



United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

Media & Spokesperson Unit
Communications & Public Information Office

MEDIA MONITORING REPORT

THURSDAY, 15 AUGUST 2013

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Highlights

Fire burns ammunition store of bodyguards belonging to South Sudan ex-VP

Sudantribune.com Juba, 15/8/2013 – Fire has burned down a small ammunitions store which belonged to the bodyguards of the former Vice-president of the Republic, Riek Machar Teny, at his Juba resident.

On Thursday morning, the fire engulfed the one-room store near the main gate of the ex-VP's resident, about 100 meters from the main house.

The incident caused the ammunitions to explode which sent a wave of panic in the area of Hai Amarat where many senior government officials, including President Salva Kiir Mayardit, live.

Electricity fault was blamed for the incident, but the resident managers said an investigation was to be carried out into the matter.

The former Vice-president was in his compound when the incident occurred at 10am. Nobody was reported hurt.

Machar was sacked on 23 July 2013 by president Kiir, who fell out with him on the future of leadership in 2015. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

Machar sues Lakes state caretaker governor in court over "false" accusat

Sudantribune.com Juba, 14/8/ 2013 – South Sudan's former vice-president, Riek Machar Teny, said he was filing a court case against the caretaker governor of Lakes state, Matur Chut Dhuol, over his allegations which he said falsely accused him of corruption and incitement of violence.

The caretaker governor in a statement to the media on Wednesday reacted to Machar's Monday statement which advised him against ordering the organised forces to shoot anyone seen to be carrying a rifle in his state.

Machar said the order violated the constitutional right of legal owners of the rifles and reminded the caretaker governor about his recent state policy which called on the citizens to legally register their rifles.

However, in a press statement published by The Citizen newspaper on Wednesday, 14 August 2013, General Matur Chut overreacted by accusing and attacking the personality of the deputy chairperson of the ruling party, Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM).

The caretaker governor accused the ex-VP of allegedly involving in corruption when "he did form a committee to distribute the land right from JIU [Joint Integrated Units] HQRS to Jebel Buma, which have collected a lot of money that was neither remitted to government's chase nor returned back to the land owners".

Chut who said he was by then the commander of the JIU could not mention the date, month or year or any other factual references related to the alleged committee formed by the ex-vice president with the responsibility to distribute land including 'Jebel Buma' in Juba.

Further, the caretaker governor accused the former vice-president of allegedly "using many illegal firearms possessed by citizens along the borders of tri-states [Lakes, Unity and Warrap] as his political weapons to destabilise the administration of the three states inform of cattle raiding and killing of innocent people".

Machar in response to the accusations said they were "rubbish" clarifying that he never formed any such committee before to distribute land in the capital, Juba, adding that he was going to sue the caretaker governor on these false accusations which clearly amounted to an act of defamation punishable by law in accordance with the Penal Code Act, 2008.

He further explained that the national government does not own land in Juba and therefore Central Equatoria state has been the custodian of the land and may only allot a piece of land to the national government through the ministry of Land, Housing and Physical Planning.

On the accusation that he incited violence in the three states, Machar said he was instead very instrumental in promoting peace and reconciliation as well as initiate disarmament processes among the communities in the three states.

The former vice-president and SPLM deputy chairperson informed the general public that the "falsified" accusations uttered by the caretaker governor of Lakes State are baseless and unfounded, stressing that the accuser will have to face the court and provide evidences.

He said he had already consulted his lawyers and shall, without any prejudice to the due process of the law, sue the caretaker governor Major General Matur Chut Dhuol, in order to prove the alleged accusation before a competent court.

The caretaker governor, who signed his name as Governor on his press release, was appointed in February this year by the president of the republic, Salva Kiir Mayardit. He should have organised a gubernatorial election within 60 days (two months) in office in accordance with the provision of the Transitional Constitution of the country.

However, Chut is seven months in office with no sign of organising an election, a matter that observers say, questions the constitutionality and credibility of his office.

Machar while in office as vice-president had been reminding president Kiir as head of state to protect the provisions of the transitional constitution as well as those of the states. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

South Sudan president accepts MPs' decision on new justice minister

Sudantribune.com Juba, 14/8/2013 – South Sudan president, Salva Kiir has willingly accepted the decision by majority of the country's lawmakers to oppose his choice of Telar Ring Deng's as the next justice minister.

