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26 October 2020

Dear Ms. Brown,

Thank you for submitting the two project proposals "Projet d'appui aux Solutions Durables pour les personnes déplacées ou retournées et leurs communautés d'accueil ainsi que pour les enfants libérés des groupes armés dans les préfectures de Ouham-Pendé et de la Basse-Kotto" and "Appui au renforcement des mécanismes de gestion concertée et apaisée de la transhumance pour la restauration du dialogue intercommunautaire et la consolidation de la paix dans les préfectures de l'Ouham et de l'Ouham-Pendé" to the Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund (PBF). I am pleased to inform you that the Peacebuilding Support Office, following the review by the Peacebuilding Project Review Group and the recommendation of the Project Appraisal Committee, has approved the two projects under the PBF's Peacebuilding & Recovery Facility.

The project "Projet d'appui aux Solutions Durables pour les personnes déplacées ou retournées et leurs communautés d'accueil ainsi que pour les enfants libérés des groupes armés dans les préfectures de Ouham-Pendé et de la Basse-Kotto" will be implemented by UNDP and UNICEF for a total budget of \$ 3,000,000 over 24 months. The project is designed to support the operationalization of the sustainable solutions strategy in CAR. It aims to (i) contribute to the establishment of an integrated approach to the peaceful return of displaced persons or refugees to their communities, (ii) strengthen the recovery and resilience capacity of local communities, including IDPs and returnees, and thereby reduce their dependence on humanitarian aid, (iii) support the implementation of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation (APPR) of 6 February 2019, providing opportunities for training, protection and socio-economic reintegration for young people and adolescents associated with armed groups, (iv) supporting the empowerment of vulnerable girls and women, particularly those who are victims of

Ms. Denise Brown
Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General
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gender-based violence.

The project "Appui au renforcement des mécanismes de gestion concertée et apaisée de la transhumance pour la restauration du dialogue intercommunautaire et la consolidation de la paix dans les préfectures de l'Ouham et de l'Ouham-Pendé" will be implemented by FAO and UNFPA for a total budget of \$ 3,000,000 over 24 months. The project aims to strengthen dialogue and peace at the community level for the prevention and management of conflicts between communities of farmers and pastoralists. The proposed intervention seeks to contribute to stabilization efforts through (i) the strengthening of national institutions and local organizations, including the national security, livestock, agriculture and protection sectors through increased information and services; (ii) the shift towards a positive perception of marginalized groups in transhumance dynamics through increased inter-community dialogue; (iii) the adoption of gendersensitive socio-cultural attitudes and norms by communities and the reduction of gender-based violence related to transhumance, through increased awareness campaigns and engagement of community leaders and women's organizations, transhumant populations and host communities as well as medical, psychosocial, legal and socio-economic support for victims of gender-based violence.

As per the PBF Guidelines, PBF project funds will be disbursed by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office in two tranches of 70% and 30% for the transhumance project and in three tranches of 40%, 30% and 30% for the durable solutions project. The second tranche will be transferred following a demonstrated project financial implementation rate of at least 75% of the first tranche and the submission of any PBF reports required during that period. The payment of the second tranche is also contingent on availability of funds in the PBF. Prior to the disbursement of funds, we also expect agencies implementing PBF projects to ensure the timely financial closure of all PBF projects that have ended.

As you are aware, monitoring and reporting on peacebuilding impact is a core responsibility of the Fund's mandate. This includes a) ensuring timely submission of the PBF project progress report due annually on 15 June and 15 November and a PBF end-of-project report; b) ensuring robust monitoring of project progress, risks and results and advising PBSO if project amendments are required or if obstacles arise that may impact project outcomes; and c) managing a high-quality independent evaluation, engaging PBSO in the evaluation process.

Please note that all entities receiving an allocation from the PBF are obligated to ensure the visibility of the Fund. This should include both the identification of success stories within routine reporting as well as through the recipient United Nations organization's strategic communications products.

I look forward to our partnership to support peacebuilding in the Central African Republic. I trust you will keep us apprised of the situation in the country and any issues which may have an impact on PBF projects.

Yours sincerely,

Oscar Fernández-Taranco Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support

cc: H.E. Mr. Omar Hilale
Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission
Central African Republic Configuration
Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco
to the United Nations

Mr. Mankeur Ndiaye Special Representative of the Secretary-General

Mr. Marcien Aubin Kpatamango Charge d'Affaires Permanent Mission of the Central African Republic to the United Nations