

Comparing the Rev. 1 of Chapter 2 on International Peace and Security to the Zero Draft

ABOUT: *The co-facilitators of the Summit of the Future (SOTF), following informal consultations and written inputs from MS and stakeholders in December 2023, published the [zero-draft](#) of the Pact for the Future on 26 January 2024. The 5-chapter zero-draft was meant to serve as a starting point for formal intergovernmental negotiations leading up to the SOTF in September 2024.*

A chapter-by-chapter First Reading was organized in early February following which a 242-page compilation text around the skeleton of the zero draft was circulated among Member States (MS). A paragraph-by-paragraph Second Reading was organised intermittently from late February until early April following which a 224-page revised compilation text was circulated among MS on 3 April 2024 (refer [here](#) for the ICH bulletin on First and Second Readings). The [Rev. 1](#) of the Pact for the Future was released on 14 May 2024 following closed informal consultation at Ambassador level and a virtual consultation with MGoS and civil society in April and the UN Civil Society Conference in Nairobi in May. The Rev. 1, as outlined by the co-facilitators in their [letter dated 4 April](#), was meant to be a concise, action-oriented and high-level political document as opposed to the zero-draft, which was meant to serve as a starting point for formal negotiations.

This bulletin #37 compares the Rev. 1 of Ch. 2 on International Peace and Security to the zero-draft while also referring to the compilation text for detailed insights as needed. Kindly refer to the Methodology section in page 4 for more details.

NOTE ¹: *The parts of the bulletin that was written or summarized by the Lead Author has been italicized. The non-italicized parts are excerpts from the Rev. 1, zero-draft, or the compilation text. An index for the comparison part of the bulletin is given in page 4.*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The SG's policy brief on a [New Agenda for Peace](#) has not been mentioned in the action part of Ch. 2 but is acknowledged in the introductory or scene-setting paragraph in Rev. 1. The request in the zero-draft for the SG to strengthen the UN's approach to preventive diplomacy building on the principles set out in the New Agenda for Peace has been dropped.

In the First and Second Readings several MS, particularly Liechtenstein and South Africa, proposed to add language on the importance of the [International Court of Justice](#), which has now been included in the scene-setting part of Ch. 2.

The Rev. 1 has added more on the topic of [military expenditure](#) and has requested the SG to “provide analysis on the impact of the global increase in military expenditure on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals”.

Action 12 in the Rev. 1 proposes to take concrete and practical steps to protect [civilians in armed conflict](#) and has agreed to protect medical personnel, journalists and media persons in addition to humanitarian personnel.

Language to address the root causes of [forced and protracted displacement](#) has now been added in Action 13(a) based on proposals by several MS. The Rev. 1 further proposes to significantly increase financial and other forms of support to countries facing humanitarian crises, including innovative and anticipatory financing, which was proposed by the EU, the Philippines and Colombia.

¹ **DISCLAIMER:** This bulletin is intended to provide an overview of the latest developments and is not a comprehensive summary or record of the SOTF processes. It was prepared independently, and the content does not reflect the specific views of any of the partner organizations. Contact Fergus Watt (ferguswatt6@gmail.com) for more information. Material is not copyrighted and can be distributed freely.

The Rev. 1 adds early warning mechanisms to the list of actions to defuse tensions among countries. Language to address environmental and climate impacts on peace and security, including as part of the mandates of peace operations, has largely been retained in Rev. 1.

Language on **Women, Peace and Security Agenda** has been made more action oriented from “we recognize the necessity of urgently advancing its implementation” to “redouble our efforts to ... tackle persistent barriers to the implementation”. Sexual and gender-based violence, which wasn’t mentioned in the zero-draft, has now been added in Rev. 1.

National prevention strategies, which wasn’t mentioned in the zero-draft, has been given a stronger focus in Rev. 1. The Peacebuilding Commission and the entire UN system have been tasked to provide support to MS based on request to build national capacity to develop and implement national prevention strategies. The Rev. 1 proposes to pursue stronger alignment between international and regional financial institutions to support the national prevention and peacebuilding efforts of MS.

UN Peace Operations – Both the zero-draft and Rev. 1 calls on the Security Council to ensure peace operations are deployed with clear and prioritized mandates, exit strategies and viable transition plans, and as part of a comprehensive approach to sustaining peace. The Rev. 1 asks the SG to provide recommendations for consideration of MS rather than “to continue to develop new models of peace operations”.

The language to improve financial support, including from assessed contributions, to peace enforcement actions has been maintained with the removal of those “carried out regional organizations or arrangements, or other multinational coalitions”. Although shortened, the essence of the Security Council resolution 2719(2023) to ensure adequate, predictable and sustainable **financing for African Union-led peace support operations** has been maintained.

Terrorism – The Rev. 1 proposes to “adopt a balanced and comprehensive approach to counter terrorism” instead of “preventive measures” as in the zero-draft. It has more action-oriented language on addressing the risks posed by new and emerging technologies in the context of terrorism.

The integration of risks posed by **small arms** in national prevention strategies, mentioned above, has been proposed. The Rev. 1 proposes to “take concrete steps to detect, investigate and prosecute illicit arms and ammunition and related financial flows” while dropping detailed language found in the zero-draft, including those related to targets and road maps.

