

United Nations  Nations Unies

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04 August 2017

Excellency,

In pursuance to the Report on the Peacebuilding Commission's 10th Session regarding the recommendation to continue strengthening synergies between the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) and the Commission, I am pleased to provide the list of projects approved by the Peacebuilding Support Office during the second quarter of this year.

In compliance with the PBF Terms of Reference and Guidelines, all submissions have been reviewed by the Peacebuilding Contact Group and recommended for approval by PBSO's Proposal Appraisal Committee. All requests in this quarter have been under the Immediate Response Facility. Please note the amount indicated below is the total project budget approved. Typically, these amounts are disbursed in two or more tranches linked to performance conditions and contingent on availability of funds in the PBF. In addition, given some administrative conditions, some fund transfers remain pending.

In **El Salvador**, PBSO approved the project "Joint UN Programme for Post-Conflict generation" (\$2,272,181). The project is designed to advance two main aims: 1) contributing to violence reduction and the consolidation of the peace agreements by strengthening mechanisms to care for and protect victims of violence, and 2) improving internal control procedures of the National Civilian Police. As part of its efforts to contribute to peacebuilding, the project will also provide technical assistance to the work and mandate of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy in El Salvador. The Recipient UN Organizations (RUNOs) that will be implementing the project are UNDP, UNHCR and the International Organization

His Excellency
Mr. Cho Tae-yul
Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission
New York

for Migration (IOM).

In the **Central African Republic**, the PBF approved the following projects:

- i) “Support for the restoration of the State in Bambari” (\$2,000,000). The project aims to promote an integrated UN approach toward the restoration of state authority, with a focus on effective state functions and the revamping of economic development in Bambari and its surroundings. The implementing RUNO will be UNDP in collaboration with MINUSCA;
- ii) “Community Violence Reduction (CVR) in Greater Bambari” (\$2,000,000). This project will provide CVR programming for armed group members not eligible for the national DDR programme, as well as members of communities particularly vulnerable to violence. These CVR programmes entail two main operational areas, including: a) social reinsertion of armed groups members and conflict-prone local youth, as well as a conflict prevention and resolution support intervention within the target communities, and b) sustainable economic reintegration through market-study-verified skills training and income-generating activities). The implementing RUNO will be IOM;
- iii) “Promotion of political participation and leadership of women in peacebuilding” (\$2,500,000) to enhance women and girls' leadership and engagement in the national dialogue and CAR's public life more generally. The project recognises the critical contribution women will make in CAR's post conflict planning, including the implementation of reconciliation and recovery activities. The implementing RUNOs will be UNDP, UNICEF and FAO; and
- iv) “Support for the renewal of the Internal Security Forces” (\$2,900,000). The project aims to support the role of police and gendarmerie as critical pillars of the security, rule of law, justice and peace in CAR. The project will further support SSR reforms in CAR in order to increase public confidence. The implementing RUNO will be UNDP in collaboration with MINUSCA.

In addition, PBSO approved a cost extension of the ongoing project “Reducing Community Violence in the Central African Republic”, providing an additional \$1,250,000 and extending the project end date from July 2017 to March 2018. The cost-extension was recommended by the project's mid-term review and is within the PBF pledge of \$15,000,000 to CAR in the context of its contribution to Pillar 1 of the "National Plan for Recovery and Peacebuilding". The implementing partner is IOM.

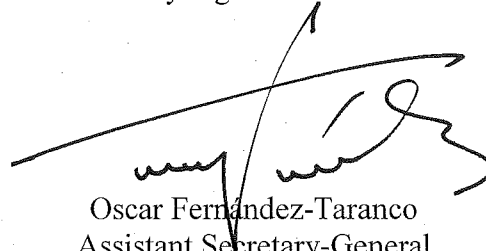
In the **Philippines**, PBSO approved “Building Capacities for Sustaining Peace in Mindanao”. With a budget of \$3,000,000, the project supports the implementation of the Comprehensive Agreement of the Bangsamoro by mitigating

the factors driving alienation and radicalisation through a more inclusive peace process. The implementing RUNOs will be UNDP, UNICEF and UN Women.

In **Somalia**, PBSO approved a \$286,974 cost extension of the ongoing project "Risk Management support to the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund". This revision enables the PBF to continue providing crucial risk management services to UN peacebuilding support efforts in Somalia, a particularly important function given increasing interest by donors to provide funds through nascent national financial institutions with still weak accountability mechanisms. The implementing partner is UNDP.

We would appreciate your sharing this information with the members of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Country Specific Configurations.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Oscar Fernández-Taranco', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Oscar Fernández-Taranco
Assistant Secretary-General
for Peacebuilding Support