

UNITED NATIONS

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FOR PEACEBUILDING SUPPORT

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REMARKS TO THE OPENING SESSION OF THE PBF HIGH-LEVEL
STAKEHOLDERS MEETING

New York, 22 November 2011

H.E. the President of Kyrgyzstan,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,
Secretary-General

Last year at around this time, during the first Stakeholders meeting of the Peacebuilding Fund, its potential to be, in the words of a DFID ~~multi-disciplinary~~ review, the *quote* critical funding instrument in difficult transition contexts *unquote*.

The Fund is achieving this through a willingness to take risks and a

The PBF aspires to be catalytic. Chad's DIS, following the initial contribution from the PBF, is now receiving support from the EU and United States. But being catalytic is more than just about scaling up investments; it means also pioneering innovative approaches to peacebuilding and leveraging the capacities of different actors to respond to a common challenge.

- A year ago, I initiated a discussion with the World Bank on ensuring that the PBF's investment in Liberia's justice and security hubs was fiscally sustainable over the long term, through the national budget. The UN and World Bank are now undertaking a joint public expenditure review of the security sector that will seek in part to address this issue. The review will be financed by the UN-World Bank Partnership Trust Fund, established by the Swiss government and supported by a staff exchange that is being co-hosted by PBSO.

Excellencies,

The PBF is part of a larger Peacebuilding Architect

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The Peacebuilding Architecture was created because the then Secretary-General had identified a gap in how the UN was configured to respond to peacebuilding challenges. As you can see, lessons have been learned from the Architecture's early experiences and course corrections made. Its components are now not only more integrated with each other but also with the broader UN system and global initiatives to build peace. Going forward, we are therefore in a much stronger position to realize the vision behind the Peacebuilding Architecture.

~~The PDF is a digital document (S/2015/57, para. 74732(a)12.4061(t0.873046(n))-1.83327(o)1.747~~