



**The Permanent Mission of the Republic of  
Kenya to the United Nations**

**Security Council Elected Member - 2021-2022**

**STATEMENT BY AMB. MARTIN KIMANI, DURING THE HIGH-LEVEL  
REPLENISHMENT CONFERENCE FOR THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL'S  
PEACEBUILDING FUND (PBF)**

**TUESDAY , 26 JANUARY 2021 (9:00-12 PM)**

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**Your Excellency President Julius Maada Bio (Sierra Leone);  
Your Excellency Prime Minister Abdullah Adam Hamdok (Sudan);  
Distinguished Ministers (Canada & Germany),  
UN Secretary General,  
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

- 1) When Member States resolved to set up the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) in 2006, the intent was to move UN peace operations from reacting to conflicts to proactive action when it came to supporting fragile and conflict-affected countries.
- 2) Investment in the peace continuum is integral to Kenya's Foreign Policy. Despite the challenges that have been brought about by the pandemic, Kenya continues to support the peacebuilding agenda through contributions to multilateral peace funds including the AU Peace Fund and IGAD in support of conflict prevention and resolution efforts.
- 3) In this regard, Kenya welcomes the holding of this PBF Replenishment Conference as an opportunity to explore and consider options for ensuring adequate, predictable and sustained financing for peacebuilding for the next four years (2020-2024), and beyond. It was an honor for Kenya to Co-host the first ever PBF pledging conference in 2017. We look forward to the proposed high-level meeting on innovative funding for UN peacebuilding, also to be held this year.
- 4) There is no doubt that the nature of conflicts has changed necessitating realignment of PBF programs particularly in the area of cross-border and regional challenges including those posed by violent extremism, climate change and environmental

degradation. The projects have also expanded in number and scope to encompass political and peace transitions, women and youth participation and economic empowerment to mention a few.

- 5) Unfortunately, there has been no corresponding sufficient resource investment in peacebuilding. It is against this background that Kenya appreciates the timing of this Pledging Conference. In addition, the medium- and long-term political and socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the upcoming drawdown of several UN peace operations makes this meeting even more necessary.
- 6) The risk-tolerant and catalytic financing option offered by the PBF, working in complementarity with the PBC has proved critical in providing rapid response to prevent the outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of conflicts, including addressing the root causes of conflict.
- 7) The PBF has also proved to be an important component of the bridge between the norms of peace, and the practical mitigation measures against conflict- from the DRC to the Solomon Islands, from Albania to Colombia.
- 8) However, the PBF is just one component of the funding substructure that is needed for effective multilateral commitments and peacebuilding partnerships. The very foundation of financing for peacebuilding has to be reinforced to ensure that the PBF is working in tandem with other domestic and international financial pillars to meaningfully support the national governance superstructure to transition from fragility to stability; from fragility to capability in the delivery of public goods and services to all its citizenry.
- 9) In relation to this and looking ahead my delegation would like to highlight three priority areas:
  - a) **Sustainability:** The 2016 Peacebuilding Architecture twin resolutions emphasized that peace can only be sustained through adequately financed preventive measures. As PBF is being injected into fragile contexts, we need to remain seized on the building blocks that are being put into place to ensure that national governments can attract domestic and international investments, and consequently build resilience and ensure sustainability.
  - b) **National & Regional Ownership:** The PBF can be an important partner to regional financial institutions for targeted, context-specific and coordinated projects that safeguard national and regional ownership, primacy, and agency in addressing the root causes of conflict.

- c) **South-South Cooperation:** There are no small actors or a penny too little when it comes to human, financial and technical investments in peacebuilding and sustaining peace. My delegation calls for a strengthened PBF-South-South cooperation including with the UN Fund for South-South Cooperation (UNFSSC) in developing countries.

10) **I thank you .**