

United Nations  Nations Unies

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7 December 2021

Dear Mr. Matthew Hollingworth,

Thank you for the submission of the three project proposals “*Support to a people-driven and gender-responsive permanent constitution making process in South Sudan*”, “*Community Action for Peaceful Resolution of Housing, Land and Property (HLP) Disputes and Conflicts*”, and “*Secretariat support to the PBF portfolio in South Sudan*” to the Secretary-General’s Peacebuilding Fund (PBF). I am pleased to inform you that the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), following the review of the Peacebuilding Project Review Group and the recommendation of the Project Appraisal Committee, has approved the projects under the PBF’s Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility.

The project proposal “*Support to a people-driven and gender-responsive permanent constitution making process in South Sudan*” was approved with a total budget of \$4,000,045 to be implemented by UNDP, UN Women and UNESCO in South Sudan over 24 months. The project aims to support the establishment of constitution making institutions such as the National Constitution Review Commission, the Constitution Drafting Committee and the National Constitutional Conference. It will also strengthen capacity of non-government and community organizations to participate in the constitution-making process, to ensure full participation of women and youth in the process and to help build consensus on substantive constitutional issues.

The project proposal “*Community Action for Peaceful Resolution of Housing, Land and Property (HLP) Disputes and Conflicts*” was approved with a total budget of \$3,700,000 to be implemented by IOM and FAO over 30 months. The project will support the capacity of statutory and customary mechanisms for dispute resolution in urban and peri-urban areas around Juba, Rubkona and Wau. It will adopt a community-driven approach with a focus on local chiefs, women’s leadership and youth representatives with a view to reducing tensions and the risk of violence related to HLP disputes in the project target areas.

The project proposal “*Secretariat support to the PBF portfolio in South*

Matthew Hollingworth
Country Representative and Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator a.i. of
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Juba

Sudan” was approved with a total budget of \$2,148,025.96 to be implemented by UNDP over 24 months. The project will enable the establishment of a PBF Secretariat based in the Resident Coordinator’s office in Juba, which will support the establishment and regular work of the Steering Committee to be co-chaired by the Ministry for Peacebuilding and the DSRSG/RC/HC. It will also coordinate and monitor a growing portfolio of PBF-funded projects in line with PBF Strategic Results Framework developed for South Sudan, and provide quality-control and technical support on programming and reporting for UN and non-UN recipient entities.

As per the PBF guidelines, project funds will be disbursed by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office in several instalments. For the project “*Support to a people-driven and gender-responsive permanent constitution making process in South Sudan*”, the first tranche will amount to 55% of the total budget and the second tranche will amount to 45%. For the projects “*Community Action for Peaceful Resolution of Housing, Land and Property (HLP) Disputes and Conflicts*” and “*Secretariat support to the PBF portfolio in South Sudan*”, the first tranche will amount to 70% of the total budget and the second tranche to 30%.

For all three proposals, the second tranches will be transferred following a demonstrated project implementation rate of at least 75% of the previous tranche and the submission of any PBF reports required during that period. The payment of second and subsequent tranches is also contingent upon availability of funds in the PBF. Prior to the disbursement of funds, we also expect the entities implementing PBF projects to ensure the timely financial closure of all PBF projects that have ended.

We count on the teams to ensure the timely implementation and conclusion of the projects and encourage them to apply any lessons learnt from previous implementation experiences and best practices from existing PBF projects. We count on your leadership to ensure that the recipient entities implement the projects cohesively, ensuring synergies with any existing interventions and adapting the project activities to new contextual dynamics. We hope that the projects will be catalytic in terms of enabling additional peacebuilding initiatives as well as encourage other donor contributions as appropriate.

As you are aware, monitoring and reporting on peacebuilding impact is a core responsibility of the Fund’s mandate. This includes: a) ensuring a timely submission of the PBF project progress reports due annually on 15 June and 15 November and 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. An audit is also required at the end of each project.

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 organizations' strategic communications products.

I look forward to continuing to work with you. I trust you will keep us apprised of the situation on the ground and any issues which may have an impact on these projects.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Awa Dabo', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Awa Dabo
Deputy Head and Officer in Charge
Peacebuilding Support Office

cc: H.E. Mr. Akuei Bona Malwal
Permanent Representative of South Sudan to the United Nations