

## **Peacebuilding Commission**

### **Ambassadorial-level briefing on the activities of the Peacebuilding Fund**

**Thursday, 25 April 2024**

**10 AM, Conference Room 2**

#### **Background**

Building on the recommendation to continue strengthening synergies between the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) and the Peacebuilding Commission, DPPA/PBSO has continued to provide regular updates to the PBC on the work of the PBF, including in dedicated meetings.

In 2023, the PBF approved over \$202 million in support of national peacebuilding and prevention priorities in 36 countries and territories. The Fund's three priority windows continued to see high demand: supporting cross-border and regional approaches; facilitating UN transitions; and supporting inclusive peacebuilding, especially the meaningful engagement of women and young people.

The Fund allocated 47.3 per cent of all approvals to gender-responsive investments, exceeding its internal target of 30 per cent for the seventh year. It has further helped the United Nations system to invest in youth engagement worldwide, for example by strengthening national peace infrastructures inclusive of youth participation. Notable trends further include a continuously rising demand to address climate change and the effects of heightened competition over natural resources; requests to support countering of hate speech and other divisive practices; more demand for localization and recognition of the effectiveness of community-driven approaches; support for reconciliation and access to justice processes to help address past abuses and foster social cohesion; and finding sustainable solutions for internally displaced persons to address longer-term stability and resilience in conflict-affected areas.

However, while 37 donor partners generously provided \$132 million in voluntary contributions, this was well below the \$330 million target for 2023. Contributions dropped by 22 per cent compared with 2022. Given increased demand from Member States, the Fund has reached its lowest liquidity level since inception.

The General Assembly decision of December 2023 to approve assessed contributions for the PBF of \$50 million annually starting in 2025 will provide a more predictable baseline of resources. It underscores that peacebuilding is at the core of the work of the United Nations, in which all Member States are committed to investing. At the same time, an increase of voluntary funding will be essential to meet demand and implement proposals contained in the Secretary-General's policy brief on a New Agenda for Peace.

#### **Purpose of the meeting**

The meeting will provide an opportunity for PBC members to hear a briefing by the ASG for Peacebuilding Support on the recent activities of the PBF. PBC members will also hear from

representatives of the countries considered by the PBC on how the PBF is supporting their peacebuilding priorities.

### **Agenda**

- Opening remarks by H.E. Mr. Sérgio França Danese, Chair of the PBC
- Briefing by Ms. Elizabeth Spehar, Assistant-Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support
- Remarks by representatives of countries receiving PBF support:
  - H.E. Ms. Sara Beysolow Nyanti, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Liberia (via VTC)
  - H.E. Mrs. Cecilia Adout Majok Adeng, Permanent Representative of South Sudan
- Interventions from the floor
- Closing remarks by the PBC Chair

### **Background**

Information about the Peacebuilding Fund and its work can be found here:

<https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/fund>

The Secretary-General's annual report on the Peacebuilding Fund (A/78/779) can be found here:

<https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A/78/779&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False>

Information about the projects supported by the Peacebuilding Fund can be found here:

<https://mptf.undp.org/fund/pb000>