



4. Ms. Rosemary DiCarlo, Under-Secretary-General



in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic, which had exacerbated existing inequalities and fragilities. In this respect, they referred to the General Assembly high-level meeting on financing for peacebuilding, scheduled for April 2022, as an opportunity to galvanize new determination and resolve to truly invest in peace.

- Several speakers stressed the importance of local actors, including women and young peacebuilders, for sustaining peace, while at the same time regretting the fact that the tools to support them remain weak and inconsistent. Some speakers called for more flexible funding to become available to grass root peacebuilding initiatives, particularly those led by women and youth.
- A few speakers alluded to the need to diversify the sources of financing for peacebuilding, including through private sector investment and blended and innovative financing mechanisms, while recognizing that a spectrum of sources are needed and that new sources should not be at expense of existing sources. They stressed the need to better understand and leverage private sector incentives for stability and broader private investments to that end. They took note of and encouraged FRRCA's framework with clear investment criteria and peace due diligence standards to help define an innovative financing approach towards peacebuilding. Some also stressed the need to coordinate private investments in conflict-affected settings and recognized the role of development financial institutions and key stakeholders.
- They stressed the need for national ownership and for giving due consideration to what is genuinely needed in different contexts. Some Member States indicated that South-South and triangular cooperation, and sustainable local private investments could expand the donor base for peacebuilding activities. These mechanisms, some said, should be thoroughly discussed at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on peacebuilding financing.
- They recognized that the risk-tolerant catalytic effect of the PBF had proved critical in providing a rapid response and in helping to prevent the outbreak, escalation and continuation or relapse into violence. They voiced support for additional voluntary contributions. Announcements of additional voluntary contributions were also made during the meeting.
- Many Member States acknowledged the Secretary-General's call for assessed contributions to the Peacebuilding Fund and took note of his forthcoming report to the Fifth Committee. Some strongly supported the idea while others suggested that, before considering such a proposal, there is need to discuss in more detail its implications and how to leverage existing development and humanitarian funding more effectively as well as assessed funding already provided for peacebuilding work.
- They agreed that effective UN peacebuilding means optimizing resources across the UN system and emphasized the need to ensure coherence and overcome silos, including among donors. In this respect, some speakers stressed the important role of peacekeepers in advancing peacebuilding in complementarity with UN country teams, particularly in

transitions contexts. Others suggested that the development system should step up its focus on prevention. This means, they explained, bringing a peacebuilding lens to, and strengthening cooperation across humanitarian, development, and peace actors so that UN peace operations and UN country teams are delivering in an integrated manner in support of the overarching objective of sustainable peace. They also stressed the need for complementarity between different financing facilities of the UN and its partners.

- Several Member States underlined the importance of strengthening partnerships with other actors, including with regional and international financial institutions. They recognized progress in the collaboration between the United Nations and the World Bank, including through the UN-World Bank-Development-Peacebuilding and Partnership (HDPP) Facility, and encouraged further synergy.