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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations presents its compliments to the President of the General Assembly, and has the honor to inform the latter that the **pre-recorded message of the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, H.E. Teodoro L. Locsin Jr.**, for the virtual High-Level Replenishment Conference of the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) to be held on 26 January 2021 (Tuesday) can be accessed at the following link:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1H061E0blz4tkbSUjSYrsy28LyPBrqaQ\\_/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1H061E0blz4tkbSUjSYrsy28LyPBrqaQ_/view?usp=sharing)

The Permanent Mission has the further honor to enclose a transcript of the statement.

The video has been uploaded today at the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)- Replenishment Conference Secretariat's video platform (attention: Mr. Angelo Bello). Should there be any query, the PBSO may contact Minister Angelito A. Nayan of this Mission at email [angelitonayan@nypm.org](mailto:angelitonayan@nypm.org) and telephone 646-415-3206.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the President of the General Assembly the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York  
18 January 2021



**PEACEBUILDING SUPPORT OFFICE (PBSO) – Replenishment Conference Secretariat**

**New York**

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# PHILIPPINES

## **Virtual Replenishment Conference of the Peacebuilding Fund**

9:00 a.m., Tuesday, 26 January 2021

Statement of  
**H.E. MR. TEODORO L. LOCSIN JR.**  
**Secretary of Foreign Affairs**

### **Mr. Secretary-General, Excellencies,**

Since 2014, the Philippines has benefitted from the Peacebuilding Fund. In coordination with the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process, headed by General Galvez, a man of war and peace, these pooled resources were instrumental in building the capacities of the State and non-state partners to sustain and nurture peace through a more inclusive peace process characterized by an all-Moro dialogue and consensus.

President Rodrigo Roa Duterte is committed to a just and lasting peace in southern Philippines. When the allocated budget for BARMM, this bold experiment on autonomy ran out—old fighters are not auditors – he told us in the Cabinet, “So what. Budget the same amount again. Better to spend than kill each other.” He cannot abide that innocent Filipinos seeking peace, albeit each with their own idea of that peace, should find it in the graveyard.

The Peacebuilding Architecture evolved from an “afterthought” in the peace process to a “principle” governing all UN engagements in preventive action, peacemaking, peacekeeping, and post-conflict recovery and reconstruction. It is the UN’s most important role in fulfilling its purpose to spare humanity the scourge of war.

In response to the Secretary-General’s call for a “quantum leap of support to the Fund”, the Philippines is honored to pledge fifty thousand US dollars towards the PBF for the year 2021. It’s not much, but we’ll keep looking for money which cannot be better spent than for peace.

Thank you.