

Security Council Meeting on the Maintenance of International Peace and Security: Optimizing the Use of the Preventative Diplomacy Tools: Prospects and Challenges for Africa

Member States refer to RtoP and to the Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide On 16 July 2010 the Security Council held an Open Debate on optimizing the use of preventative diplomacy tools: prospects and challenges in Africa. Ghana and Australia referred to the Responsibility to Protect and Nigeria and Mexico recalled the work of the Special Advisor for the Prevention of Genocide in the following statement:

H.E. Mr. Leslie Kojo Christian, Ambassador (Ghana)

“To succeed in placing preventive diplomacy at the top of our agenda, we must also embrace a shift in thinking and new concepts such as the **responsibility to protect** populations from genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, ethnic cleansing and the incitement of such acts. This was recognized by world leaders in their adoption of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document (General Assembly resolution 60/1) and also finds a place as a treaty principle in article 4 of the AU Constitutive Act.”

H.E. Mr. Andrew Goledzinowski, Ambassador (Australia)

“Central to an effective system of conflict prevention is awareness of the situation, the ability to analyse that information and the political will to take action when needed. DPA plays an important role in collating and analyzing the necessary information. In extreme situations, the proposed joint office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and for the **Responsibility to Protect**, the creation of which we support, should serve to alert the United Nations system to emerging mass atrocity situations. It then becomes a question of political will.”

H.E. Mr. Claude Heller, Ambassador (Mexico)

“An illustration of the preventive work that we need in the Organization is the work that is being done by the Secretary-**General’s Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide** in his efforts to reach the international community and generate early warning mechanisms to prevent the irreversible deterioration of especially delicate situations internationally and especially on the African continent.”

Mr. Ajumogobia Minister of Foreign Affairs and President of Security Council (Nigeria)

“The Council recognizes the important role of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Offices in supporting national efforts to prevent conflicts and in addressing cross-border

threats. The Council also recognizes the value the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa continues to add to the process of embedding preventive diplomacy practices into the Organization's conflict management architecture. In this connection, the Council recalls the role of the Secretary-General's

Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide

in matters relating to the prevention and resolution of conflict. The Council emphasizes the need for the full engagement of all relevant actors, including civil society, to sustain the momentum and perspective for a meaningful preventive diplomacy framework.”

See all excerpts

[here](#)

, full statements available

[here](#)

.

See

[concept paper](#)

presented at the debate and the Presidential Statement which requested the Secretary-General to submit within a report making recommendation on how to use the preventive diplomacy tools within the UN system and co-operation with other actors.