Nuclear Weapons – The Rev. 1 is calling on Nuclear-Weapon States (NWS) to “prevent any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons” in which the “threat of use” was added. The erosion of international norms against the “possession ... of nuclear weapons” was added in Rev. 1 in addition to their spread, testing and use. It calls on NWS to engage in and intensify dialogue to “elaborate next steps for nuclear disarmament, including further reductions of nuclear arsenals”.

Disarmament – The zero-draft language committing to pursue “agreements on disarmament and the regulation of arms” was among the most contentious during the First and Second Readings. This has now been edited to “we will ... support progressive efforts to effectively regulate arms” in Rev. 1. Language revitalizing the role of the UN in the field of disarmament has been retained.

Rev. 1 tackles **chemical and biological weapons**, which wasn’t mentioned in the zero-draft. It further proposes to anticipate, coordinate and prepare for biological risks, whether caused by natural, accidental or deliberate release of biological agents.

Outer Space – The Rev. 1 proposes to “launch negotiations on legally binding and non-legally binding instruments to ensure peace, security and the prevention of an arms race in outer space”. This is a departure from the language in zero-draft which proposed a treaty. A further change is the non-mention of the forum for such negotiations, which in the zero-draft was relevant disarmament bodies of the UN.

The Rev. 1, unlike the zero-draft, mentions 2026 as the timeframe to conclude “legally binding instruments to prohibit **autonomous weapons systems** that select targets and apply force without human control, and to regulate all other types of autonomous weapons systems”.

Language on responsible state behaviour in the use of **Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs)** has been strengthened in Rev. 1, including a request to the SG to present options for a multilateral accountability mechanism to support adherence to agreed norms, rules and principles. The international cooperation aspect of preventing and combatting cybercrime and crimes committed through the use of ICTs has been strengthened.

The Rev. 1 calls to “strengthen transparency, accountability and oversight mechanisms for the use, development and deployment of data-driven technology, including artificial intelligence”. It further calls for “establish(ing) ... norms, rules and principles throughout the life-cycle of **military applications of artificial intelligence**”.

HEADLINES:

- Language committing to “investigate alleged violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law and ensure accountability” in OP55 of the zero-draft, which is relatively more action-oriented, has been rephrased in Action 12(f) to “redouble our efforts to end impunity and ensure accountability”, which is more input-based language.
- The Youth, Peace and Security Agenda seem to have been dropped in Ch. 2 of the Rev. 1. The inclusive participation of youth in conflict prevention and other peace processes is mentioned in Ch. 4 Action 34 (e) but at the national level.
- The issue of famine has been tackled in the Rev. 1 with the proposal to “eliminate the scourge of famine now and for future generations”.
- The reference to Article 33 of the UN Charter, which deals with tools for the pacific settlement of disputes, has been removed from Rev. 1.
- The zero-draft language to half violent deaths by 2030 has been rephrased to “quantifiably reduce violent deaths” without a target.
- The Rev. 1 has dropped the exercise to undertake a comprehensive reflection on the future of peace operations proposed in the zero-draft.
- The Rev. 1 encourages the SG to convene an annual high-level meeting with relevant regional organizations to discuss matters pertaining to peace operations, peacebuilding and conflicts.
- References to subregional organizations in the context of peace operations and related financing has been removed in Rev. 1.
- The Rev. 1 proposes to “revitalize efforts towards the conclusion of a comprehensive convention on international terrorism”.
- During the First and Second Readings, several MS proposed language calling for “early commencement of negotiations on effective, universal, unconditional, non-discriminatory, irrevocable and legally binding security assurances to all NNWS (Non-Nuclear Weapon States) by all the nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under all circumstances”
- Zero-draft language committing to “strengthen measures to prevent the acquisition of weapons of mass destruction by non-State actors” has been dropped in Rev. 1 despite no opposition recorded in the compilation text as of 3 April.
- The Rev. 1 recommends to “hold a fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (SSOD-IV)”.
- The zero-draft had no mention of chemical and biological weapons. The Rev. 1 now proposes to “pursue a world free from chemical and biological weapons”.
- The Rev. 1 requests the SG to present options for a multilateral accountability mechanism to support adherence to agreed norms, rules and principles of responsible state behavior in the use of ICTs.

METHODOLOGY:

*This ICH bulletin has compared the Rev. 1 of the Pact for the Future to the zero-draft. The content from the zero-draft (not in its entirety and not in order) is included in column 1 in the comparison table below and the content from the Rev. 1 is included in column 2 and in the Action, title rows in its entirety. The numerical or alphabetical references as in the zero-draft and Rev. 1 are included in all cases in column 1 and 2. The column 3 on “Observations” was written by the Lead Author based on the compilation text and insights accumulated by tracking the SOTF negotiations since early 2023. The parts of the bulletin that are written or summarized by the Lead Author are italicized, as mentioned in the note in page 1. The content from the zero-draft that has been removed in the Rev. 1 has been indicated by **yellow highlights** in column 1 and the content that has been added in the Rev. 1 but not found in the zero draft are indicated by **green highlights** in column 2. Few parts of excerpts have been edited out to optimize space and reduce repetitions and these have been indicated by “/.../”.*

RESOURCES:

1. [Zero draft of the Pact for the Future](#)
2. [Compilation text \(as of 3 April 2024\)](#)
3. [Rev. 1 of the Pact for the Future](#)
4. [Letter from the co-facilitators](#) (dated 4 April 2024)

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The Rev. 1 starts off with a couple of introductory paragraphs and then is organized by Action Items. The same order has been followed in this bulletin and below are the page numbers for each Action Items.

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