Kiir's made the remarks on Wednesday, a day after 150 MPs secretly voted against Telar during a close-door session held in the national assembly.

The speaker of the assembly James Wani Igga reportedly briefed the head of state on the outcome of the vote, in which 97 lawmakers voted in favour of the new justice minister-designate, while 11 abstained.

The vote brought to an end weeks of controversy and speculation surrounding Telar's bid to hold what is regarded as one of the country's key ministries.

Kiir, a presidential aide told Sudan Tribune, reportedly said parliament was "part of the government" and that he "accepts and respects" its decision.

"It is okay. There is no problem with that. The assembly itself is the part of the government," the president reportedly told Igga.

TELAR SPEAKS OUT

Telar, in a statement Sudan Tribune obtained, thanked president Kiir for offering him a ministerial appointment, saying he abides by parliament's final verdict.

He also lauded the vetting committee, particularly its chairperson, Abuk Papiti and the assembly members in general for their role in the conducting their constitutional mandate.

"It must be said they [MPs] carried out their work in the most difficult circumstances. In the short history of the parliament, it was the first time that a confirmation of a cabinet minister was carried out by secret ballot," Telar's 14 August letter reads in part.

The rejected justice minister also expressed gratitude to all lawmakers, saying even who did not support his confirmation took "their constitutional mandate very seriously".

I will continue to serve him [the president] and the government of this Republic [of South Sudan] in any capacity he deems fit as a loyal member of the party [SPLM], he stressed.

US ENVOY REACTS

Meanwhile, Susan Page, the US ambassador to the young nation commended MPs and president Kiir for adhering to the democratic process of approving all ministers and deputies as required by law.

"The members of the National Legislative Assembly are to be congratulated for the establishment of a committee to review the qualifications of nominated cabinet ministers and deputies and for exercising its oversight role of the Executive Branch," she said.

The US envoy, in a statement extended to Sudan Tribune, said the faithfulness to the Transitional Constitution that requires approval of the new appointees by the assembly "demonstrates that the members of Parliament are committed to a democratic path and strengthening the country's nascent democratic institutions."

"This deliberative, reflective process demonstrates adherence to the checks and balances system established in the Transitional Constitution and is an important positive indication of the growth of South Sudan's democracy", the statement noted.

Page urged the president and lawmakers to remain committed to the democratic ideals, regional and ethnic diversity as well as representation of women as provided for in the constitution. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

UN approves 6 million for Jonglei conflict victims

Catholic Radio Network 15/8/2013-The United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund or CERF approved six million UD Dollars for humanitarian aid to conflict victims in Pibor County, Jonglei State.

This is in addition to over five million US Dollars allocated for aid in June this year.

UN Humanitarian Coordinator in South Sudan Toby Lanzer in a statement said the new funding will allow UN to boost response and reach 60 thousand people severely affected by recent months' violence.

He called on all parties to ensure that civilians can move around freely and in safety to access basic services and humanitarian aid.

The CERF contribution comes at a time when the South Sudan Consolidated Appeal is 60 percent funded, with approximately 420 million US Dollars required for life-saving programmes until the end of 2013. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

South Sudan waiting on oil developments

UPI.comJuba, 14/8/2013 - The South Sudanese government reserves the option to make good on a threat to stop oil work if talks with Khartoum fall through, a spokesman said.

Sudanese Oil Minister Awad al-Jaz told state-run Sudan News Agency he was extending an Aug. 22 deadline to shut down crude oil pipelines through Sept. 6.

South Sudan gained access to most of the oil producing regions in the area when it gained independence from Sudan in 2011. Sudan, however, controls the export infrastructure.

Sudan said the extension would give negotiators time to settle outstanding national security concerns. South Sudanese Foreign Ministry spokesman Mawien Makol Arik told the Platts news service there was nothing final from Sudan.

"We haven't received a formal notification from Khartoum yet," he said Tuesday. "Unless there are changes, in terms of the ongoing negotiations with Khartoum, we'll follow the president's directive."

South Sudanese President Salva Kiir said last month he'd stop pumping oil before the deadline as a defensive measure.

