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FRIDAY, 10 MAY 2013

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Highlights

South Sudan begins talks with ex-rebel leaders

Sudantribune.com Juba, 9/5/2013 – South Sudan President Salva Kiir Mayardit has sent a delegation to Nairobi to meet and hold preliminary discussions with rebel leaders who accepted his amnesty in April and laid down their weapons.

The government delegation led by Telar Riing Deng, presidential adviser on legal and constitutional affairs is in the Kenyan capital to meet a rebel delegation reportedly led by Bapiny Monyuil Wicjang, Tut Keaw and several others who responded to the amnesty.

A well-placed source at the presidency told *Sudan Tribune* that President Kiir has accepted the integration of the ex-rebel fighters into South Sudan's army - the SPLA - but says that this can only happen after they are moved to location to be decided by the defence ministry.

President Kiir, the source said, had also agreed to provide a financial package to facilitate the rebel soldier's rehabilitation and reintegration into society. However, Kiir is undecided over whether he will give any of the rebel leaders government positions, said the source.

The official who requested anonymity told *Sudan Tribune* on Wednesday that the rebels leaders expected to meet Kiir's presidential adviser in Nairobi does not include Upper Nile state rebel leader John Uliny, who is sometimes referred to as Johnson.

"We do not have information of the presence of Johnson Uliny with the group expected to meet our delegation. The information we have now indicates that he is still in Khartoum. We do not know what he is up to until this moment. The security information we have gathered shows that he is still deciding whether to respond or change his mind. But I think it is better he accepts because I do not think whether the president will again issue another amnesty in the near future", said the official.

Meanwhile, Gordon Buay, who identifies himself as the rebel's spokesperson said the peace talks between his group and the government team will start on Thursday.

"The peace talks between our group and the government team will take place tomorrow on Thursday. The government team arrived last Saturday in Nairobi and it is headed by Telar Ring Den, Adviser on Legal Affairs", Buay told *Sudan Tribune* on Wednesday from Nairobi, Kenya.

The rebel official said that talks between the two sides will focus on; power-sharing arrangements; integration of rebel forces into the SPLA, police, prisons and disarmament demobilization and rehabilitation of soldiers; promotion of national reconciliation and a campaign against tribalism; and what to be done to persuade Jonglei-based rebel leader David Yauyau to join the peace process and end his insurgency in and around Pibor County.

"After the talks are concluded, both teams will sign [a] NAIROBI AGREEMENT and shall proceed to Juba to celebrate the conclusion of the agreement. Upon arrival, the two teams will meet President Kiir, Minister of Defense and the Chief-of-General-staff of the SPLA army", Buay explained in a statement.

South Sudan's Equatoria region calls for peaceful leadership contest

Sudantribune.com Juba, 9/5/2013 – Intellectuals and senior political leaders from the greater Equatoria region have called on contestants for the top seat in the ruling party, SPLM, to refrain from violent politics and allow for fair and peaceful competition in the country.

Hundreds of representatives from the three states of Central, Eastern and Western Equatoria converged in Juba on Thursday to discuss the political, economic and security situation unfolding in the new country.

The governors of the three states; namely Clement Wani, Louis Lobong and Joseph Bakosoro, respectively, attended the rare event and delivered speeches during the opening of the conference.

The two-day consultative gathering was also attended by the speaker of parliament and deputy chairman of the SPLM, James Wani Igga, as well as by the deputy secretary general of the party, Ann Itto, ministers and parliamentarians from the greater region.

The regional-based consultation on the country's politics is a new turn of event that may unnecessarily drag the nation into regional blocs or alliances, say officials from other regions.

Speakers during the event, they called on the ruling party leaders to undergo the procedural internal transformation process, and warned contestants against sidelining their region in the process.

Central Equatoria state governor, Clement Wani Kongo, said when the two bulls fight it is the grass that suffers, adding the conferees that the region will not continue to watch and suffer like the grass.

Louis Lobong Lojore criticized leaders who "cook" ideas without involving the regional leaders from the beginning and then later come to ask for support. "We must be involved from the beginning," he said.

Western Equatoria governor, Joseph Bakasoro, called on the ruling party to imitate the recent internal discipline that was witnessed from the South Africans' ANC party. Bakasoro also criticized what he said was negligent to the country's national army, saying the government should make sure they are paid on time.

The speaker of parliament and deputy chairperson of the SPLM, James Wani Igga, who is an Equatorian, encouraged the regional leaders to promote economic activities so as to achieve food security in the country.

Speakers in the conference, however, advised not to make their colours known until the party basic documents are passed and campaign started.

The political bureau is expected to meet again next week for finalize the remaining basic documents such as the code of conduct and rules and regulations.

EES Governor warns against tribal politics

Gurtong.net Juba 10/5/2013 – The Eastern Equatoria State (EES) Governor Louis Lobong has challenged South Sudanese leaders and politicians against what he described as "individualistic" and "tribal" politics.

