



## UN Secretary-General opens donor conference with call for wholesale rebuilding of Haiti

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today called for the wholesale rebuilding of Haiti as he urged donors to provide \$11.5 billion over the next 10 years for the reconstruction of the Caribbean nation that was devastated by a massive earthquake in January.

"What we envision, today, is wholesale national renewal... a sweeping exercise in national-building on a scale and scope not seen in generations," the Secretary-General [told](#) delegates from more than 130 nations who have gathered at United Nations headquarters in New York for a high-level meeting aimed at securing the financial resources necessary to help Haiti recover and rebuild after January's devastating earthquake.

Some \$3.9 billion of the \$11.5 billion being sought will be channeled into specific projects through a newly-created Interim Haiti Recovery Commission during the next 18 months.

Mr. Ban said reconstruction work must move in tandem with emergency relief and urged donors to provide further support to the revised humanitarian appeal for Haiti. That appeal is calling for \$1.4 billion, but is currently only 50 percent funded.

Haiti's President René Préval, United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and UN Special Envoy for Haiti Bill Clinton are also co-hosting the conference, entitled Towards a New Future in Haiti.