



United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

Media & Spokesperson Unit
Communications & Public Information Office

MEDIA MONITORING REPORT

FRIDAY, 21 JUNE 2013

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Highlights

Murle community leader shot, wounded by 8-year-old boy

Gurtong.net Juba, 21/6/2013 – The leader of Murle Community in Juba, Ismail Konyi has been shot and wounded by an eight year-old-boy believed to be his son.

The incidence occurred this morning when Chief Konyi was still asleep with the visible pistol near the pillow.

The eight year old boy is said to have grabbed the pistol and pointed it to his father and immediately opened fire on his father legs.

He also shot himself later on. The small boy is surviving and is receiving treatment at the Juba Teaching Hospital under critical condition.

Konyi's condition is improving as he is given treatment at home. A family member said the chief refused to go to hospital, forcing doctors to attend to him from his house.

The police are informed about the incidence but what triggered the young boy to take arm against the father and himself is yet to be revealed.

Some people think the young boy was only playing with the gun but he did not speak when he was rushed to hospital.

Konyi has been leading about 15 Murle politicians engaging the Jonglei state government on how they will meet with the renegade David Yau Yau, the leader of rebel group for peace negotiations.

Konyi recently said that they will hold talks and consultations with the government in Juba on the issue of peace, especially the issue of Yau Yau that made the civilians suffer in the area. [\(Back to top\)](#)

S. Sudan Justice Minister summoned over Lakes state governor

Sudantribune.com Rumbek, 20/6/2013 – South Sudan Council of States members have summoned the country's Justice Minister, John Luk Jok to respond to a petition filed against continued stay in office by Lakes state caretaker governor.

The summons, Sudan Tribune has learned, followed complaints that Governor Matur Chut Dhuol's was "illegally" occupying office after the expiry of his term three months ago.

Dhuol, a caretaker governor, was appointed by South Sudan president in January this year, following the sacking of elected governor, Chol Tong Mayay due to rising insecurity in the state.

According to the country's transitional constitution, an election for a replacement of a governor is to be held within sixty (60) days from the time a caretaker is appointed into office.

No election has, however, been held since the caretaker governor's term in office expired on 21 March, despite public

The Council, on Thursday, summoned the Justice Minister to give a constitutional interpretation of the Lake state political situation, after several people petitioned the upper house assembly.

But, a legislator, who represented the Justice Minister, requested the latter be given more time to prepare a testimonial on issues surrounding the governor's stay in office.

James Magok Ater, a lawmaker in the Council of States, said the hearing, at the request of the minister, was adjourned till Tuesday next week.

"Minister John Luk has requested to be given time frame to prepare himself with what he would tell lawmakers – he will appear before lawmakers on Tuesday 25 June and we will hear what allows Dhuol to exercise [his] constitutional powers", Ater told Sudan Tribune Thursday.

Since his appointment, Dhuol has been accused of, among others, introducing tough measures in the state, including arbitrary arrests, unlawful detention of youth in military prisons, and threatening to close down the state assembly. [\(Back to top\)](#)

A 10-year old girl registered pregnant in South Sudan

Gurtong.net Juba, 21/6/2013 – A 10-year-old kid has been registered pregnant in South Sudan, a Ministry of Health Official has announced.

According to Janet Michael, the Director of Midwifery, South Sudan has recorded a 10-year-old girl being pregnant but she declined to give details about the girl.

“South Sudan has already registered a child of 10 years being pregnant,” she said.

Janet said that there are other cases of 12 year old girls and 11 years also being pregnant in the country.

She called on the children to be given a chance to develop both physically and sexually adding that they are at risk of sexual transmitted diseases because their bodies tear easily.

According to her, this is one of the reasons of the high maternal mortality rates in the country arguing that such children are not yet well developed and as such early pregnancy leads to maternal and child mortality rates which are high in the country.

In South Sudan 7.3% of girls in South Sudan are married before they reach 15 and 42.2% between the ages of 15 and 18. This is contributing to the large numbers of girls who are dropping out of primary school before the end of the eight-year cycle; while around 37% of girls enroll in primary school, only around 7% complete the curriculum and only 2% go on to enroll in secondary school.

The passing of the Child Act in 2008 represented a key milestone in legal reform for safeguarding children’s rights in South Sudan and prohibits the marriage of children under the age of 18. However, knowledge and implementation of the law remains limited. [\(Back to top\)](#)

Yau Yau ready for peace talks: Murle delegation

Voice of America, 20/6/2013 – South Sudanese rebel leader David Yau Yau has agreed to begin peace talks with representatives of the government, members of a delegation from Jonglei state's Murle community said Wednesday after meeting with the hold-out insurgent chief.

“We told him to stop his rebellion because it is affecting the community and destroying development in the area. He accepted and demanded government officials talk with him,” Nyany Korok, a Murle youth leader who was part of the 15-strong delegation that met with Yau Yau, said.

The group met with Yau Yau on Monday and took his proposal to meet with the government to President Salva Kiir the following day.

“The president is now studying the matter to see how to implement it,” Korok said.

"It is for the President to see when to send his committee to meet Yau Yau and to fix the time for that meeting. But as community members, we shall keep talking to Yau Yau all the time so that he can stop fighting and allow a way for peace." [\(Back to top\)](#)

Six killed in Mayom cattle raid days after herders are disarmed

Sudantribunec.com Bentiu, 19/6/2013 – Six civilians were seriously injured in a cattle camp in Unity state’s Mayom County over the weekend by a group of raiders allegedly from neighbouring Tonj North County of Warrap state.

The raiders managed to escape with 840 cows from the cattle camp next to Wangrang village, which is 30km from Mayom town, according officials in the area.

Keah Machar Guek, who witnessed the attack, told **Sudan Tribune** on Monday that the attack occurred after the area’s cattle herders handed over 40 AK47s to South Sudan’s army - the SPLA - as part of a disarmament exercise last week.

Guek says he was caught by surprise when nearly 200 young men attacked cattle camp and eleven others that are stationed at Wangrang village.

