

**Statement des Bundesministers des
Auswärtigen**

Heiko Maas, MdB

**im Rahmen der
*„High-level Replenishment Conference
for the Peacebuilding Fund“***

Berlin, den 26. Januar 2021

Secretary-General, dear António,

President Maada Bio,

Prime Minister Hamdok,

Dear Minister Garneau (*CAN AM und Vorsitz*),

Miss Gbowee (*sprich: Bowie, wie David*),

Ambassador Söder (*verantwortl. für
Peacebuilding Review*),

Distinguished colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

What is the most basic requirement for human life?

And what is it that we, as diplomats, are ultimately working for?

The answer is simple: **peace**.

Without peace, there is no prosperity, no development, no enjoyment of human rights.

People like **Leymah Gbowee** (*sprich: Bowie*), who have experienced **war**, can testify to that.

And therefore, António, you are right in calling for a **quantum leap for peace building**.

We know that building and sustaining peace before a crisis is **much more efficient and effective** than keeping peace in a crisis.

And yet, the United Nations' **budget for peacekeeping** is still **seven times higher** than the **budget for peacemaking and peacebuilding**.

The **Peacebuilding Fund's strategy** that we are launching today has the potential to **change** this.

- It commits all pillars of the United Nations to **work even closer together.**
- It supports the **UN reform process.**
- And it enables **fast and risk-tolerant funding.**

But even the best strategy is useless without the **means** to implement it.

Therefore, I am glad to announce that **Germany** will commit **at least 50 million euros** to the Peacebuilding Fund in the next two years.

This is also our first **multi-year pledge** - in an effort to make funding **more predictable.**

And we **encourage other member states and the international community** to join our efforts.

Of course, the **pandemic** puts massive strains on all of our budgets. But if we don't mitigate its negative effects on peace and stability now, we will pay a much higher price in the future.

Therefore, we also seek to **broaden the Fund's donor base**. Potential partners could include **international financial institutions** and the **private sector**.

In the coming months, together with the United Nations, we will organize a “**High-**

Level Event on Innovative Funding for Peace". And, once more, we will be hoping for your **strong support** in the most noble task that our work has to offer:

Building peace.

Thank you for joining us today!