

Acting U.S. Representative to the UN Economic and Social Council
High-Level Replenishment Conference for the UN Peacebuilding Fund
Tuesday, January 26, 2021

Thank you to the organizers of today's Replenishment Conference. Since the inception of the Peacebuilding Commission, the United States has served as a proud member, and over the years, we have seen the transformational impact modest investments can have in supporting post-conflict environments. The Peacebuilding Fund has underwritten much of this work and more, and we welcome the ambitious goals it has set out for the next four years.

Today, global crises continue to threaten the stability and security of hundreds of millions of people around the world. The COVID-19 pandemic has only exacerbated the many drivers of conflict and instability, among them ineffective or unaccountable governance; authoritarian tactics; socio-economic disparities, discrimination, and resulting grievances; opportunistic violence by violent extremists and non-state actors; racial, social, and gender inequality; and effects of climate change.

Efforts to address the root causes of conflict and instability or support post-conflict healing take time. They also require commitment from local partners, engagement with an inclusive group of local stakeholders including women, and from donors who can help support this work. This is the power of multilateral cooperation, which at its best can help pool resources, share best practices, and showcase successes. President Biden is a firm believer in the power of multilateralism, and the United States stands poised to engage with all of you in this vital peacebuilding work.

We commend the UN's increased focus on peacebuilding in recent years. Efforts to create closer institutional linkages between the UN's political work and peacebuilding efforts signal high-level commitment to incorporating peacebuilding into post-conflict transitions. Mr. Secretary-General, the reforms you have undertaken are now paying dividends.

Historically, the United States has been a leader in the UN system to advance the cause of peace worldwide. We are the top contributor for peacekeeping, addressing a vital need in the realm of peace and security. The United State has consistently supported the meaningful