Maj Gen James Koang Chuol, the head of SPLA’s division fourth, which is based in Unity state, told **Sudan Tribune** that the army are still protecting civilians properties, despite recent incident. Chuol said he had already deployed some SPLA soldiers to Tonj North to meet authorities in the area and arrange for the stolen cattle to be returned.

The commissioners in Warrap state "are working to recover the cattle which have been raided, and then they are going to be given to those forces so they have to escort back to their owners to avoid the clashes because now if the forces return back to Mayom County without taking anything to them to convinced those who have disarmed and those whose cattle has been raided this will cause inconveniences", added the fourth division commander.

Chuol says as they continue disarming civilians in Unity some cattle rustlers have taken advantage. He added that the seasonal rains were forcing the soldiers to travel on foot as South Sudan's roads are notoriously bad.

"We will not continue, we want to see if there is no cattle raiding from other side because it become advantage to other side, but we have to make sure that the other forces are deployed there so that if there is time because now rainy season will not make it any more, our forces are facing walking on foot in the large area", said Chuol.

Mayom county commissioner, John Bol Mayak, says the raiders took the opportunity to attack while people were cultivating their fields and were off guard following the SPLA disarmament.

"Six people were shot in the cattle camp; these are merely pure civilians who have got no guns or weapons with them", said Mayak.

The Mayom commissioner said he had spoken to his Tonj North counterpart and the Warrap state governor Nyandeng Malek Deliech to try and secure the return of the cattle.

"I'm sure all these cattle will be returned to owners, and I can see the state government of Warrap is serious to recover cattle from raiders and for sure these cattle will be returned," added Mayak.

The commissioner said that despite the attack the government would continue its attempts to take weapons from civilians. [\(Back to top\)](#)

Governors vow to boost border security

Gurtong.net Rumbek, 20/6/2013 – Governors from Unity, Lakes and Warrap states have vowed to end criminal activities along the border lines during a security meeting held in Rumbek, Lakes State.

With support from the United Nation Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), the leaders held a security meeting in Rumbek for the attainment of peace along the border lines where cattle raiders and criminals are operating from.

The Governor of Lake State Maj. Gen. Matur Chut Dhuol said the decision to bring the three states leaders into one area to discuss the problems facing these states along the bordering areas was good and the conference will not be like the rest of the conferences signed and were not implemented...

"I am requesting that conference should come up with positive recommendations and resolutions that can be implemented and all resolutions dishonored should also be implemented," Dhuol.

He added that his state started the process of registering firearms of all kind and has reached the registration of probably 50% of arms.

Dhuol also stressed that a comprehensive disarmament of civil population in the three states may resolve all the issues related to cattle rustling and robberies along the highway.

He urges the governments of the three states to be alert to any insecurity issues long the borders.

He encouraged border trade, exchange of visits by the state citizens and inter-state sport competitions to be held in specific period of time in different areas of the three states that may improve the quality of the relationship between the bordering communities.

The Governor of Unity State Lt. Gen (Rtd) Taban Deng Gai affirmed to the conference that due to the rising cases of insecurity, his state is doing another round of forceful disarmament to collect the illegal firearms in the hands of civilians and called upon the authorities of Warrap and Lakes States to do the same especially in the border areas where a coordinated approach will have tremendous results.

"We cannot successfully carryout disarmament as criminals move to different areas with their firearms, criminals can take advantage by attacking the disarmed and that is why the National Government has

been called upon to step in and use the SPLA to carry out a simultaneous because we believe good results will be achieved,” Deng said.

He said the main perpetrators of these crimes live among the communities and traditional authority is best suited in identifying and arresting these criminals.

He also said to his fellow governors that they are the ones failing since they are the top Government leaders at the state level to implementation security measures.

The Deputy Governor of Warrap State Brig. Gen. Akec Tong said there have been many problems between Unity, Lakes and Warrap states that need urgent intervention from the three states government headed by the governors.

In the area of disarmament, the Deputy Governor has recommended in stronger term that all firearms at the hands of civilians must be disarmed with immediate effect.

The Lake State UNMISS Coordinator said the mission will support the border committee logistically in all their activities relating the border during their operation.

The Commissioner of Unity State Maj. Gen. James Biel Ruot illustrated that the border security should be a special force that has to undergo special training so that they can do their mission in the respect of the law.

The conference has come out with resolutions that will guard the responsible committee among other stakeholders in the three states such as the formation of border security committees, border courts, establishment of border markets, identification of security roads, and civil disarmament as priorities.

Warrap State governor was requested to return all cattle raided from Lakes State and promised to act very soon as the rest have promised to work toward these resolutions.

The conference was attended by SPLA Commanders, Police, Wildlife, Prison and Fire brigade representatives. [\(Back to top\)](#)

Tripartite state conference agree on tough measures to curb cross border cattle raids

Gurtong.net Rumbek, 20/6/2013 – The Tripartite conference on cross Border security issues held in Rumbek, Lakes State by leaders from the three states concluded with 14 harsh resolutions and fines to criminals involved in cross border cattle raiding.

Lakes State by leaders from the three states concluded with 14 harsh resolutions and fines to criminals involved in cross border cattle raiding.

Among the resolutions, top is criminalization of cattle rusting activities to be given immediate action by both three state governments by imposing heavy penalties. [\(Back to top\)](#)

Death row inmates have right to appeal: judge

Gurtong.net Wau, 20/6/2013 – The 11 inmates on death row in Western Bahr el Ghazal state have a right to appeal the sentence passed by Wau special court for their role in the December 2012 violence.

“Each of those sentenced to death has right to appeal to court as per South Sudan’s constitution,” an unnamed judge said after briefing the state council of ministers which was chaired by the state governor Rizik Zackaria Hassan.

The judge mentioned that not only those on death row but even those sentenced to long term imprisonment have right to appeal.

On 7th June 2013, Wau North Special court in Western Bahr el Ghazal state handling December’s violence sentenced 11 people to death by hanging while granting the chief and the juvenile child to a long term imprisonment.

Several others including state assembly deputy speaker Edward Ukunjere has been sentenced to long term jail imprisonment.

Chief Martin Teyai from Farajalla who was approved by law that he had took part in killing the casual workers, was sentenced to ten years in prison team jail while juvenile Justin Karlo was sentenced to five years under correctional and rehabilitation services.