South Sudanese officials said they hoped for a breakthrough in the stalemate. Foreign Minister Barnaba Marial Benjamin said he was planning to visit Khartoum to continue talks on matters related to the oil sector. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

Bring to book those accused of committing right abuses in Pibor, US lawmakers tell Juba

Eyeradio.org Nairobi, 14/8/2013-Four American lawmakers have again appealed to the government of South Sudan to hold accountable those accused of committing "gross human rights violations" in Jonglei state.

The U.S members of the Foreign Relations Committee say that reports that the SPLA have engaged in human rights violations against civilians are alarming.

They particularly highlighted the case of abuse towards the Murle community.

The four lawmakers said that such abuse betrays the principles on which South Sudan was founded.

Both Democrats and Republican Senators wrote a letter to President Salva Kiir urging him to reassign commanders whose forces have been accused of indiscipline and violations in Jonglei state.

Senator Robert Menendez, Representative Ed Royce and top members of the Foreign Relations Committee said unless South Sudan implements changes, there is fear that it would head towards a long and entrenched period of instability.

Eye Radio spoke to a Human Rights Watch researcher from Nairobi, Skye Wheeler, who said that the SPLA, the militia forces of David Yau Yau and armed youth from Akobo have committed serious violations in Jonglei:

"The reason why it is a cause for concern is because there are a lot of reports of abuses by soldiers; fighting between rebel forces and the army and other security forces in South Sudan right now.

"What's really missing here is an appropriate and strong response by the government to killings of civilians by soldiers.

"What people need to see is some kind of accountability; if there are a couple of transparent investigations, one where there is a report made to it -which is public, and yes of course, we need to see perpetrators of these abuses prosecuted for their crime."

Ms. Wheeler said holding the perpetrators accountable will help prevent further the fear among the Pibor population.

Human Rights Watch has called for an end to restrictions on UN personnel to accessing areas where civilians are in desperate need of humanitarian assistance.

The U.S congressmen – in their letter to President Salva Kiir – said they are strong supporters of South Sudan and would back efforts to improve its human rights records.

The U.S government is funding much of the major infrastructure and developmental programs in South Sudan. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

I'm not against the media, says new Information Min

Eyeradio.org Juba, 15/8/2013-The media laws that were approved by the parliament early last month have not yet been submitted to President Salva Kiir for signing into law, says the Minister of Information and Broadcasting.

“A parliamentary committee is still going through the documents, and more steps are needed before the President can sign them,” Michael Makuei Lueth has told Eye Radio.

“They [media laws] need to go to what we call inter-chamber committee; which is a committee of the two houses; of the National Legislative Assembly and of the Council of States.”

Mr. Makuei said once the inter-chamber committee passes them, then they will be sent to the office of the President for assent and signature.

Mr. Makuei Lueth also said that that he will uphold the media laws.

He issued the assurance after he was quoted recently, as saying that journalists should not be given special consideration, if the media defames the government.

“I cannot be against the media law because I was a party to the media laws –that is one.

“Number two, we will be operating with everybody according to the law, but anybody who will be in conflict with the law will be in conflict with us.

“My task is to ensure that everything is operated according to the law.”

An international media lobby group – the IMS – says South Sudan’s media law has a great potential to bring about more transparent and accountable public institutions through improved access to information, and public service broadcasting. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

Leaders call for an end to use of ‘Greater’

Gurtong Torit, 15/8/ 2013- Eastern Equatoria State leaders have rejected existence of ‘greater Torit’ and ‘greater Kapoeta’, saying that the addition of the forename in reference to the counties continues to instigate conflicts and divisions in the region.

The leaders said that Eastern Equatoria State must remain united and the name ‘greater’ be eliminated from the counties.

The state Deputy Speaker Paul Napwon Yonae has become one of the state flexible leaders preferring a silent of the forename ‘greater’ so to allow harmony and coexistence among the people of Torit and Kapoeta regions.

Napwon said that the so called greater Kapoeta and greater Torit were formerly Districts in late 70’s and the use of the names currently is creating confusions where people started rivalries like was witnessed during the recent youth union elections.

The Torit County Commissioner Germany Charles Ojok encouraged the state youth to remain tolerance from being provoked by any politician for their self interests, saying the youth should go ahead with their initiatives.

