



United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

Media & Spokesperson Unit
Communications & Public Information Office

MEDIA MONITORING REPORT

TUESDAY, 02 JULY 2013

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Highlights

South Africa: Dozens offer input for South Sudan Constitution

Voice of America 01/07/2013- From six-year-old girls seeking respect for children to adults advocating for pensions to be paid regularly to the elderly, dozens of South Sudanese turned out this weekend to tell the National Constitutional Review Commission what they would like to see included in the country's constitution.

Rhoda Kuong, 6, braved rainy season weather to come to the first meeting held by the commission to hear what South Sudanese want in their constitution. For the young girl, the main issue to tackle was the safety and exploitation of children like her.

"Children are raped and denied education and also they are given hard work to do, hard labor. I don't want them to forget children's rights," Kuong said.

Marcelina Denya came to the hearing in Juba to advocate for the rights of the elderly, whom she called "the poorest of the poor."

"They don't have money... It is now 24 months that the old-age pensioners have never got their little pension and most of them have died because they are unable to contribute even a bottle of water or salt for the house," she said.

The hearing was the first of what commission officials say will be scores of events aimed at getting citizens in every county in South Sudan over the next three months to tell officials what they want in their constitution.

Commission Chair Akolda Maan Tier said officials hope to talk to as many South Sudanese as possible but acknowledged that there are likely to be roadblocks, mainly the weather, security and language barriers.

"During the rains, it is not easy to travel from one state to the other or even within the state," he said.

"The question of security is also a problem and... many people may not speak English or Arabic... using vernacular languages can be an obstacle."

The commission was scheduled to finish its work at the beginning of this year, but ran out of money. Parliament extended the commission's mandate through December 2014, meaning South Sudan will operate until then -- at least -- under the interim constitution that was in effect when the country gained independence on July 9, 2011.

Tier declined to say whether the commission would extend the campaign if members are unable to get feedback from residents in all of South Sudan's counties within the allotted time.

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Road accidents on the rise in Juba, say health officials

Sudantribune.com Juba, 1/07/ 2013 - Thousands of people travel each day in South Sudan's capital of Juba by boda-boda but accidents involving this popular bicycle taxi are on the rise, mostly due to a lack of understanding of traffic rules.

Bakhita Dawut, 34, who had a boda-boda accident this week, says the bike collided with another one and injured her hands and legs.

"I need to tell these boys of the boda that they don't need to go in hurry while on the public road. The traffic rules need to be respected. When you're on the road they need to know that you are on the public property", said Dawut.

Dawut blamed the other driver whom she said took wrong side of the other street. She appealed to all boda-boda riders to respect rules of the traffic.

20-year-old boda-boda driver Joseph Lako says three months ago he collided with a car, which broke his leg and killed his brother at the scene.

He is still receiving treatment in Juba Teaching Hospital.

"We were on a motorbike and immediately a bus driver hit them behind and reached us and hit us as well. Then traffic police officer intervened and blew the whistle and after all he hit us, we were three on the bike and my brother died on spot and the rider who was a cousin survived with serious injuries all over his body and I had my leg broken. It is a terrible situation now for me" Lako said.

Boda riders blame the accident on the drivers of large, expensive cars that they claim do not give way on the roads.

Mohamed Ali, a boda boda rider in Juba Jabel Market, says the expensive car drivers do not respect the road even if you are on the right side.

"He just wants to pass because he thinks the car is expensive. You leave way for him and they don't follow the traffic laws," Ali said.

"You may be on the right side but they knock you. After knocking you they say this V-8 is a Hummer. Hummer cannot make accidents, yet it has already happened" he added.

South Sudan traffic officials say they hope to improve the situation through public education, conducting seminars and workshops about traffic rules.

Mayom Wuor, a traffic officer, says most of these accidents are caused by drivers who never go by rules of traffic and do not see the round-about properly when they are in a hurry.

"Whenever there is a jam at the round-about then people rush the road and that makes it difficult for them to go without problem" Wuor said.

Wuor say they are trying to have clear rules. "That is why we are stationed at every part of the city, so that there is no accident. But this doesn't prevent accidents from happening because some young people who are around 15 escape with their parents' bikes and go on street for boda business", added Wuor.

