



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

28 January 2015

Excellency,

Following a request received on 2 December 2014, I am pleased to inform you that I have declared Madagascar eligible for support from the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) for an initial period of five years, until January 2020.

Assistance from the Fund is intended to support efforts to help prevent a relapse into political crisis. This support builds on the successful presidential and parliamentary elections held from October through December 2013. The Malagasy authorities, particularly the President and the Prime Minister, have made public calls for peace and national reconciliation and have stated that such issues lie at the core of their actions. In his statement to the United Nations General Assembly on 25 September 2014, President Rajaonarimampianina Rakotoarimanana reiterated his commitment to national reconciliation and peacebuilding in Madagascar, and he has written to me requesting support from the Peacebuilding Fund.

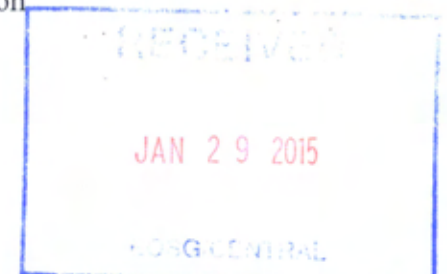
Areas of potential PBF support could include (i) national reconciliation; (ii) good governance, including security sector reform and the rule of law; and (iii) equal access to basic social services across the country and job creation with a view to creating an environment conducive to inclusive economic growth. These will be further elaborated in a Peacebuilding Priority Plan.

I would be grateful if you would, in your capacity as Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission, convey my decision to the members of the Commission.

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

BAN Ki-moon

His Excellency  
Mr. Antonio de Aguiar Patriota  
Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission  
New York



15-00531

PEB/03/003



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

28 January 2015

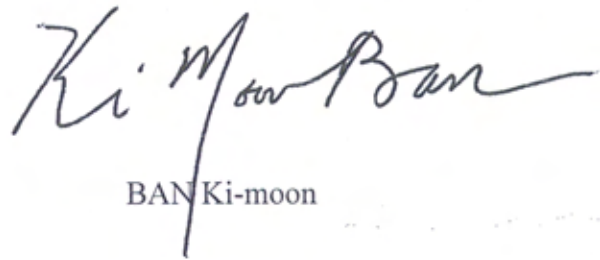
Excellency,

Following the letter from His Excellency Mr. Hery Martial Rajaonarimampianina Rakotoarimanana, President of the Republic of Madagascar, dated 3 November 2014, I am pleased to inform you that I have declared Madagascar eligible for support from the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) for an initial period of five years, until January 2020.

Assistance from the Fund is intended to support efforts to help prevent a relapse into political crisis. This support builds on the successful presidential and parliamentary elections held from October through December 2013. I commend the Malagasy authorities, particularly the President and the Prime Minister, in their public calls for peace and national reconciliation and I encourage them to maintain and build upon this commitment.

Areas of potential PBF support could include (i) national reconciliation; (ii) good governance, including security sector reform and the rule of law; and (iii) equal access to basic social services across the country and job creation with a view to creating an environment conducive to inclusive economic growth. These will be further elaborated in a Peacebuilding Priority Plan.

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



BAN Ki-moon

His Excellency  
Mr. Zina Andrianarivelo-Razafy  
Permanent Representative of the Republic  
of Madagascar to the United Nations  
New York



To: CDC (through ODSG),

On 2 December 2014, PBSO received a request from the UN RC in Madagascar to declare Madagascar eligible to receive funding from the UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF). The request has the support of the Government of Madagascar, as manifested in a letter from the President of Madagascar, dated 3 November 2014, endorsing such request.

PBSO favourably reviewed the eligibility request in a Proposal Assessment Committee meeting held on 19 December 2014. It has received the endorsement of the Senior Peacebuilding Group, which USG Fernández-Taranco chairs. He would therefore like to seek the SG's formal declaration of Madagascar as eligible for support from the PBF.

The attached draft letter from the SG to the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission would serve as the vehicle to formalize the SG's decision and inform the members of the Commission accordingly. Please find also attached a draft letter from the SG to the PR of Madagascar.