The 11 people sentenced to death were declared by court's final verdict according to South Sudan Penal Code, 2008 based on their acts over killing the six farmers working in Farajalla town within Bagari Payam December last year.

While speaking during the briefing, the state peace and reconciliation advisor Efisio Kon Uguak warned the citizens from involving in such offenses.

Uguak said it was very disgusted for the peaceful state of Western Bahr el Ghazal to witness such violence that claims many lives and urged the citizen to distance themselves from such violence.

The court hearing was from its beginning attended by the human right groups and the members of the United Nation Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS).

The trial began in February this year after three judges arrived from Juba to preside over the court hearings, procedures, and rule out the cases pinned against the suspects for Wau violence.

On June 4, three of the 16 suspects including state assembly MP Angelo Marcello, Feki, chairperson of Wau Youth Anthony Soukoni and Joukondo Vostino as well as former Wau County commissioner John Peter Miskin were released earlier due to insufficient evidence found.

In March, the court sentenced seven youth to one year imprisonment setting four others free.

Farajallah case took three months to reach final ruling due to some judicial challenges.

This is the first of its kind in the country after South Sudan's independent on 9th July 2011 that the country had sentenced such a huge number of people to death based on the crime they committed.

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Bor County paramount chief sworn in, seeks better remuneration for chiefs

Gurtong.net Bor, 21/6/2013 – Bor County paramount chief, Alier Aluong Madit has been sworn in as the county's paramount chief following his election last year and is seeking to improve the working conditions for the chief in the county.

Aluong becomes the new paramount chief after Mayom Malaak was elected by 106 chiefs from the five payams of Bor County.

The new county paramount chief has promised to cooperate with the state government and the local government authorities at the county level.

Aluong called on the state government to improve their chief's salaries and to allot land for paramount chief's office to be constructed since there is no office for the county paramount chief in Bor.

"My chiefs are not happy for their pay," The Paramount chief Alier Aluong Madit said.

He said that all the chiefs should be trained on the government policies so that they can be able to run their administration effectively in their various payams and Bomas.

"We must be trained, on both government policies and rules; rules for self conduct others that will help us to govern our communities. Training will also help to chiefs to be disciplined," Aluong said.

Agot Alier Leek the commissioner of Bor County has said that they will work out the chiefs salaries' structure based on their positions and roles, adding that he need them to apply rule of law.

All chiefs, according to local government scale of payment presented to their counties, each chief received a salary of 200 South Sudanese pounds each month, which he admitted was unfair.

"You know you are right, paying you 200 South Sudanese pounds is not good, but I will work it out," said Alier. [\(Back to top\)](#)

Youth urged to be involved in COTAL activities

Gurtong.net Yambio, 20/6/2013 – Western Equatoria State youth have been urged to be involved in the Council of Traditional Authority Leaders (COTAL) activities.

The Western Equatoria State Legislative Assembly Chief Whip Edward Bukulu said it's very important to involve the youth in the traditional decision because if they are not involved, there will be no successor in the nearby future.

He added that they can be involved at an early stage but not in the decision cycle but as a listener so that the culture and the traditions are known to them in their own society.

Hon. Bukulu also said without the involvement of youth in running issues like the COTOL, according to the late John Garang said youth should be first priority whenever it comes to decisions because they were at the lead in bringing peace to the people of South Sudan.

So if the traditions are arising back to the society then there is a strong need for the youth group to be part and partially of the traditions.

He further stressed that it shouldn't be just that youth, but there should be age limit not too young and not too old at least from 21 years at this level one is able to make a decisions for his own society and for the benefit of the people.

He also noted that when the laws are passed not in the favour of youth in any country, there is going to be serious conflict between the government and the youth; the result is always a disaster to the people in the country.

He also said that if the youth are not involved and yet some youth have adapted the western culture so if they are not put to know their own for example the practice of homosexuality is a western culture, it's not an African cultural practice but as for the youth they think it came from the west and it's a standard and freedom so the concept of right and the concept of maintaining what is women will get lost so if they are to learn from the elders not by acting ruling but by being observer and active listeners.

For me personally youth should be involved in the council of traditional leaders if they want the culture laws to grow so that they get to know where we are coming from and what the problems are confronting the modern society so you will see that there is African culture versus western culture especially the Americans. [\(Back to top\)](#)

Bor Mayor warns against tax fraud

Radio Miraya, 20/6/2013 – The Mayor of Bor Municipality, Jonglei State, Nhail Majak Nhail, has warned that any person found levying illegal taxes on businesses without authorization will face arrest and detention.

Mayor Nhail said only government authorities are entitled to collect tax.

“No one is authorized to tax anybody a part from the government and if I found you taxing any business person without my license, my friend, you will go in straight away,” he said.

He further explained that the taxes levied on business owners by his authority are calculated from the business income they earn.

The Mayor also revealed that his office will introduce residential identification cards for all traders within the jurisdiction of his Municipality. [\(Back to top\)](#)

Warrap State Governor inaugurates 83km road

Radio Miraya, 20/6/2013 – The Governor of Warrap State, Nyandeng Malek Deilic, has inaugurated a new road linking Warrap town to Machara.

Speaking during the launch ceremony, Governor Nyandeng said the road is essential for transporting agricultural products and other resources in the area.

The State Minister for Physical Infrastructure, Kuot Mawien Kuot, also added that the Warrap Town-Machar road will improve security in the area.

The road was constructed by the State government with support from the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). [\(Back to top\)](#)

E. Equatoria holds youth conference to improve community relations

Sudantribune.com Torit, 20/6/2013 – An Eastern Equatoria state youth and peace conference began in the capital, Torit on Wednesday bringing together youth from all the eight counties to discuss and identify key priorities of the state.

By the end of the first day, the meeting had raised more than 20 issues affecting progress of the state, but only six issues were voted as priorities.

Cattle raiding received the most votes (40), followed by high rates of unemployment, youth affiliation with political interference, insecurity, poor relationships and the gap between the youth and decision makers and finally a lack of vocational training.