Ojok says he prefers the state to remain one but not greater Torit and greater Kapoeta.

Citing a recent incident on the elections of the state youth leading to their fallout, the Deputy Governor Jerome Gama Surur approached it differently saying some politicians came in to divide the youth with their cheap politics for self gain.

“Let us forget the issue of Greater Kapoeta and Greater Torit because it would not take us anywhere instead it continues dividing us. Let us forget about and revisit our long journey where we started liberation struggle for decades as South Sudanese not as Eastern Equatoria state,” he said.

He challenged the politicians to behave responsibly as they seek to apply cheap politics which obviously could take the youth nowhere.

“Am happy that as our youth have informed us that you have been troubled by some politicians whose interests do not have nationalism because they lack integrity. They instigate divisions for their self interests,” he said.

While encouraging the rivalry youth groups to start dialoguing among themselves, in order to create coexistence, Surur has called on leaders to support the recently elected Youth Union under the presidency of Epone Lolimo. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

EU will support South Sudan financially

Miraya Radio Juba, 14/8/2013 - The European Union (EU) Special Representative, Rosalind Marsden, said the Union is ready to offer financial support to South Sudan until conditions are right for an end to the austerity budget.

“The EU is ready to offer financial support to the Government of South Sudan particularly in the health and education sector throughout the austerity period until oil production is fully back on stream,” she said.

She made these remarks during a meeting with South Sudan’s Petroleum Minister on Wednesday.

The Petroleum Minister, Stephen Dhieu Dau, briefed the delegates on the status of the cooperation agreements.

He said “on agenda was the implementation of the cooperation agreements; I briefed her on the status of the oil flow and the new extension that has been given to South Sudan up to the 6th September for the oil to flow”.

“We also discussed the role of the EU in supporting South Sudan in different sectors particularly in the oil sector [\(Back to Top\)](#)

Constitutional review campaign begins in Warrap

Radio Miraya Juba, 14/8/ 2013 - The South Sudan National Constitutional Review Commission (SSNCRC) has started a week-long transitional constitutional review campaign in Warrap State’s capital, Kuacjok.

Speaking to Radio Miraya, the head of the State Constitutional Review Commission team, Rose Bol, said the campaign may not cover all counties because of inaccessibility caused by heavy rain.

Bol said consultations will primarily target government institutions such as the legislature and executive, youth as well as civil society groups.

She added that her team will also focus specifically on the views of widows, political parties, people with special needs, traditional leaders and the business community. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

China has strong position to influence relations with Sudan: envoy

News Agency for South Sudan Juba, 14/8/2013 – Owing its influence on the oil industry in Sudan and South Sudan, China has a steady and strong position in reverting relations between the two countries towards lasting peace and prosperity, a Chinese diplomat has said.

The Chinese Special Representative for African Affairs Zhong Jianghua said his government is engaging the two governments in efforts to normalize cooperation and realize neighbourly relations.

The envoy disclosed this on Monday after a congratulatory meeting with the new minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Barnaba Marial Benjamin

He urged the government of Sudan to allow the flow of South Sudan's oil through its oil infrastructure as he said "The two countries heavily need the oil revenues for development".

South Sudanese activists recently sought China's intervention on the row with the neighbouring Sudan during a visit to China.

Edmond Yakani, one of the activists and Program Coordinator of the Community Empowerment for Progress Organization (CEPO) said the visit was aimed at convincing China to play a great role in minimizing the row.

He said the fact that most Chinese companies are government owned, influence at home may help them intervene in minimizing the challenges.

He said the activists met different partners including academia, key stakeholders in the private sector and the China's ruling party.

Being one of the largest investors in Africa and in Sudan and South Sudan the activists thought China has a greater role to play in contributing to sorting out challenges in the region.

Sudan and South Sudan are currently on dead lock over implementation of a peace deal believed could diffuse tension between the duo.

The Cooperation Agreement was signed last year in September 2012 by Juba and Khartoum as a way forward to sort out its post secession issues.

The Government of the People's Republic of China had in June pledged to support efforts towards finding solutions to the oil problems between Sudan and South Sudan when China's outgoing ambassador Li Zhiguo held a meeting with Dr. Benjamin Marial, then South Sudan's Minister for Information and Broadcasting.

Additional reports from News Agency of South Sudan (NASS) [\(Back to Top\)](#)

S. Sudan unveils new strategy to strengthen relations with Sudan

Sudantribune.com Juba, 14/8/2013 – South Sudan unveiled a new diplomatic strategy on Wednesday aimed at strengthening relations with the government of Sudan at three levels, according to a senior diplomat.

"Within the framework of peaceful coexistence and the demonstrated commitment to fully implement [the] cooperation agreement, the Republic of South Sudan affirms [its] readiness to deepen friendship, widen cooperation and enhancing coordination with the government of Sudan at international, regional and directly between the two countries", the spokesperson for South Sudan's ministry of foreign affairs and international cooperation, Mawien Makol, said.

Ambassador Makol was speaking at a media briefing after the new minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation Barnaba Marial Benjamin held talks with senior ministerial staff during which he asked for their cooperation.

"Our priority as the ministry is to establish and build relations with our neighbouring countries and beyond - this starts now with the Republic of Sudan. We have to engage them at any level. We will do this at the level of the African Union (AU), through [the] cooperation agreement and at the ministry level", Makol said.

He said the Sudanese government had recently responded well to international and regional efforts to contain differences between the two countries and had allowed oil to continue flowing to international markets through Sudanese territory.

Meanwhile, Marial said he received assurances of support from Chinese government to do what was necessary to promote bilateral between two the countries.

"Our relations with China are steady and growing very well. I was in the meeting with Chinese special representative for African affairs and the delegation. They came to hear from us what we are doing as the government and to also share with us what role they will play in promoting relations between the two countries and with other countries as well", Marial told journalists.

Special representative Zhong Jianghua said relations between his country and the new nation were witnessing rapid development, with closer high level contacts, strengthened mutual political trust, as well as fruitful cooperation in areas of oil, transport and infrastructure.

“China attaches great importance to maintaining and promoting relations with South Sudan as it does with other African countries to cement friendship between the countries and [for the] development [of] pragmatic cooperation”, Jianghua told reporters following the meeting.

The senior diplomat said his country will continue to play a positive role in assisting the two Sudans to resolve their differences amicably without causing disruption to oil flows.

He added that with both governments relying heavily on oil revenues for development, China would continue to engage with the leadership of the two countries in an effort to normalise relations and enhance cooperation between the two nations.

The Sudanese government on Monday announced that it had agreed to further extend the deadline to stop the flow of South Sudanese crude through its territory, saying that this decision was taken in response to a request made by President Salva Kiir.

Last March, the two countries signed a deal outlining a timeline for the implementation of all nine cooperation agreements signed by the two countries a little under a year ago.

This included a timetable for the resumption of oil exports that were suspended for more than a year over a disagreement on transit fees.

However, the implementation process broke down amid claims by Sudan that Juba had breached the deal by continuing to provide support to rebel groups fighting for regime change.

South Sudan denies the claims and countered with accusations that Khartoum is backing rebels in Jonglei state. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

Where is your point of departure, Mr. Governor?

South Sudan News Agency 14/8/2013- South Sudan's destiny seems to be not clear whether, it is a democratic or autocratic system reigning now in the nation. Dr. Riek Machar, the SPLM's deputy Chairperson was on Wednesday, August 7, 2013, as a democratic leader comments on the current constitutionals standoff in the country.

Dr. Machar had strongly condemned the Northern Bhar El Gazhal State(NBGS) Governor's statements that he(Gov. Malong) told to his State Legislative Assembly's members. Machar blamed and accused Gov. Malong of obstructed the rights of NBGS's people. And three days later, that was on Saturday, August 10, 2013 Mr. Paul Malong, the NBGS's Governor refuted the claims as untrue. Now, the author is not in position, to fan any one of these two leaders, but will merely quotes and has his views democratically and intellectually as uttered by the owner(s).

With consideration of perspective justice, the historical facts as well as the value of democratic or autocratic spirit they should have deserve. Therefore, let's read and see who made it right or was it Gov. Malong or Dr. Machar who has a marketable point.

I quote "As state Governor I never ever or to ban activities of political parties , instead, I just advised on my capacity as state governor the citizens of Northern Bahr El gazal to stay away from interfering with ongoing political processes in Juba particular formation of new government or Cabinet. I urged the citizens not to indulge in political rallies until the formation of new government is completed. Malong further said, when I advised the people of NBGS to stay away from interfering with ongoing political processes and urged them also not to indulge(make a rallies) in political rallies, he said he didn't mean to targeted any particular party" end quote.

To me, these statements imply that, Malong in fact asked citizens of NBGS not to talk politics in the State. However, what is a different between political activists and the NBGS State citizens? There is no different constitutionally, between the ordinary citizens and political activists. The only slight dissimilar might be theoretical, not practical. That is to say, if you told (banned) citizens not to talk politics in any political event occurred, you are too stopping the peaceful activities of the political parties.

Because, the freedom of speech, expression, assembly and association is recommended in ten States 'constitutions as well as National Transitional Constitution of the Republic; without exception. Where

is a pole at this point? Gov. Paul said he wanted nobody in NBGS to discuss politics regarding the National government and its newly formed Cabinet. This was the political event that we're talking about; therefore in such situation everybody has his/her Constitutional rights to talk, whether he/she organized himself/herself politically or not, just an ordinary citizen." I didn't target particular party" This statement alone, could in its actual sense implies that, Gov. Malong; really asked all political parties to stay away and not to indulge from political rallies. Or else, the target was not to one political party, but all political parties, including the state citizens.

Quote "Again, Gov. Malong said, I also advised the Legislators, Executive members and the state people to avoid political rallies or statement that may instigate situation"....end quotes. Up to this fact, there is no way to deny that; an official banning of the political parties' rallies had been issued, but instead, unreasoned vindication could just tell the public that (inu), the government was only feared the situation, which might come as a result of political instigations. This is the only thing we anticipated to hear. Because, if we can just imagine; about where do we find political parties leaders who do organize rallies in NBGS, we would undisputedly get them among the State's Legislators and Executive members whom Gov. Malong advised to avoid political rallies.

For these details, there is no room on all sides for Gov. Malong to reason out, the reality that he was even re-affirms in his rebuttal statement to Dr. Machar as restated above. And I think those of us who have managed to had read the rebuttal of Mr. Malong published in The Citizen Newspaper, on Saturday, August 10, 2013-Vol.8 Issue 538, could understand that Gov. Awan was just defending nothing, but just for the sake.

Accordingly, when I return and re-read Dr. Machar advises on states issues (Jonglei, Lakes, NBGS and EES) which were also published on the subsequent page, page 16 of the same edition; I certainly, found that there was no different between what Gov. Malong and Dr. Machar had been saying.

Because, Dr. Machar was cautionary telling Gov. Malong not to interrupt the constitutional rights of the political parties (activities) and ordinary citizens' statements in NBGS. That, the citizens (including politicians) in NBGS, Aweil should be leaving free to speak out their feelings as required by law. While, Gov. Malong was saying he never ever ban (stop) the state citizens and political parties (activities) rallies, rather he said he was instead telling them to stay away from politics and avoid convening political rallies. Look, the only different might be English styles of structuring/communicating the same idea in different sentences or terms. Otherwise, there is no point of departure here, between Gov. Malong and Dr. Machar! Because, in English when we tell somebody, to stay away from, advise him/her not to do/avoid something or not to interfere/indulge into certain thing it is the same that, we are banning and stopping that person from doing that thing; Right?

Hence, I think Dr. Riek's comment was not categorically, deliberately fabricated, or based on hearsay. Rationally, it based on a genuine ground that he Malong re-stated for the second time in his rebuttal letter. This fact, is known to everybody who (whoever) listened to the news from, Radios(FMs) and followed up all Media outlets on that day, so Dr. Machar did not take it out of blue. Therefore, what we need to install in our minds collectively now would be a morale fight against totalitarian statements that threaten the situations, the lives of the people, nationally. Such statements once uttered mustn't pass unchallenged, whatever threat it may accompany.

Finally, Gov. Malong said, "Majority of South Sudanese people have never agreed with Dr. Riek Machar's Vision that he announced in 1991. Is this not in truth an absurd or outrageous? Who doesn't know, Dr. Machar's Vision date back to 1991 here in South Sudan? We have had only two objectives, separation, and unity. Can anybody question why Mr. Joseph Lagu formed SSLM/A in 1960s?

To the best of my knowledge, the 1991's Split caused by national determinations against already set opposite vision. Dr. Riek had been preaching separation (self-determination) as his main objective calumniated to 1991 Declaration. To examined, in 2011 the people of South Sudan went to a plebiscite in which they were voted for one of the stated visions i.e. unity and separation.

As a result, we became to know that, the majority of South Sudanese voted for Separation (South Sudan Independent) as was announced on Wednesday, August 28, 1991 that, there would be one day an Independent Republic of South Sudan. The 1991 Declaration and our people have had decided to prevail Independent, which we did achieve in 2011. Now, Democracy, Human Rights, and Rule of Law are in making. To conclude at this point, whose vision did majority of South Sudanese vote (agree) for in 2011; Dr. Riek's, yours or mine? Just compare 1.1% with 98.9%. We should convince ourselves this time, for the perspectives in history are even beyond our culture and telling the truth instead is not any longer at anybody expense. We will never succeeded in de-campaigning Dr. Machar, because there is no other excuse or vindication at all; that is why once 1991 objectives (visions) are alleged, South Sudanese people could have just laugh instead. Distorting the historic 1991(SS-Independence) Declaration (& its designers) on one hand and enjoying its fruitful result (resources) in the other hand is something strange and a culture, which must not be imitate in this twenty first century.

Concisely, we did fight together with Dr. Riek for freedom of expression, speech, and assembly. To convene a rally as well, as it is also the case in our current Transitional Constitution is similarly legal. Democracy either was among other things. The point is, Paul Malong, was not only the Northern Bhar El Ghazal State's prominent member of SPLM during the struggle. There were many politicians and democratic Leaders, so Malong has no right at all corners to violates, bans, and infringe the rights of the people of NBGS as he wishes. He should be criticizes, for we triggered a rifle in 1955 and lost 2.5 million lives in process simply to encourage all kind freedoms. The idea moving around, that, Malong should not be criticizes and touch because he was the only NBGS's SPLM's member who kept the fire burning as Aweil's representative cannot be buy, so it is a fake. Dr. Riek as a politician who had one time sat in the Presidency and may lead it anytime in the future must have a right to comment on issues pertaining to NBGS, WES etc. Other national Politicians, Dr. Ann Itto for instance, must has also her an unwavering rights to comment on any issue concerning NBGS, WES, WBGS or Upper Nile States though, she is not hails from these States, because we, South Sudanese have not divided ourselves according to states. For that reason(s), I cannot understand Gov. Malong's statement, why Dr. Machar could not comment on NBGS's issues. Has the government of Republic of South Sudan divided the people according to states?

"Despite his recent past mistakes, he has been forgiven for the sake of national unity... Awan said. It is therefore, advisable that Dr. Machar avoids making public criticism and statements, otherwise". Wow! Dr. Machar to avoid making public statements and criticisms, otherwise; he may join SPLM's SG, Hon. Pagan Amum in detention! Is it so? Democracy is at risk and being threatened, right?. Reasonably, what are the recent mistakes did by Dr. Riek? Who had forgiven him then? One is wondering about the recent past mistakes Dr. Machar did as narrated by Gov. Malong. Should it be 1991 Declaration, the Self-Determination call, or what? Perhaps, it could be his (Machar) recent declaration to stand for SPLM's Chairman. However, should this be a mistake? Legitimately, instead of pointing autocratic fingers at Dr. Machar; we should blame the SPLM's constitution that says any member of the party who would want to be Party's SG, Chair, and any other high post will have a right to say so. Provide that this should happen before or during the Party National Convention, and not after convention. Because, without this provision Dr. Riek would not has had declared his intention to stands. Nevertheless, what is a reason behind this set-up that once Lado, Kenyi, Korok, Gatkouth etc, want to lead ;there has always to be a problem? We need to remove such concept if we are to live in harmony and just for the sake of our Unity in one Country. SPLM is an organized political party in power, but why its convention didn't take place on time? I can call upon the party's Chairman, Gen. Salva Kiir to form an investigation committee, to find out as to what reason caused the delay of the party national convention and who is behind this underground move.