Political Unit  
23 January 2015

Received in ODSG

15-00531

26 January 2015

Seen by:

ER



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COPY DSG  
cdc

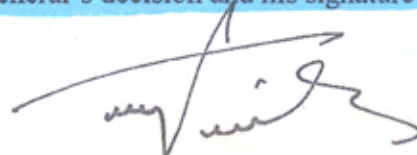
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15-00531  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Note to the Deputy Secretary-General

Peacebuilding Fund - Madagascar Declaration of Eligibility

1. On 2 December 2014, I received a request from the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Madagascar, Fatma Samoura, to declare Madagascar eligible to receive funding from the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (PBF). The request has the support of the Government of Madagascar, as manifested in a letter from H.E. Hery Rajaonarimampianina, President of the Republic of Madagascar, dated 3 November 2014, endorsing such request.
2. The eligibility request was first shared with the members of the Peacebuilding Contact Group with a positive recommendation, and consultations were held with the Government, UNCT and other partners in Madagascar during a joint PBSO, DPA, UNDP mission in early December 2014. PBSO favourably reviewed the eligibility request in a Proposal Assessment Committee meeting held on 19 December 2014. It has received the endorsement of the Senior Peacebuilding Group, which I chair. I would therefore like to seek the Secretary-General's formal declaration of Madagascar as eligible for support from the Peacebuilding Fund.
3. The attached document summarising PBSO's recommendations outlines the justification for declaring Madagascar eligible. Despite the establishment of a democratically elected Government in January 2014, the overall situation in the country remains fragile. The fragility of national and local institutions is rooted in the excessive centralization of power and weak accountability, among other challenges. This also translates in huge disparities between Antananarivo and the interior of the country, particularly the South. Furthermore, persistent collusion between business and politics, the prominent role played by the army in state affairs, and ineffective oversight and control mechanisms are major challenges. The resignation of the Malagasy government, announced by President Rajaonarimampianina the week of 12 January, confirms the fragility of the political/institutional situation and the need to support peacebuilding efforts in the country. In this context, the United Nations is well-positioned to support peacebuilding efforts in the country.
4. If approved, the Peacebuilding Fund could provide support to Madagascar through a number of peacebuilding activities, including national reconciliation, security sector reform, extension of the state authority with a specific focus in the South of the country, support to youth and women's empowerment. These will be further elaborated in a Peacebuilding Priority Plan.
5. The attached draft letter from the Secretary-General, addressed to the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, would serve as the vehicle to formalize the Secretary-General's decision and inform the members of the Commission accordingly. I also attach a draft letter from the Secretary-General to the Permanent Representative of Madagascar.
6. I would be grateful if you could seek Secretary-General's decision and his signature of the two letters.



Oscar Fernandez-Taranco  
19 January 2015

PEB/03/003



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**PBSO Recommendation: Madagascar's eligibility to receive PBF assistance**

1. On 2 December 2014, I received a request from the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Madagascar, Fatma Samoura, to declare Madagascar eligible to receive funding from the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) through its Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility (PRF). The request has the support of the Government of Madagascar, as manifested in a letter from H.E. Hery Rajaonarimampianina, President of the Republic of Madagascar, dated 3 November 2014, endorsing Madagascar's eligibility request to receive support from the PBF.

2. As per PBSO standard practice, the eligibility request was first shared with the members of the Peacebuilding Contact Group with a positive recommendation, and consultations were held with the UNCT in Madagascar during a joint PBSO, DPA, UNDP mission in early December 2014. PBSO favourably reviewed the eligibility request in a Proposal Assessment Committee meeting held on 19 December 2014, based on the assessment below.

3. Following independence in 1960, Madagascar experienced a series of crises, notably in 1972, 1991, 1996, 2002 and 2009, which had a negative impact in the economy, weakened the sociocultural and institutional fabric and led to extreme poverty. The latest of such crises was triggered in December 2008 following the overthrow of the former President by the then Mayor of Antananarivo, backed by some elements in the army. This unconstitutional change of power resulted in the country's suspension from all international fora, and led to a significant drop in development aid. The freezing of development assistance, combined with poor governance and government's inability to mobilize internal resources contributed to the decline of access to basic social services for large sectors of the population. After several failed rounds of negotiations, a SADC-brokered roadmap was signed in September 2011 with the international community's and (notably UN's) support.

4. After political deadlocks, postponements of the election dates and legal and political controversies, presidential and parliamentary elections were finally held in October-December 2013. The elections were held peacefully and were judged as credible and transparent by all international observers. The new President, H.E. Hery Rajaonarimampianina, took office on 25 January 2014, marking a milestone in the country's exit from the crisis. Although democratically elected institutions were established, weak governance at all levels remains a challenge. The fragility of national and local institutions is rooted in the excessive centralization of power and weak accountability, among other challenges. Furthermore, persistent collusion between business and politics, the prominent role played by the army in state affairs, and ineffective oversight and control mechanisms are major challenges that continue to affect the country.