The facilitator of the conference, Musa Fataki, told the youth to discuss the causes of the problems and find solutions to the issues by working to find realistic and specific resolutions to the challenges discussed.

The youth peace conference is being held under the theme, "Unity in Diversity", drawing participants from the eight counties of the state to advocate for peace unity and development in South Sudan state.

The five-day youth peace conference is being organised by the state ministry of social development, the United Nations and other local partners.

Eastern Equatoria's deputy governor, Jerome Gama Surur, hailed the conference organisers and their partners for initiating a mechanism seeking to reduce tribalism practices among the youth.

Gama urged the youth in the state to be united and to stop indulging themselves in spreading false information about its government through the use of internet to tarnish its performance to the outside world.

He also urged them not to remain involved in cattle raiding and banditry, but to participate in productive industries and join hands with its government in delivery of services.

The conference in Torit is due to end on Friday with a plenary discussion to draft and finalise a resolution to help guide and promote peace and unity among the divided youth of the state. [\(Back to top\)](#)

South Sudan's Unity oil refinery to open in July

Gurtong.net Kuacjok, 21/6/2013 – Unity State Governor Taban Deng Gai has announced that the country is officially set to have its first oil refinery operational in the state capital, Bentiu on 9 July 2013.

Gai made the revelation while addressing thousands of citizens who turned up to witness the historical inauguration of a state house in Kuacjok, the state capital of Warrap State.

"The high price of fuel will soon reduce in the country with the presence of our own refinery system in the country," Gai said.

The Governor said the oil refinery has a capacity to produce at least 5,000 barrels of oil per day. Gai however feared that heavy rains may affect the ongoing preparation for the refinery to be operation by the 9 July when the country celebrates its second independence anniversary.

He however decried the threats of Sudan to shutdown flow of South Sudan's oil within 60 days from 9 June 2013.

"Sudan has shutdown our oil from flowing through its Port Sudan on Red Sea to international markets. We are on process to seek any alternative pipeline to reach the international markets," the governor added. [\(Back to top\)](#)

Khartoum confirms the visit of South Sudan's Vice President

Reuters Khartoum, 20/6/2013 – South Sudan's vice president will visit Khartoum next week, Sudanese state media said on Thursday, marking the highest-level talks since Sudan threatened to cut off cross-border oil flows almost two weeks ago.

Both countries agreed South Sudanese Vice President Riek Machar will visit Sudan in one week, state news agency SUNA said, citing the Foreign Ministry. His trip had been planned for Sunday, but was delayed because some Sudanese ministers would be out of Khartoum then, it added.

There was no immediate comment from the South, which has said it would send Machar to defuse the oil crisis.

The dispute threatens to hit supplies to Asian buyers such as China National Petroleum Corp, India's ONGC Videsh and Malaysia's Petronas, which run the oilfields in both countries.

Diplomats doubt Sudan will close the two cross-border export pipelines because its economy has been suffering without South Sudan's pipeline fees.

Oil used to be the main source for Sudan's budget until southern secession in July 2011, when Khartoum lost 75 percent of its oil production and its status as oil exporter overnight.

Both countries accuse each other of backing rebels on the other's territory, one of several conflicts stemming from the split of what was once Africa's largest country. [\(Back to top\)](#)

Sudan says committed to implement agreement with S. Sudan

Sudanvisiondaily.com Khartoum, 20/6/2013 – President of the Republic, Field Marshal Omer Hassan Al Bashir has lauded the development in relations between Sudan and China and welcomed Chinese investments in the country.

The President, who made the remarks yesterday at a meeting with the visiting Chinese envoy, also briefed the latter on the development of relations between Sudan and South Sudan, underlining Sudan's commitment to agreements concluded between the two nations.

Meanwhile, Presidential Assistant Nafie Ali Nafie expressed Sudan's eagerness to implement the agreements signed with South Sudan as one package.

Sudan's position on the pumping of South Sudan's oil across its territory is unequivocal, said Ambassador Gismallah, Director of China's Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. South Sudan's violation of the agreement between the two countries has been substantiated, he said.

According to Gismallah, the Presidential Assistant told the Chinese ambassador that Sudan will continue on the path of peace.

The Chinese envoy declared his country's support for the efforts being exerted by concerned parties to find a peaceful solution to the outstanding issues between Sudan and South Sudan. The envoy said he would visit Juba and Addis Ababa as part of China's efforts to find necessary solutions to the standoff between Sudan and South Sudan. [\(Back to top\)](#)

U.S. suspends invitation to senior Sudanese official over row with Juba

Sudantribune.com Washington, 20/6/2013 – The United States informed the Sudanese government that its invitation to presidential assistant and vice chairman of ruling National Congress Party (NCP) Nafie Ali Nafie is on hold following Khartoum's decision to freeze cooperation agreements with South Sudan.

On Wednesday a U.S. official announced that Nafie's controversial visit to Washington will no longer take place as a result of Sudan's move.

Larry André, Director of the Office of the Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan at the U.S. State Department, also defended the decision by Obama's administration to invite Nafie at a hearing before the U.S. House of Representatives on the human rights situation in Sudan.

"You heard me in my briefing mention that we are looking for any avenue to get our message to senior decision maker level in Khartoum," André said.

Representative James McGovern questioned why the U.S. would bring a "well known torturer" and "human rights abuser" and asked whether this should be construed as a "new angle of diplomacy".

"When the decision was made in March to invite a delegation led by Nafie Ali Nafie it wasn't made within the illusions as to his background. It was [made] with the idea of trying to do all we can to end these conflicts," André responded.

The U.S. official noted that U.S. policy prohibits dialogue with Bashir who was indicted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) and others such as the defense minister Abdel-Rahim Mohamed Hussein.

"We needed a way to get our policies expressed to the senior leadership. We don't talk the president [Bashir]. There are no senior leaders of this government that have nice past," he stressed.

He said that a condition was attached to the invitation when extended that has now not been met.

"When that decision was made a caveat was and was expressed to Khartoum at the time is that this visit could only take place in the context of a Sudan that is implementing its cooperation agreements with South Sudan," André said.

"As of earlier this month Sudan ceased implementing these agreements. We have passed the message back to Nafie Ali Nafie that as long as the government of Khartoum is suspending the implementation of these agreements we are suspending this invitation" he added.

Andre also revealed that the U.S. is working to press countries to refrain from receiving with Sudanese official wanted by the ICC.

"We just recently communicated to quite a number of our embassies where we think that some of those indicted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) may travel; language for them to use with the government, their host government to make certain that it is well understood our opposition to that travel. We continue to have a policy of not meeting or conducting business with those individuals who have been indicted" he said.

"We look at what is happening in Sudan and know that their own personal calculation about their own future is dictating their government policy" Andre added.

But Representative Frank Wolf, a vocal critic of Khartoum, blasted the Obama administration calling its Sudan policy an "absolute failure".

"The very thought that you are going to bring Nafie here is just incredible...The standard of this town [Washington] has sunk so low...it shows there are no standards...it is immoral...it is absolutely immoral" Wolf said.

He argued that those meeting with Nafie need to apply "heavy sanitizer on their hands". [\(Back to top\)](#)

Memo to the SRF - try not to kill any more Ethiopian peacekeepers

AllAfrica.com, 20/6/2013 – If you fight for or sympathise with the SPLM-North and the Sudan Revolutionary Front (SRF), you might argue almost any place in South Kordofan is a legitimate military target, Kadugli included. You might say the SPLM-N's shelling of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) logistics base and Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mission (JBVMM) headquarters, which resulted in the death of a female Ethiopian peacekeeper and the injury of two others, was regrettable, but part of war.

You might feel international condemnation (i.e. the US State Department remarks) that singles out the SPLM-N is unfair, particularly given the recent Misseriya attack in Abyei which killed Dinka Ngok paramount chief Kuol Deng Kuol and an UNISFA soldier. Or that the Government of Sudan should be the one condemned for conducting military activities in civilian, residential areas, bringing ordinary people into harm's way.

In a war where moral legitimacy against a criminal regime is one of your strategic assets, such incidents are extremely damaging to your international reputation. You could rightly point out the Sudanese government suffered few consequences when it inexcusably delayed a medevac flight that might have

saved the lives of three UNISFA soldiers in August 2011, but memories are short. You are the one being criticized today.

Here are three consequences of your attack on UNISFA:

Ethiopia, which provides the UNISFA troops and within the region is the most likely actor to push Khartoum towards negotiations, is now annoyed with you. You risk losing what goodwill you have in Addis Ababa, and may have pushed Ethiopia towards Khartoum's position.

Relative to the government of Sudan, you have moral authority. This arises from the fact your grievances (particularly in South Kordofan and Blue Nile) are largely justified, and you are the underdog in an unjust war prosecuted by Khartoum. But you haven't taken sufficient advantage of that position. Most of the international community understands Khartoum is an untrustworthy, unreliable government that cares little for its own laws, its own people or for international norms. Now some of your moral authority has been lost. Some of your international friends will be more inclined to treat you with the same caution.

You've made the UN angry. While you may not care what Ban Ki-Moon thinks or says, you need the UN. The UN is the only viable mechanism to facilitate humanitarian access to the Two Areas. One day it will probably be called upon to monitor and oversee your peace agreement (again).

You don't know how long the war will continue, and neither does your adversary. And there's no question terrible things happen in war and may happen again. (And in Sudan, one might add, even in peace.) But tread carefully, SRF. Your future may depend on it. [\(Back to top\)](#)

Mursi tells EU representative nation will not compromise water security

Aswat Masriya, 20/6/2013 – Egypt will not compromise its water safety, President Mohamed Mursi told European Union representative Catherine Ashton on Wednesday.

Commenting on Ethiopia's dam project, the president said Egypt does not object to developmental projects in Africa.

The president met with Ashton to discuss ties between Egypt and the European Union as well as several regional issues.

Mursi affirmed Egypt's commitment to provide support for non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the country and emphasized the cabinet's full respect for the judiciary's rulings.

He urged the international community to carry out its ethical responsibilities towards the Syrian people in order to put an end to the brutalities committed against them.

Ashton praised the presidency's proposed amendments in the NGOs' draft law.

She also commended Egypt's keenness on benefiting from international expertise in that regard. [\(Back to top\)](#)

No Country Will Own Nile Waters: Ethiopia

Gurtong.net Juba, 20/6/2013 – Ethiopia has said that it will not allow any member country to the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) to own the Nile waters, calling for members to distance away from owning the world's longest river.

"We will not allow any single country to have the full control of the water resources...it undermines poverty," Alemayenbu Teganu, Ethiopian Representative said today at the NBI Annual summit held in Juba.

Teganu was addressing the NBI Council of Ministers, partners and other observers. The meeting is discussing on how best it can approach challenges the NBI members face in the usage of the Nile waters which of recent had created tension between Ethiopia and Egypt.

Ethiopia has initiated a hydroelectric power project reported to be one of the largest in Africa, a move that undermines colonial arrangements which gave Egypt and Sudan a lion share of the Nile waters among the NBI member States.

Today Teganu officially told the NBI Council of Ministers that his country's "House of Representatives on 13th June" ratified a move to construct its new hydro-electric dam describing it a "big success" to the people of Ethiopia objectively to alleviate poverty.

Last week following the announcement by Ethiopia, Egypt had threatened to use all sorts of approaches to deal with Ethiopia. However, yesterday the duo was reported to have toned down military approaches in a bid to sort out the misunderstanding that arose.

Hon. Ahmed Bahaaeldin, Egypt's representative at the summit called for mutual cooperation though stressing the Nile waters is its country's life.

The summit witnessed official handover of the NBI leadership to South Sudan's Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation Hon. Paul Mayom. Mayom who called for mutual and committed cooperation of the NBI members in a move to realize its mission and objectives. [\(Back to top\)](#)

CPJ: East Africa records high exodus rates of journalists

Sudantribune.com Addis Ababa, 20/6/2013 – As the globe marks World Refugee Day on Thursday, an international press freedom group, said that the number of journalists from East African countries fleeing into exile remains on the rise.

According to the Committee to Protect Journalist's (CPJ) report, a total of 55 journalists from 21 "repressive" countries, including from five East African countries, were forced into exile.

Journalists in the East Africa nations of Somalia, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Sudan fled in higher numbers over the past 12 months, than previous years, CPJ's Journalists in Exile 2013 report says.

With the help of CPJ, 18 media workers fled their homes into exile making the East African region responsible for the highest exile rates of Journalists for the sixth consecutive year.

The latest report, CPJ said, counts only to journalists who fled due to work-related persecution, who remained in exile for at least three months, and whose current whereabouts and activities are confidential to CPJ.

The group further said the journalists were forced into exile to escape different forms of intimidation, violence, imprisonment, and death threats during the past year.

The annual survey listed Iran and Somalia, followed by Ethiopia, Syria, Eritrea, Mexico, Sri Lanka and Sudan as the nations that drive out the most journalists.

"Journalists all over the world are being forced from their homes to escape persecution, imprisonment and sometimes even death," said Maria Salazar Ferro, CPJ Journalist Assistance Program coordinator.

"When journalists flee, their absence often weakens the besieged media community already struggling to provide insightful reporting about sensitive issues."

Most of the journalists from Eritrea and Ethiopia fled in fear of imprisonment, according to the report.

Eritrea and Ethiopia, who respectively are Africa's leading jailers of journalists, have long records of press repression.

Of the 30 journalists who CPJ said assisted in exile from Eritrea since 2008, many of them alleged they have been unlawfully detained in the country's prison facilities without charge or trial.

The survey indicated that exiled journalists live in very difficult conditions suffering anxiety about their family members back home and getting trapped in a legal limbo being unable to secure job.

"Forced exile can wreck journalists' lives, as well as the lives of their families," Salazar Ferro said.

Ferro said only about one-fifth of exiled journalists are able to resume working in the same field. [\(Back to top\)](#)

Where SPLM ends, South Sudan's future is set to begin!

South Sudan News Agency, 20/6/2013 – In the new country of South Sudan politics never seems to satisfy the peoples' unlimited appetite to know exactly how their country is run. But never be disappointed or be bored when this politics turns to endless talks about corrupt officials right from the

office of the president, to the ministers and down to the different levels of the government's officials, for this is the rebels turn rulers' style of governance.

The latest development in what seems like an endless drama is the president's move to suspend two of his most senior federal ministers over corruption. Aware of how long these two have served with president Kiir since the bush days, and throughout the rough era of the partnership in the so-called Government of National Unity (GoNU) with the northern National Congress Party (NCP) of Omer al Bashir, one is tempted to say that the working relationship between the trio must have taken a turn for the worse.

And no one should be fooled into believing that President Salva is any different than his fellow comrades when it comes to corruption, tribalism or nepotism. If not for the persistent pressure from the international community neither Kiir nor any of the SPLM big shots are prepared to give any damn about corruption or money going missing from the government's coffers since they became the rulers in South Sudan.

Examples are in abundance to support this argument for its now ages since the public learned of the missing \$4 billion dollars, and although the culprits – 75 of them [current and former ministers and senior officials], are all known to the president, yet he is unable to bring them to the book.

Not too long ago, an amount of money initially report to be over \$6 million dollars went missing from the president's office in Juba. Those accused in this act of theft turned out to be the president's own kinsmen whom he had appointed to work in his office, in line with the institutionalized nepotism practiced the nationwide. In short, operations 'signal left and turn right'!

This theft case which only became of a concern to the president after having been exposed by the media, has now reached a dead end. The anti-corruption committee in its post investigation report, made it clear that the investigation into the case was not any easy nor straight forward as people in power kept interfering with the evidences. Finally it is now concluded that the theft in the president's office was a work of an insider, maybe the president himself colluding in it, is what we are yet to be told.

Salva Kiir's latest fall off with two of his top ministers, has only increased the streets appetite for more probes to be carried out in this corruption infested country. People would like to hear and see people like the deputy minister of interior Lt. General Salva Mathok Gengdit relieved of their positions and immunities as well, and to face questioning in the suspicious murder of a 25 year old traffic policeman, Banyjioth Mathoat Tap from the Bul Nuer community, whose body was found under Mathok's house on 30 March. [ST http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?page=imprimable&id_article=46547]

Besides that there was that infamous CID senior officer by the name of Major General Marial Nour Jok, who was arrested on the order of the president himself over the disappearance of a young survey engineer John Luis Silvino.

All circumstantial evidences pointed to the fact that it was this CID murderer who summoned the missing engineer to his office, before finally going missing. As you read these lines, this ruthless murderer is now on the loose after the president knowing allowed him to be smuggled out of the country where he is claimed to be receiving treatment in the neighbouring Kenya for over a year now.

My personal take here is in fact to encourage President Cmdr. Kiir Mayardit in his latest campaign even if it means that he will end up losing the SPLM chairmanship in the illusive party convention. For he has for a long time now deafened people by his "much talk but little do" so-called 'zero tolerance' or the other equally empty slogan of so-called "no reverse gear".

As the author of this humble article I have no much to gain by going into the other speculations as to why the president acted differently this time around, nonetheless the street is already saturated with all kinds of stories to justify the his action. Be reminded that in places like South Sudan where true information are easily rumoured in the market places or drinking joints, whatever is rumoured in "Konyo-Konyo" Market, is nothing but the sole true.

So according to the "Konyo-Konyo" Candour, the president's action against the finance minister could have resulted from the minister's recent order in which he reshuffled a number of senior staff within the

ministry of finance. The staff in question had threatened the minister and reportedly forwarded their petition to the president asking him to force the minister to reverse his decision.

Another mouth –piece for the unhappy members of staff in the ministry of finance, who are resisting the ministerial orders on internal reshuffle, has already labeled the minister’s action as tribalistic, since the three staff members in the centre of this controversy happen to his kinsmen, and not from the same tribe as the minister.

Of course in a community that wakes on tribalism, spends the whole day in activates meant to promote and entrench tribalism and only goes to sleep and wakes up to another similar day, every ones misfortune can be labeled as a tribal motivated incident planned by another rivalry tribe.

