

United Nations Nations Unies

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New York, 5 May 2020

Excellencies,

Dear Colleagues,

Members of the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) and other development partners of Burkina Faso who attended the ambassadorial-level PBC meeting of 5 March will recall that many participants expressed their commitment to support the implementation of the Matrix of Priority Actions of the “*Programme d’Urgence pour le Sahel*” (MAP PUS-BF) for 2020-2021, which the Government of Burkina Faso presented in detail during the meeting. These priority actions emanated from the Prevention and Peacebuilding Assessment, a consensual process undertaken by the Government together with its main multilateral partners with the participation of bilateral partners. They included the most pressing short-term prevention and peacebuilding activities in regions affected by instability, and encompassed four thematic areas, respectively: (i) Security and Rule of Law; (ii) Social Services; (iii) Local Governance; and (iv) Resilience and Social Cohesion.

Following the meeting of 5 March, the PBC issued a statement in which its members encouraged Burkina Faso’s partners to ensure immediate support for the implementation of the government’s Priority Action Plan and asked the Chair of the Commission to work with the Government of Burkina Faso to track commitments made by partners and encourage coherent delivery.

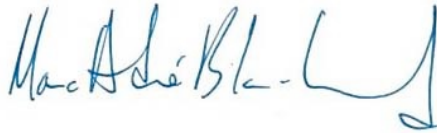
Since then, the global landscape has been overtaken by the COVID-19 pandemic that is also heavily affecting Burkina Faso. Notwithstanding the additional requirements related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the situation of Burkina Faso still requires sustained and robust support in the four thematic areas identified in the MAP. This message was reiterated in a follow-up letter that I received in my capacity as Chair of the PBC from the Minister of Economy, Finances and Development of Burkina Faso, H.E. Mr. Lassane Kabore, on 20 April, in which the Government of Burkina Faso warns that decreasing attention on the existing peacebuilding challenges carries the risk that these could be further exacerbated by the impact of COVID-19.

In this regard, I would like to invite all members of the PBC, as well as relevant financial and technical partners of Burkina Faso, to indicate existing or forthcoming commitments in support of the Matrix of Priority Actions, which is attached to this letter along with a summary in English. The Chair encourages partners to specify 1) the priority thematic area(s) under which their support falls; 2) the type of their support (financial, technical, in kind, sharing lessons/experience); 3) estimates of their support in US\$, and, if possible, 4) geographical focus.

To: All members of the Peacebuilding Commission and partners of Burkina Faso

The Chair would be grateful if all recipients could send relevant information to Ms. Vanessa Wyeth, Vanessa.Wyeth@international.gc.ca and Ms. Aikaterini Limenopoulou, limenopoulou@un.org by 20 May 2020. The Chair wishes to sincerely thank members of the Commission and partners of Burkina Faso for their sustained engagement in support for the country's peacebuilding efforts.

Respectfully,



H.E. Mr. Marc-André Blanchard
Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission