



Towards advancing the Pact for the Future: security and justice provision as a means to reducing all forms of violence (SDG 16.1)

2024 High-Level Political Forum Side Event

co-hosted by Costa Rica, the Gambia, the Swiss Confederation, the International Development Law Organization, the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies and DCAF – the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance

Thursday 11 July 2024, 13:15-14:30 / United Nations HQ, Conference Room 6

Concept Note / Programme

Inequality, exclusion, and injustice drive violent conflict and, in turn, undermine development efforts. They are also more likely to occur where justice systems do not function and where the security sector is politicized, corrupt, and ineffective due to a lack of oversight and accountability. The latter was recognized by the President of 72nd session of the UN General Assembly, who noted that security actors can “hold the tools which can pull societies back from the brink of conflict – *or push them over the edge.*” To prevent and address many of the grievances that drive violence and conflict, justice systems must ensure accessibility, accountability and equality before the law, while placing checks on the use of power by security actors and other branches of government. Good governance, including in justice and security sectors, is thus vital for preventing violence, promoting peace, and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Within this context, the (draft) Pact for the Future (PftF) and the New Agenda for Peace (NA4P) present a vision for how the international community can more effectively prevent violent conflict and sustain peace. The New Agenda for Peace is the main peace and security input from the Secretary-General for Member States consideration ahead of the Summit of the Future in September 2024, during which the PftF will be formally adopted as a blueprint for strengthening implementation of existing international commitments and taking concrete steps to be better prepared to respond to emerging challenges and opportunities. Taken together, the NA4P and PftF are key policy documents intended to accelerate progress towards the SDGs, and lay the foundations for stronger international cooperation, solidarity and trust in the period leading up to 2030 and beyond. What role can accountable, effective and inclusive access to security and justice, play in reducing all forms of violence? How can a preventive approach to violence advance the (draft) Pact for the Future, and in turn accelerate the implementation of SDG 16.1 in the here and now?

With the above in mind, this side event will bring together representatives of Member States, international organisations and civil society to examine how and through which ways equitable justice and security provision can support progress towards reducing all forms of violence, advancing the Pact



for the Future, and enabling the achievement of other SDGs. In doing so, it aims to foster reflection on lessons from security sector reform and justice reform which are of relevance to the broader discussions of Member States in the run up to the Summit of the Future and the adoption of the Pact for the Future.

Agenda

Moderator: H.E. Maritza Chan, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations in New York

High-Level opening segment

- “Importance of violence reduction for the 2030 agenda and the Pact for the Future” H.E. Maritza Chan, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations in New York
- “Role of good governance of the security sector in contributing to violence prevention”, Nathalie Chuard, Ambassador, Director of DCAF – Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance
- “Role of access to justice in violence prevention” Jan Beagle, Director-General of the International Development Law Organization (IDLO)

Country-level experiences

- “Lessons from security sector grievance mechanisms in the Gambia and their contribution to violence prevention”, Commissioner Halimatou Dibba, National Humans Rights Commission of the Gambia
- IDLO sponsored speaker [TBC]
- Nicole Brown, Atlantic Fellow for Social and Economic Equity, LSE International Inequalities Institute

Q&A Session

Closing Remarks: H.E. Mr. Lamin B. Dibba, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of The Gambia to the United Nations in New York