In other words, it means for a promotion or demotion, transfer or even internal reshuffles to go down well with South Sudanese officials or workers alike, such authorization must come from one’s own kinsmen; otherwise it is right away considered as an act of tribalism! What a society to live in?

While in the case of Deng Alor Kuol – Minister for Cabinet Affairs, others speculate that he might be a victim of the ongoing SPLM party’s inner fights. Like millions of other people in this unfortunate country, he too is seen to have withdrawn his support from the president, in favour of the more charismatic SPLM Secretary General, Pa’gan Amum Akeich, rumoured to be preparing to challenge the incumbent chairman come the convention.

Whichever way the current scenarios head to, for the average South Sudanese in the towns, villages, luaks, and those in the diaspora, it has long been concluded that neither President Salva Kiir Mayardit nor his ‘rotten to the core’ SPLM party has any salvation to provide for this fast sinking country. While we encourage them to finish each other, we look forward to a better South Sudan without any of them.

Dr. Justin Ambago Ramba is the Secretary General of the United South Sudan Party (USSP). He can be reached at: justinramba@doctors.net.uk this e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it [\(Back to top\)](#)

Interesting nation

Sudantribune.com, 20/6/2013 – South Sudanese are very interesting people. What they believe in is not easy to understand. You can see them today standing firmly against injustice and malpractice. But, tomorrow you see them standing exactly opposite to what they advocated against today.

The current suspension of Hon. Deng Alor of Cabinet Affairs and Hon. Kosti Manibe of Finance and Economic Planning will tell you everything about who we are as a nation. We are a nation where “justice” depends on the prosecution of the other. This is why people who genuinely stand for what is fair and right are always in trouble.

To put it in different way, we are often very ready to crucify wrongdoers as long as they are not related to us. When they are related to us or they are from our community, we do not want them to be touched.

The malpractice that led to the suspension of both Hon. Deng and Hon. Manibe seems to be very clear. But the comments that you read after the announcement show you that there was something else that led to their suspension apart from what they are accused of having done.

Some people argue that there was no reason to start the suspension with Hon. Deng and Hon. Manibe since there are other 75 senior people accused of having stolen \$4 bn. These people do not consider the specificity of the case against Hon. Deng and Hon. Manibe. The argument would have been okay if these leaders were suspended as part of the \$4 bn scandal that the other 75 senior officials are accused of having committed. But that is not the case here.

There is another problem with the argument. It assumes that no action should be taken against anybody if people who were accused of the same crimes in the past are not first prosecuted. This arguments sounds to me like a mere defense mechanism which condones wrongdoing more than what it suggests.

We know that starting something is often better than not starting it at all. If those who advance the above kind of argument want the President to act against anybody accused of corruption, then why would they not encourage him for the little that he has done now and still ask him to do more in his fight against corruption, instead of wanting him to do nothing at all?

Another group argues that Hon. Manibe is a victim of the internal reshuffle he made in the Ministry some weeks ago. They say that the directors he removed relate to the President. That is why he is suspended. There could be truth to this claim because it was reported before Hon. Manibe was suspended. Maybe the directors who were removed from their positions were corrupt and they are colluding with the top man in the nation. But the other side of the argument could be that Hon. Manibe did the reshuffle in order to get rid of those who had been preventing him from transferring the money he wanted to transfer. That is why he got into trouble immediately after he got that chance.

Hon. Deng Alor, according to similar argument, is victimized because he wanted to vote against the President in the upcoming SPLM convention. That could also be true. But the other side of the argument could be that if Hon. Deng wanted to vote against President Kiir because President Kiir often makes it hard for him to transfer money as he wants. This argument will put President Kiir on the right side of history than Hon. Deng.

What is more interesting is that some people who have always accused President Kiir of inaction have now turned around and are angry with him for having acted. I am amaze of how these advocates for the rule of law have now turned into the advocates for the violation of the same.

It is true that both Hon. Deng and Hon. Manibe are innocent until proven guilty, but it is also true that they are not free from being guilty until proven otherwise. What is meant by innocence until proven guilty is that you should not be prosecuted on the bases of accusations. Yet, criminal accusations always mean you have something to answer. Nobody should interfere with this.

Those who defend criminally accused individuals without knowing whether they are innocent or not are like those who pass judgment on the same individuals without first proving them guilty. Both positions are outside the rule of law, and should be discouraged by citizens who want to promote the genuine rule of law.

What most of us are against in South Sudan is the violation of the rule of law. If the rule of law is followed like in the case of the two suspended Ministers, then we should support it. What we should focus our attentions on at this point is whether the process of investigations and prosecution will still follow the rule of law or not.

For example, if the investigations are completed later and the committee concluded that both Hon. Deng and Hon. Manibe should be prosecuted, then they must be allowed to hire defense lawyers they trust. If they are prevented from doing so, then we will conclude that they are being victimized because of something other than what they are accused of. Such a conclusion does not apply at this stage where they have not even been investigated yet.

If we are to see our country move on the right direction, then it should be good for us citizens to stand on the side of the rule of law only and not the side of our relatives. Everybody in South Sudan has relatives who can defend him or her. If relatives are to always defend people who are rightfully accused of criminal act, then the rule of law will be dead.

Law should be law and should be applied impartially. No right of South Sudanese, or any other human being, should be violated in our country. In the same way, nobody should commit crimes in South Sudan and expect to go free from legal prosecutions. Above all, no one should take the law into his/her own hand. These are principles we should stand for rather than blind defense of relatives. [\(Back to top\)](#)

Zechariah Manyok Biar can be reached at manyok34@gmail.com

Sudan & South Sudan: Women as agents of security

Sudantribune.com, 20/6/2013 – They stand shoulder to shoulder in a wide circle listening to one another’s concerns and fears. The group varied in age, religion, politics, ethnicity, etc. Regardless of their differences, a common theme peers out at all of us in the room—insecurity is growing in these two countries, and it wears many hats. I recall clearly the first comment made: “I am tired of fear.”