At Juba Teaching Hospital, victims of Boda-boda accidents arrive daily, the Director of Emergencies and Accidents at the hospital Dr. Mapuor Mading says. He says that accident-related deaths are on the rise, often due to a delay in treatment.

"For this month I have already received 24 cases of road traffic accidents and these are caused by motorcycles and these cases are not just minor injuries, they are injuries of fractures," Mading added. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

MP urges investors to put money in education

Easter Radio 02/07/2013-A Central Equatoria state MP urged investors to put money into the education sector to help the state and the national governments solve some problems in schools.

Jennifer Yabu Yoasa told Easter Radio that the education sector should not be left to the government alone but private investors should take up the challenge to help build the nation through education.

She urged teachers to be faithfully committed to their jobs.

Ms Yabu stressed that teachers' pay and shortage of classrooms were the biggest challenges in Central Equatoria and the state government needed to address them.

She revealed that the State Development Council came out with some projects and Yei River County is the first priority.

Ms Yabu said that the council building a primary and a secondary school in the county.

The state MP was speaking on Saturday after attending the public constituency dialogue between state and national MPs and voters. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

Reconciliation Committee prays with national MPs

Catholic Radio Network Juba, 02/07/2013-Members of the National Reconciliation Committee started preparations for the National Day of Prayer for Reconciliation, Healing and Peace to be celebrated on Monday, July 8, with a meeting with legislators in Juba.

Committee leader Archbishop Daniel Deng Bul and his deputy Bishop Paride Taban headed a seven-person delegation who prayed with MPs at the National Legislative Assembly on Monday afternoon.

Archbishop Deng remarked that the national day of prayer kick starts the national reconciliation and healing process that “may take years.”

He said that the MPs were also a congregation and the bishops and other Church leaders came to the Assembly as their pastors to encourage them to make use of the opportunity.

Bishop Taban preached on reconciliation and healing, illustrating his message with many real stories from his vast experience as a peacemaker.

Cathy Arata, a sister from the US working with Solidarity with South Sudan, told MPs that her presence evoked the solidarity of the Church and international community during the long years of struggle.

On Tuesday, the members of committee are praying with the national council of ministers and on Wednesday with the President, the Vice-President and the presidential advisors.

On Thursday, it is the turn to pray with the youth at Nyakuron Cultural Centre, in Juba.

On Friday the Muslim community holds its won prayers at the various mosques across the country and on Saturday in the turn of women.

The Christian community prepares for the National Day of Prayer on Sunday. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

Bor municipal council launch fund raising campaign

Gurtong Bor, 01/07/ 2013– Bor Municipal Council in Jonglei State has launched a fund raising drive to support development in the state capital.

The Mayor of Bor Municipal Council, Nhial Majak Nhial has called on the citizens to contribute for the developmental projects including the maintenance of water channels in Bor town.

During the fundraising event on Saturday, the municipal council raised over 84,000 South Sudanese pounds.

Speaking to the gathering during the fund raising event, Mayor Nhial said that citizens donated 20,090 South Sudanese pounds in cash and 200 US dollar also in cash, with a further 64,550 South Sudanese pounds pledged by government officials and businessmen.

Nhial said that they have collected 84,640 South Sudanese pounds equivalent to \$21,700.

Majak promised that after two week the construction of culverts will begin in Bor and the clearing of blocked waterways and maintaining of roads will help in drainage.

The deputy Governor and the acting Governor of Jonglei state, Hussein Maar, urged the residents not to block construction of water channels in town because water stagnation may create an environment where mosquitoes thrive increases the spread of Malaria and preventing the waters from reaching the rivers.

Maar asked all residents including children and foreign nationals to contribute to Bor development and cleanliness.

All the international community staying in Bor turned up in big numbers and contributed for the support of the municipal government.

This was one of the several fundraising forums being held in Bor for development purposes.

Two years ago, a bigger fundraising was held raising 300,000 SSP to contribute to the construction of an outpatient department and renovate the old wards at Bor Hospital.

Since last year South Sudan’s government has imposed severe economic austerity measures following its decision to halt exporting oil through neighbouring Sudan over a transit fee dispute.

Before the shutdown 98% of South Sudan's income was through oil revenues. . [\(Back to Top\)](#)

IOM constructs border posts, builds border management capacity in S. Sudan

Africa Press Organisation Geneva, 28/06/13 – IOM has started to build six border posts in South Sudan as part of a larger initiative funded by the government of Japan to build the immigration and border management capacity of the world's newest country.

IOM helps South Sudan to manage its borders by constructing and equipping border posts, training immigration officers and providing technical and policy advice. These initiatives foster trade and economic development, while at the same time strengthening national security.

The six border posts currently under construction are situated at land crossings with Uganda (Tsertenya and Jale), the Democratic Republic of Congo (Lasu, Gangura and Ezo) and the Central African Republic (Source Yubu).

The new border posts, which will be completed by the end of July, will be equipped with an identification and registration database – IOM's Personal Identification and Registration System (PIRS) – communications systems and document fraud detection equipment. Solar panels will provide a sustainable energy source.

The sites for the border posts were selected by the South Sudan Directorate of Nationality, Passports and Immigration (DNPI), in close consultation with local authorities and community leaders.

“We welcome the construction of these new borders posts,” said Major General Augustino Maduot Parek, Director-General of the DNPI. “In addition to strengthening border security, the posts will facilitate movement across borders and support local markets and communities.” [\(Back to Top\)](#)

Commissioner appeals to women to take the lead in peace building

Gurtong Torit, 01/07/ 2013- Budi County Commissioner Morris Merisiya Kaunda has appealed to the local women to take lead in peace building initiatives by advising their community to abandon raiding and unnecessary fighting and killing with the neighbouring communities in the region.

Speaking on the sideline of the an occasion witnessing a handover of Rock Catchment of the water to local community of Komou at Kaviva site, at Komou Boma of Kimotong Payam, the commissioner emphasized that it is time of leaders to turn to women and use them to bring and help nurturing peace in the region saying women play huge role if they are given a chance as their voices usually signal a strong message.

“We rely on you, we have tried all alternatives and thought you can contribute in talking to your sons, husbands and young brothers to abandon the deadly practices of raids and killings, time have come for us to beg you women to help all of us as communities to bring peace in our region. We must seek ways to co-exist,” he said.

The commissioner said his county has been experiencing challenges that have continued to retard development efforts thus a need to involve women as mothers to sons of the county whose talents are misused in raiding activities, becomes a decisive perhaps significant.

Meanwhile, Kimotong women who say they could do best if given an opportunity to pursue peace by persuading raiders to abandon negative activities.

They challenged the county authorities led by the commissioner that they have been working behind doors but the authorities avoid women from getting involved on governance matters.

They say women can do better in the field only that a chance has never been given to negotiate saying they are the very mothers who gave birth to men why could they refuse to listen or heed their advice.

The Commissioner promises that his authority will support women work as he strongly advised them to get organized with good programmes and keep focus on peace building initiative. . [\(Back to Top\)](#)

Torit county commissioner praises security night patrol offer

Emmanuel Radio Torit, 02/07/2013-The Commissioner of Torit County in Eastern Equatoria praised security operatives for launching an intensive crackdown against criminals, introducing night patrols in Torit.

German Charles Ojok was among several other people praising the role played by the security forces to arrest increasing criminal activities in town, Emmanuel Radio reported.

In one of the operations, the security captured three suspects for breaking into shops and looting items at night.

Commissioner Ojok said the arrested suspects should face the court of law and serve prison sentences if found guilty.

He emphasized that prison sentences discouraged other people who intended to steal or engage in other criminal activities.

Commissioner Ojok stressed that he wanted to maintain the security operation to promote safety of people and their properties, especially the business community in Torit.

He noted that it was necessary to strengthen night security in the market. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

Police service announces new recruitments

Gurtong Wau, 01/07/ 2013- South Sudan Police Service administration in Western Bahr el Ghazal State has officially announced new vacancies for recruiting young South Sudanese graduates.

The vacancies are open for South Sudanese who have undergone secondary education, University degrees, diplomas and other relevant documents

Administration said those who are willing should immediately submit their documents covered with application forms including age assessment and their birth certificates as soon as possible.

