian and economic development assistance.

#### **Establishment of Peacebuilding Commission**

In May [A/59/2005/Add.2], the Secretary-General set out the modalities for the establishment of the Peacebuilding Commission, which he had proposed in the main part of his report entitled "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all" (see p. 67). He stated that the proposed Commission would provide a central node for helping to create and promote comprehensive peacebuilding strategies. It should also encourage coherent decision-making on peacebuilding by Member States and the UN Secretariat, agencies and programmes, and provide a forum in which UN system representatives, major bilateral donors, troop contributors, relevant actors and organizations, international financial institutions and the national or transitional authorities of the country concerned could share information about post-conflict recovery.

The Commission should provide information to the Security Council and focus attention on development and institution-building efforts necessary for recovery; help ensure predictable financing for early recovery activities, partly by providing an overview of assessed, voluntary and standing funding mechanisms; periodically review progress towards medium-term recovery goals; ensure sustained financing of recovery and development activities and extend the period of political attention to post-conflict recovery; strengthen UN preventive efforts by providing better tools for helping States and societies reduce the risk of conflict; develop best practice on cross-cutting peacebuilding issues; and improve the coordination of UN funds, programmes and agencies.

To support the Commission's work, a Peacebuilding Support Office would be established to prepare the substantive inputs for Commission meetings; provide high-quality inputs to the planning process for peacebuilding operations, working with lead departments, UN field presences and others; and conduct best practices analysis and develop policy guidance. A Standing Fund for Peacebuilding would also be established, possibly on a voluntary, replenishable basis, to provide critical targeted support to nascent authorities and to early peacebuilding activities. In terms of the institutional structure, the Commission would advise the Security Coun-