

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

Minister's Statement

Replenishment Conference for Peacebuilding Fund

Part 1

1. Welcoming and Thanking

Excellency, UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres

- President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, **H.E. Julius Maada Bio**
- Prime Minister of the Republic of Sudan **H.E. Abdullah Adam Hamdok,**
- Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, **H.E. Heiko Maas**
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada, **H.E. Marc Garneau,**

- Moderator Robert Rae, Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations
- Other Heads of Delegations and Featured Speakers

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

- Let me begin by thanking the Secretary General and congratulating you all on holding this High-level Replenishment conference for the Peace building Fund during a period in which humanity is confronted by the spread and devastating effect of covid-19, an unseen and unheard enemy that has forced us collectively to change the way we live, interact with each other and work.

The devastating impact of this pandemic poses a risk not only to the way we live but also the government institutions that provide services to their respective citizens particularly those within the developing nations. Thus, the significance of this UN Peacebuilding Fund Replenishment Conference at this particular moment, when, there is the risk of derailment of many achievements made in fostering peace within many recovering countries like ours.

I would also like to thank the UN family and the Secretary General for his approval of Somalia's re-eligibility to the UN PBF in July last year and look forward to continued partnership with the Fund over the next five years.

But of course this instrumental platform would not be available without the support of member states that have generously invested in PBF. Their generosity and support is a testament to the UN's commitment to fostering peace and stability.

The meeting on Somalia in the Peacebuilding Commission on 2 December gathered a large number of Somalia's friends for a discussion on the next steps on our peacebuilding and state-building process, and to take stock of the support provided so far by the Peacebuilding Fund.

As noted by Prime Minister Mohammed Hussein Roble at the PBC meeting on 2 December, "... peacebuilding cannot be imported but can be brought about through the sustenance and reform of indigenous wisdoms while learning and adopting good practices from other experiences." The support provided by the Peacebuilding Fund has played an important role in promoting national ownership of peacebuilding in Somalia.

For a region such as ours, this is even more critical because peace-building efforts are both a national and regional issue. Instability in one state is instability for the region as a whole and why it's important for all states to support peace building rather than hinder it. We speak from experience as a country that has seen the devastation of conflict and difficulties of coming out from protracted conflict without a neighbours good will. We are vehement proponents of the path of peace, cooperation, and respect for all, in particular our neighboring states.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Somalia has come along way with the support of the UN and its international partners, as our Prime Minister reiterated in his recent meeting with UN Peacebuilding Commission we have made significant achievement over the past eight years in the areas of state-building, peacebuilding, economic development and security.

We are under no doubt the UN family invaluable contribution and support to the effort to rebuild our institutions and communities the PBF program had

catalytic effects on the positive trajectory of humanitarian- development- peacebuilding nexus and is the foundation of our current National Development Plan

Without a doubt, the Peace building Fund is a valued partner to Somalia in the efforts to sustain our hard-won peace and count on all countries present here today to continue supporting the valuable work of the PBF in Somalia and elsewhere, and we look forward to share our peace building experience with all of you.

Finally, with Somalia's renewed eligibility and our -re-engagement with UN Peacebuilding Commission, we are looking forward to increased efforts that build on the gains so far. I am in no doubt that the future is bright for Somalia with an increased socio-economic development, security and sustainable peace heralding a new Somalia at peace with itself and supporting peace in the region.

I thank you all.