“These new police will be used in the field of Custom department for an efficient tax collection,” said administration

The initiative is launched as part of recruiting more police forces in an effort to curb the high rate of crimes in the country

The training is schedule to start as soon as the required number is reached

This is the second time after South Sudan’s independence that Western Bahr el Ghazal State has recruited such a police batch. . [\(Back to Top\)](#)

Highway robbers beat policeman, loot business trucks

Gurtong Rumbek, 02/07/2013 - Unknown gunmen have stolen thousands of cash and valuables from eight business trucks moving from Juba towards Wulu County in Lakes State via Mvolo County of Western Equatoria State.

Eight vehicles were looted including more than 15, 000 South Sudanese Pounds and one policeman was injured in the incident which happened between Wulu County and Domuloto Payam.

Robberies turned to beating a South Sudan Police service policeman identified as Woye Majok Quana who was travelling on the business truck.

A member of South Sudan Security forces who requested anonymity told the press that the Lakes state government has not taken action to pursue the suspects.

In a separate incident, Wulu County commissioner Akol Muorwel is accused to have instructed police in his county to demolish shops built along the roads side.

More than 15 shops are confirmed to have been demolished without compensation.

Harassment of Wulu shopkeepers increased when they claimed compensation from county authorities.

A local businessman who requested anonymity said that the state government has introduced several restrictions in business and anyone talking about government wrong doing will face military cell.

About 15 shopkeepers were told to remove their iron sheet roof where few complied with the order. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

Sudan and South Sudan agree to back efforts for peace in the two countries

Sudantribune.com Khartoum, 1/07/ 2013 – Sudan and South Sudan agreed Monday to refrain from supporting rebel groups and instead, to back efforts aiming to bring peaceful settlement in the two countries.

South Sudanese and Sudanese five-presidents recommitted themselves to resort to the dialogue and to join hands to resolve any conflict that may arise in the course of implementing the September 27 cooperation agreements signed last year between the presidents of the two countries.

Following the end of the two day talks in Khartoum, Sudan's Ali Osman Taha and South Sudan's Riek Machar issued a nine-point communiqué announcing that they agreed to refrain from supporting and harboring armed groups from both sides in line with the security arrangements deal.

The parties also agreed to refer their complaints and claims to a joint committee to examine it and take the necessary measures to stop it.

The joint statement also says the two parties agreed, for the first time, to "support initiatives aiming to bring peace and stability in the two states".

South Sudan ruling party has been offering to mediate between its former comrades – SPLM-N – and the Sudan's government in order to find a peaceful political solution to the war.

But Khartoum refused such role and said Juba has first to stop its support to the Sudanese rebels and disengage with them.

The African Union mediation team gathered government and rebel delegations last April but they failed even to agree on the agenda of the discussions as the SPLM-N demands a humanitarian agreement to be signed first, a matter that the government considers secondary and says priority should be given to a political deal.

However it is not clear if the South Sudanese government will seek to facilitate the resolution of the conflict with SPLM-N alone or with the rebel alliance, Sudanese Revolutionary Front, including the other rebel groups that hail from Darfur region.

The 1 July agreement between the two Sudans averted a crisis that threatened immediate oil shut down when president Omer Al Bashir three weeks ago ordered his for a shutdown of the oil pipelines transporting South Sudan's crude oil through Sudan's territory.

Bashir accused South Sudan of supporting the rebels of the Sudan Revolutionary Front (SRF), but Juba rejected the accusations and counter-accused Khartoum of arming its rebels in South Sudan such as David Yau Yau.

South Sudan's vice president, Riek Machar, on Sunday led a high level ministerial delegation from Juba to Khartoum to defuse the tensions and set the two countries on the right footing.

Machar upon arrival in Khartoum met with President Al-Bashir and his first Vice President, Ali Osman, where they had separate heated debates, particularly over the alleged support of rebels in each country, but finally decided to discuss and resolve them.

Khartoum said the threat to shutdown South Sudan's oil flow through its territory would be lifted if the two sides came to understanding and resolved the disputes affecting the cooperation agreements within the next 37 days.

The two parties also discussed the fate of Abyei and the establishment of the centerlines at the border in accordance with the security arrangements, pending the demarcation of the over 2,000kms borders between the two countries.

During the two days negotiations in Khartoum, the two parties have been exchanging their position papers proposing the approaches on how the issues could be tackled.

