



## The International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding

### Definition of Peace-building\*

Peace-building involves a range of measures targeted to reduce the risk of lapsing or relapsing into conflict by strengthening national capacities at all levels for conflict management, and to lay the foundations for sustainable peace and development

### Definition of State-building\*\*

Political processes, political settlements and state-society relations are at the heart of state-building, building administrative and policy-making capacities for the state to carry out its functions have a central place. State-building needs to take place from the national to the local level and legitimacy is crucial.

### Outline of a donor framework for state-building:

- *Political processes and political settlement*  
The historically specific balance of power and the mediations between state and society and their institutionalisation.
- *Legitimacy and state legitimacy*  
Right to rule and acceptance of governance
- *Social expectations of the state and state functions*  
The expectations of diverse groups and the state's ability to deliver.
- *Voice and exit*  
Voice is the opportunities and incentives for social actors to express their views in the public arena and be heard. Exit is the opportunities and incentives for social actors to leave public authority and operate in alternative organisational arrangements
- *Society and civil society*  
Society refers to people living to communities in a geographical space. Civil society emerges in tandem with a law-bound state and includes, for example, professional, business and community associations, worker and gender based organisations, and cause oriented organisations. NGOs are only one part of civil society.
- *Technical assistance and capacity development*  
Technical assistance, the largest part of donor assistance, is devoted to hiring consultants and experts. Capacity is the outcome of a wide range of processes, including donor intervention, comprising skills, knowledge, systems and resources required to take action.

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*\*From Conceptual basis for peacebuilding for the UN system adopted by the Secretary-General's Policy Committee in May 2007.*

*\*\*Adapted from State-building in fragile situations – How can donors 'do no harm' and maximise their positive impact? London School of Economics and Price Waterhouse Coopers for the OECD-DAC Fragile States Group.*