

**Statement by Ambassador Rabab Fatima, Permanent Representative
of Bangladesh to the United Nations at the
High-level Replenishment Conference for the Peacebuilding Fund
26 January 2021 (virtual)**

I thank the Secretary General and co-chairs (Sierra Leone, Sudan, Canada and Germany) for organizing this High Level Conference.

The efforts of the international community to support the conflict affected countries in their peacebuilding and sustaining peace endeavors continue to face serious challenges due to perennial funding gaps. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated this challenge.

This situation is negatively impacting the work of the Peacebuilding Fund, including implementation of its 2020-24 investment strategy.

Peacebuilding financing needs our urgent attention.

The recent twin resolutions on peace-building and sustaining peace recognized this urgency, and decided to convene a high level meeting during the 76th session of the General Assembly, which is expected to advance, explore and consider options for ensuring adequate, predictable and sustained financing for peacebuilding. **As affirmed in the resolutions, an action-oriented outcome from the meeting is envisaged.**

In the meantime, Bangladesh would support all international efforts to mobilize critical resources for the PBF.

The pandemic has aggravated funding needs in many sectors. The developing world in particular, is struggling to recover from the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic. Bangladesh too, has not been spared from the dire pandemic uncertainties and challenges.

Notwithstanding that, we consider it extremely important to live up to our commitment to peacebuilding and sustaining peace. Which is why, we decided to join this Conference with a modest pledge to the Peacebuilding Fund.

We believe the contributions and commitments generated through this Conference would help the PBF continue its focused interventions in critical areas of peacebuilding.

For this, strong and coherent multi-partner support to the national governments would be critical. The investment of PBF should also contribute in the institution and capacity building in conflict affected countries, enabling them to address the root causes and drivers of conflicts and inequalities in their societies.

Most importantly, the peace-building fund must contribute in creating an inclusive society where peace dividends are enjoyed equally by all segments of the society, irrespective of their race, religion, ethnicity and gender.

To conclude, I would like to reiterate the unwavering commitment of Bangladesh to join the international community in its efforts to establish and sustain peace in conflict affected countries.

I thank you.