One mother laments her four boys’ serial battles with malaria and typhoid, completely preventable diseases. Another woman shares stories of women increasingly robbed at gunpoint as they shopped in the market to buy food. Some tell of a sharp spike in flogging, stoning, and detention of women in

Sudan, and growing abductions of women in South Sudan. All share grave concern for the raging political rifts that last year shut down oil production, a critical source of income for both countries.

Their stories transcend the colloquial notion of security as freedom from harm. As with many women globally, they define security in expansive terms—freedom from fear, freedom from intimidation, and freedom to access basic resources, services, and justice. Women experience conflict and its aftermath differently than men. As such, their sense of security differs. Women reflect the realities that their communities and constituencies face in real time, which is generally far removed from high-level discussions behind closed doors. Security is more than protection by uniformed personnel, but also the provision of social services by the executive, legislative, and justice systems. Ironically, many women fear security forces rather than feel safe in their presence. Security for citizens, especially women, depends on how well state institutions respond to community needs.

Hence, women must be part of the nucleus of decision making as Sudan and South Sudan emerge from decades of violence and distrust. Women’s involvement is an antidote to insecurity. By involvement, we mean full engagement both at the table as brokers of power and as community advocates promoting change.

Former US Secretary of State has noted repeatedly that evidence buttresses the idea that equality for women correlates with improved state security and stability. Researcher Valerie Hudson writes “The very best predictor of a state’s peacefulness is not its level of wealth, its level of democracy, or its ethno-religious identity; the best predictor of a state’s peacefulness is how well its women are treated.” An essential aspect of equality is the belief that women’s perspectives and priorities are valuable and must be included and considered strategically vital in policy development.

The Institute for Inclusive Security believes that women are critical to future peace between these two familial, yet irresolute, neighbors. We’ve been encouraging women to come together across conflict lines in Sudan, and now South Sudan, since 1999. Following separation in July 2011, the two countries signed nine peace agreements in September 2012, more than one year after the split. Despite this milestone, little headway had been made in implementing the agreements until recently. The accords address the most contentious technical issues, such as where the formal border will lie, how oil revenue will be allocated, and how security forces from both sides will protect their lands without encroachment.

The agreements must also make clear how people will traverse the new border for trade or pastoralist migration and how cross-family networks that have existed for centuries will stay connected in the midst of demarcation. However, the agreements are vague. Not many citizens have read them or have the means to engage in their implementation. Too few women have been involved in the process. There is not one woman on either six-member negotiation team. In other roles, such as senior mediators or technical experts, there is a scarcity of females.

Earlier this year the Institute convened a group of 20 women to deliberate on how to get more women engaged in the exclusive and stalled process. They met for several days during the African Union Summit sharing concerns and reviewing the nine agreements. The accords mandate the creation of more than 20 governmental committees responsible for agreement implementation. Women want to be part of the process and ensure their input is considered in discussions and reflected in resultant policies.

A key challenge for women is access to information and to the decision makers in such high-level processes. We invited several senior officials, technical experts, and advisers to illustrate the negotiation process. Many officials stated that the exclusion of women is detrimental to the peace process. The talks have become more exclusive and militarized, heavily manned by security officials from both sides. Officials explained that the biggest gap within the process is the absence of a “human” element. Discussions are focused on such issues as the technical demarcation of the border—where the actual line will be—rather than what communities need to thrive in that region. As Apuk Ayuel notes in her rich analysis of women’s participation in the negotiations, “The Addis talks remain in disposition a battle of wills between two political parties ever so trapped in tactical maneuverings to gain the upper hand in what have become a seemingly endless process of contest over power and resources.” These mired relationships have repeatedly led to a staccato series of negotiations and re-negotiations between the two states’ senior leaders. Many call this a “war of attrition,” where both sides volley the blame for incursions on sovereignty or territory. This has led to a series of

conditions imposed by both sides, which routinely results in failure to uphold or implement agreements. Exasperated with this dynamic, the 20 women declared jointly:

“We express our despair and grave concern about ongoing violence in both countries....We express frustration at the increased conditionalities imposed upon and continued lack of implementation of already signed accords. We call upon our leaders in both states and the African Union to honor their commitments and support efforts to restore peace.”

The communiqué echoes what many citizens from both sides feel—unsafe, frustrated, and weary. Their words also reflect something immensely positive and pivotal—shared hope in a united call to action. Following their declaration, the group delivered concrete and relevant recommendations to several senior officials. Their suggestions for how a small group of individuals from both sides can elevate the stagnant process addressed four key issues: security, border, citizenship, and Abyei.

While their thoughts were well received by officials, some responded with a common refrain: “Stay clear of ‘technical’ issues, such as security.” This is the paradigm we must shift. Too often, women are relegated to “soft” issues, such as education or health care. Women should engage in the forming of all institutions and policies, including constitutional reviews, setting of development priorities, economic planning, and the provision of security for communities. As their declaration states, “leveraging women’s human and intellectual capacities is key to resolving...challenges and increasing stability.”

The day we departed Addis was the most memorable. We met with senior mediators from the African Union High Level Implementation Panel, which is composed of three former African heads of state, including Chair and former South African President Thabo Mbeki. One panel member noted that this was the first time in two years of talks where a group had come together from both sides with one voice and constructive recommendations. The panel was most enthusiastic about the group’s recommendation for a consultative taskforce of women, which would ascertain community needs, share information, and monitor implementation progress. The Institute is now working with women from both countries to form this taskforce.

True security will only arrive when community needs are met—citizen safety from violence, clean water, lowered rates of maternal mortality, access to education and vocation, etc. As conduits of this information, women are essentially agents of security. Women in particular must step across divisions and together work to transform institutions from the inside and out. Women in Sudan and South Sudan did this during the war to push their leaders to sign the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement. Today they are stepping forward again to forge peace, and security, in their communities and between their countries.

Farah Council is the program manager for The Institute for Inclusive Security’s work in South Sudan and Sudan. She leads the organization’s efforts to advance the inclusion of women in the ongoing transition processes in and between both countries. [\(Back to top\)](#)

For further information or media enquiries please contact:
UNMISS Spokesperson
Tel.: +211 (0) 912 06 7149 or Mobile: +211 (0) 912 396 539