

**United Nations Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)
High-Level Replenishment Conference, 26 January 2021
Message from the Secretary-General's PBF Advisory Group**

The High-Level Replenishment Conference on 26 January comes at a critical moment.

We now have fifteen years' experience of the Peacebuilding Fund in action. Its impact on the ground has been amply demonstrated, and attested through rigorous independent analysis.

The human and moral imperatives for peacebuilding have always been incontestable; the business case has emerged ever more clearly. The cost-effectiveness of prevention, and of sustaining peace when threatened with relapse, has been established beyond doubt.

Over the past months, the Covid-19 pandemic has brought some harsh realities into relief. We know that this cruel virus takes its greatest toll on individuals with pre-existing conditions. The same applies globally: in situations of pre-existing fragility, where there is the threat or actuality of conflict, the pandemic exposes and exacerbates risks and vulnerabilities.

Against this background of need and urgency, the Advisory Group calls for engagement and responsiveness on 26 January.

We expect that each and every Member State will consider what further effort on its part might be possible. The most generous PBF donors may be able to enhance the predictability of their funding. Those who have contributed modestly may be able to dig deeper. Those who have made no contribution to date - the large majority of Member States, including many members of the Security Council and of the Peacebuilding Commission – can weigh the case for some concrete gesture of support.

In parallel with this individual voluntary effort, we urge that the membership collectively continues to address the vital question of some form of assessed contribution. It is our belief that, sooner or later, the logic of such an approach must prevail; the Secretary-General has already pointed the way forward with a range of realistic and valuable proposals. Additionally, in the quest for an enhanced and sustainable funding base, we encourage a wide-ranging consideration of innovative forms of financing.

At this time of collective re-commitment, the Advisory Group pledges to spare no effort in fulfilling its own mandate as effectively as possible. As we continue to advocate for the Fund, we will equally maintain our emphasis on achieving maximum value for money. The work will remain firmly grounded in the new Strategy; agility, focus, impact and accountability will remain the watchwords.

Together, we can seize this critical moment - and make it matter.

Amb. Anne Anderson, Chair
Rev. Emmanuel Asante
Amb. Gert Rosenthal
Amb. Hanns Heinrich Schumacher
Mr. Johannes Oljelund

Amb. Liberata Mulamula
Amb. Lise Filiatrault
Ms. Marriët Schuurman
Ms. Sara Pantuliano
Mr. Stéphane Rey