Lastly, Gov. Malong concluded by saying, "Dr. Machar should give another comrade a chance to serve the nation in his previous position, the Vice President". Did Dr. Machar refuse his removal from the Vice President? On Friday, August 26, 2013, Dr. Riek made a press conference in his house, where he announced his acceptance to the Presidential Decree No. 49/2013, described it as constitutional. He

further asked the President to appoint the new Vice President should the President wishes it that way. All South Sudanese people heard this. What is a rationale of such statement? [\(Back to Top\)](#)

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South Sudan Parliamentarians deserve appreciations this time

South Sudan News Agency 14/8/ 2013 - The National Parliament of South Sudan under the leadership of right Honorable Speaker Comrade James Wani Igga did not represent people voices since the inception of the Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS) in 2005 throughout the last eight years up to the time South Sudan was declared as the separate state in 2011 on the 9th of July, however most of the citizens were blaming parliamentarians of not acting on relevant issues that determine the growth of the Country. It was so good and unbelievable that the members of parliament have rejected the person that was appointed as the National Minister for Justice by the President due to the fact that he did not meet the criteria during the vetting process in the National Assembly during their work when they were scrutinizing the academic qualifications from Honorable Ministers that were appointed and their deputies respectively, and it has shown to the world that, South Sudanese are transforming gradually and they are now trying to follow international Standard of making policies and regulations in the Assembly.

Based on the justifications and recommendations given by the Law makers in the National Assembly on Tuesday this week has shown to the citizens of South Sudan that Members of Parliament have started realizing the usefulness of their duty and likewise viewing the public's grievances in a positive way by rejecting someone whose educational background was not clear up to the expectations to the people wills.

Logically, it has also reflected the vision and the mission of the Republic of South Sudan by organizing a democratic voting on Tuesday 13th of August 2013 In the National Assembly that was shared by the honorable Speaker and out of many from the National Assembly only 97 members of Parliament convene about Telar Ring Deng Qualifications and one hundred and fifty (150) MPs voted against him that justified that, rule of law is manifested in the parliament even though not to the expectations of the majority of South Sudanese nationals.

However it is the right time now for the President of the Republic of South Sudan General Kiir Mayardit to make another appointment based on the merit and thereafter, government should continue with normal deputies since this is the time of making the constitution that will reflect people voices by adding what is useful and removing what is dictating the entire citizen of South Sudan in their daily lives in this great Nation but I think it was legitimate and absolutely right to reject someone due to the fact that the Ministry of Justice is the most sensitive Ministry that need more qualified lawyer that can make the constitution based on merit not individual interests like what happen some years back that has make the country having lots of questions on the removal of the elected governors from their positions and it was the citizen who elected them to those positions.

The question which is now on different people minds is that, who to be appoint as the Minister of Justice since Telar has been rejected? Other people are asking whether appointment will be from Lake State since the position seems to be for lake state base on simple evaluation of the Cabinets that took offices last week. And the last question from people is whether the former Minister Mayom Akech can be given the position since he is Lawyer that has no doubt like Telar. And some people assumed that, since Telar has been rejected by the MPs, John Luk might come back to the position and start complicating issues like what he did when drafting the constitution of the South Sudan 2011 which is giving people of South Sudan many questions regarding the Presidential powers that have been now practiced by issuing Republican Decrees that are so unique.

Keys recommendations:

President of South Sudan General Kiir Mayardit should appoint a qualified lawyer with Law Degree from Recognized Institution with a post graduate Diploma that show that he/she is a practicing Lawyer and can use his/her credibility and expertise to do the needful to the entire citizen of South Sudan then gambling that might not be legitimate.

National Parliament of South Sudan should continue with this momentum of excellent of putting the right person in to the right place, further more MPs should also continue screening and evaluating President appointees to avoid incompetence leaders that might take this great nation in to wrong direction.

Conclusively; Parliament makes laws and holds the Government to account for its policies, actions, and spending. The functions of Parliament include: forming a Government (Executive) from among its members, making new laws and updating old laws, representing the people, examining and approving Government taxes and spending and many more...

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