5. A Peace and Conflict Impact Assessment (PCIA) carried out in 2010 and a Conflict-related Development Analysis (CDA) undertaken in 2013, show that some of the root causes of Madagascar's cyclical crises and of the underlying conflict include: (i) the concentration of political and economic power in the hands of a small elite at the central level; (ii) an urban/rural cleavage which translates into institutional, economic and infrastructural imbalances; and (iii) centre/periphery cleavage which has a negative impact in terms of access to social services as



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well as disputes around land, natural resources and environment. These tensions and conflicts are particularly noticeable in the south, which the CDA defines as an explosive situation due to chronic insecurity, absence of the State and huge interests of mining companies.

6. So far, the conflict in Madagascar has not erupted into violent confrontation; however, the underlying causes of conflict continue to constitute a major threat to security and stability. Chronic interference and interventionism of the military into politics is symptomatic of the persistence of systemic and structural weaknesses in the organization and functioning of the Malagasy security sector. The weakness of accountability and democratic oversight mechanisms erodes government's ability to address serious security threats and prevent military interferences.

7. The Malagasy authorities, particularly the President and the Prime Minister, have made public calls for peace and national reconciliation and have stated that such issues lie at the core of their actions. In his statement to the United Nations General Assembly on 25 September 2014, the Malagasy president reiterated his commitment with national reconciliation and peace building. Furthermore, the President himself expressed an interest in the UN's Peacebuilding Fund, actively seeking to hold relevant meetings with UN officials to discuss the matter. Moreover, the government through the Prime Minister recently invited a joint Security Sector Reform assessment mission, led by the AU with participation of SADC, UN, EU and OIF, and the Prime Minister publicly declared his commitment towards a reform of the security organs to make them more suited for peace and security. In this context, the new government has embarked upon a number of political, institutional and legal reforms. It has committed itself to setting up a number of key institutions enshrined in the constitution, including the High Court of Justice, the High Council of Defence, the national commission on insecurity. The Ministers of Defence and Security expressed interest in integrating human rights into the syllabus of police, gendarmerie and military academies.

8. The UN has a strong presence in Madagascar and many agencies represented on the ground also cover Mauritius, Comoros and Seychelles from Madagascar. In line with current peacebuilding challenges in Madagascar, the new UNDAF for the 2015-2019 period mentions "gouvernance apaisée" (pacified or appeased governance) as one of its three expected outcomes. This will be achieved through support to inclusive governance, the electoral system, rule of law, fight against corruption, strengthening of civil society and media as well as inclusion of traditional conflict resolution practices, among others.

9. The eligibility request identifies three main priority areas for potential PBF support: (i) reviving the national reconciliation process; (ii) good governance and strengthening the rule of law including strengthening relations between state and non-state actors; and (iii) supporting stability with a view to creating an environment conducive to inclusive economic growth, job creation and a wider access to basic social services. This is in line with President's Rajaonarimampianina's letter that identifies the following peacebuilding areas for potential PBF support: (i) national reconciliation; (ii) good governance and rule of law; (iii) the consolidation of stability through, among other, improving the provision of social services; (iv) address the security situation in the South of the country; and (v) Security Sector.

# United Nations Nations Unies

HEADQUARTERS • SIEGE NEW YORK, NY 10017  
TEL.: 1 (212) 963.1234 • FAX: 1 (212) 963.4879

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Excellency,

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Assistance from the Fund is intended to support efforts to help prevent a relapse into political crisis. This support builds on the successful presidential and parliamentary elections held in October-December 2013. The Malagasy authorities, particularly the President and the Prime Minister, have made public calls for peace and national reconciliation and have stated that such issues lie at the core of their actions. In his statement to the United Nations General Assembly on 25 September 2014, President Rajaonarimampianina reiterated his commitment to national reconciliation and peacebuilding in Madagascar, and he has written me requesting support from the Peacebuilding Fund.

Areas of potential PBF support could include (i) national reconciliation; (ii) good governance, including security sector reform and the rule of law; and (iii) more equal access to basic social services across the country and job creation with a view to creating an environment conducive to inclusive economic growth. These will be further elaborated in a Peacebuilding Priority Plan.

I would be grateful if you would, in your capacity as a Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission, convey my decision to the members of the Commission.

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

BAN Ki-moon

His Excellency  
Mr. Antonio de Aguiar Patriota  
Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission  
New York