After issuing the joint statement late evening at 10pm, Machar and his counterpart, Taha, made positive statements recommitting the two nations to peaceful dialogue.

Taha called for a speed implementation of the agreed texts and stressed that direct bilateral talks do not mean a setup in the commitment of the two parties to inform the African Union mediation about the outcome of Khartoum meetings or to resort to the penal in the event of a difference between the two sides.

Machar reiterated the readiness of his government to implement what has been agreed and expressed South Sudan's desire to have good relations with its northern neighbour. He added that all the differences between the two countries are resolvable though dialogue.

The communiqué said the two delegations agreed to normalize and promote the bilateral relations between the two countries and operationalize mechanism for implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the cooperation agreements.

The two parties reiterated their acceptance of the proposals of the AUHIP on the current stalemate, and call on the African Union and the Chairperson of IGAD, the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, to expedite the immediate implementation of the AUHIP proposal.

They also vowed to work together to fix the outstanding issues particularly Abyei and disputed borders, the statement said.

The disputes are a threat to the bilateral relations between the two neighbouring countries and affect their economies which largely depend on oil revenues.

The dollar exchange rate against the Sudanese pounds reportedly dropped significantly from Sunday as the markets felt the prospect of a peaceful resolution to the disputes between the two countries.

Machar and his delegation are expected to return to Juba on Tuesday. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

Sudan, South Sudan reiterates commitment to dialogue

BERNAMA-NNN-Agencies Khartoum, 2/07/2013 -- Sudan and South Sudan reiterated their commitment to dialogue and negotiation to settle issues of their difference and vowed to refrain completely from supporting and harboring armed groups.

The two countries on Monday concluded joint talks between them in Khartoum. After their joint meeting, the two countries issued a communique in which they reiterated their acceptance of the proposals of the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel on Sudan (AUHIP) on the current stalemate between the two countries.

They vowed to commit themselves to bilateral dialogue and discussions without prejudice to the ongoing facilitation of the AUHIP.

The two sides also reiterated commitment to respecting sovereignty and territorial integrity of each state, normalising and promoting the bilateral relations and operationalising the mechanism for implementation, monitoring, evaluation and dispute resolution related to the Comprehensive Cooperation Agreements signed in Addis Ababa in April.

Meanwhile, both countries expressed their readiness to finalise the comprehensive peace agreement issues, namely, borders and the final status of the disputed area of Abyei.

Tensions mounted between the two countries after Sudan suspended South Sudan's oil exportation through its oil pipeline, accusing Juba of supporting the rebels of the Revolutionary Front Alliance which is fighting the Khartoum government.

The AUHIP then presented proposals for the two countries to end the tension on mandating the AU border programme to form a consultative team to determine the zero line for the demilitarised zone on the ground based on the coordinates mentioned in the map presented by the AUHIP. . [\(Back to Top\)](#)

Bashir says Sudan willing to work towards combating hunger in Africa

Sudantribune.com Khartoum, 1/07/2013 - The Sudanese president Omer Hassan al-Bashir, has said that 239 million Africans are malnourished and announced his country's commitment to engage in a strategic partnership for agricultural production and developing agro-industry to provide food for Africa.

Bashir returned from Addis Ababa on Monday after taking part in a high level meeting of African and international leaders on ending hunger in Africa.

In his speech at the meeting, Bashir declared Sudan's support for the initiative put forward by the African Union (AU), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Brazilian Lula Institute (LI) to end hunger in Africa, alluding to war as a cause for poverty, waste of resources, hunger and deprivation.

He pointed to the importance of promoting initiatives under the umbrella of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) in order to achieve food security and facilitate movement of goods and people across borders, saying that peace and development are two faces of the same coin.

Bashir further said that the meeting was a step in the right direction to end hunger through developing programs which aims at boosting agricultural production and finding ways for grain storage.

He went on to describe hunger as a disgrace to the international community and called for the unification of Africa's will and voice to engage in partnerships which serves in reducing malnutrition and increasing production as well as creating jobs and cancelling foreign debts.

Bashir renewed Sudan's intention to set up a supreme council for food security in order to coordinate between the center and the states on agricultural issues and open the doors for foreign investment, calling upon investors to visit Sudan to explore its agricultural potential. .

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