



Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of
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in **New York**

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**CERF High-level Pledging Conference
New York, UN HQ, December 7, 2018**

STATEMENT BY BELGIUM

H.E. Mr. Marc PECSTEEN, Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Belgium to the UN

Mr. Under-Secretary-General,
Excellencies,

For over a decade, growing humanitarian needs have led to ever increasing resource appeals. The Global Humanitarian Overview 2019, launched only three days ago, is appealing for a staggering 22 billion US dollar in order to respond to critical needs around the globe.

Unfortunately, we know we will not succeed in gathering the resources we appeal for. Available resources continue to fall behind, stagnating at around 60% of the global appeal in the past 5 years. The remaining 40% are those left behind, people who never got much needed assistance. Unless humanitarian needs significantly decrease in the coming years, this trend is unlikely to change soon.

I have stressed it in my speech last year, and I will again do so: we need more humanitarian donors. Current resources rely all too much on a dozen of partners. Shaping fertile ground for a diversified donor landscape is an objective the UN should continue to strive for.



Excellences

La Belgique croit en une assistance coordonnée et principielle, et nous pensons que le CERF constitue l'outil en adéquation avec cet objectif. Permettez-moi de rappeler les mots du Secrétaire général: « si nous voulons vraiment ne laisser personne de côté, la solution est certainement représentée par l'exemple du CERF ». Un financement flexible doit devenir la norme, pas l'exception.

Depuis sa création en 2006, mon pays a toujours été un partenaire fidèle du CERF. La Belgique croit au principe des ressources pré-positionnées afin de faciliter leurs accès en cas de catastrophe. L'importance que nous attachons aux fonds communs a grandi d'année en année. L'année prochaine, la part de nos ressources humanitaires affectée à ces fonds atteindra un sommet sans précédent.

For CERF in particular, we are pleased to announce that our annual contribution will be raised from 12,5 to 17 million euro, an increase of 36%. As we engage on a 2-year basis, we are looking at a total of 34 million euro over 2019 and 2020. Being a stable and predictable donor, we again commit to the critical, timely and life-saving nature of CERF.

Let me conclude by saying that we are also an active member in the CERF Advisory Group. We are grateful for the responsibility which is entrusted upon us. Finally, may I ask you, after the Member States have made their statements, to give the floor to the Representative of the Region of Flanders to announce the pledge of the Government of Flanders.

Thank you.