Saying leaders should put the nation first, Lobong urged South Sudanese to distance themselves from tribal and divisive politics. He added that the practice does not uphold principles of democracy and development and instead threatens peace at a time of nation building process.

"We cannot allow ourselves to be driven by politics which is based on individual interests or tribal lines," Lobong told delegates at the Equatoria Conference in Juba on Thursday.

"The Republic of South Sudan is greater than any individual or tribe. This is the time for us to move together and not as individuals to build a peaceful democratic nation where all of us have equal rights."

The governor called upon leaders and South Sudanese to focus on priority issues in the country that enhance the country's growth and development. He also called South Sudanese to distance themselves from those who are associated with armed rebellions.

"Above all let us reject in totality all those who are taking arms as a means to ascend to power and any attempt of division," Lobong said.

South Sudan according to its Transitional Constitution is set to hold national general elections in 2015. Some leaders have started their schemes ahead of the elections but Lobong said it is not yet time to talk over the matter.

Konga condemns SPLM power struggle

Radio Bakhita Juba, 10/5/2013 – The Governor of Central Equatoria condemned the current power struggle within the ruling party saying the timing was improper.

Clement Wani Konga told the Equatoria Consultative Conference in Juba on Thursday that “any serious disagreement within the SPLM and the Government of South Sudan may have serious and negative socio-economic and political consequences and implications for Equatoria.”

He said the latest leadership struggle within the SPLM was triggered during the last Political Bureau meeting meant to discuss the Party’s basic documents.

Governor Konga underlined that the power struggle within the ruling party undermines peace and stability and the timing for announcing individual candidacies to the leadership positions “was improper.”

He added that “the time for determining the fate of the elected leaders both at the Party and all levels of Governments has not yet come” and the power struggle demonstrates “lack of respect to the institution of the Presidency and Chairmanship of SPLM.”

Intellectuals Debate Oil Money Use

Radio Bakhita Juba, 10/5/2013 – Intellectuals from different institutions took part on a public debate on how to use the money oil as the crude from South Sudan’s wells is closer to reach the international markets.

The debate centred on the question “How can everyone in South Sudan benefit from the oil money”, Bakhita Radio reported.

Minority Leader Onyoti Adigo said this time to oil money should benefit education.

He noted that most government officials send their children to study abroad.

Mr Adigo said the oil money should also be invested on the roads to boost security.

SPLM Secretary for Communication Bol Makueng said the oil money should be used to beef up security in the country.

Mr Makueng noted that insecurity affects education and agriculture.

Economy expert Kimo Adiebo said in the past the oil money was used mainly for salaries, encouraging spending and imports.

He added that this time the oil money should be used for infrastructure development to address the problem faced by citizens.

Eye Radio and International Republican Institute organized the one-day debate on how to use the oil money with the support of USAID.

World Bank Funds Juba-Torit-Eldoret Asphalt Road

Sudan Catholic Radio Network, 10/5/2013 – World Bank is funding an asphalted regional road linking Juba to Eldoret, in Kenya, through Torit.

World Bank Acting Country Manager Berhane Manna told the press on Thursday that the Bank has already mobilized adequate resources for the road works.

Mr Manna said the asphalted road is involving a number of donors.

He said the Bank has committed 130 million US dollars to leverage donor resources in its post Multi Donors Trust Fund or MDTF strategy for development in South Sudan in 2013 and 2014.

Mr Manna disclosed that the MDTF is closing down in June 2013 with a closing ceremony taking place on May 28 in Juba.

He said MDTF is closing after it had disbursed 99 percent of the funds to the managed for development projects.

Mr Manna added that the one percent balance will be given to the Government of South Sudan.

He said the MDTF is closing after South Sudan became a member in the World Bank. The Bank will continue to support the reconstruction of roads and other projects.

Mr Manna said the international community is committed to long term engagement with South Sudan in order to support inclusive governance, public accountability, effective social services and vibrant private sector.

Constitutional Review Vital To Build South Sudan

Radio Bakhita Juba, 10/5/2013 – The head of the European Union or EU delegation in South Sudan said the country has a golden opportunity to foster unity in diversity through the constitutional review process.

Ambassador Sven Kuhn von Burgsdorff said the EU supports a participatory constitutional review process with wide consultation as a vital ingredient for democracy.

He added that democracy and trade avert violent conflict among countries. Ambassador Kuhn was addressing guests during the celebration of Europe Day on Thursday evening in Juba.

Justice Minister Presents bills to house

Gurtong.net Juba, 9/2013 – South Sudan's Justice Minister, John Luk Jok has presented three new bills to the South Sudan National Parliament, awaiting debate starting next week.

Hon. John Luk presented the Law Review Commission Bill 2013, Procurement and Purchase 2013 and the Non-Governmental Organizations Bill 2013. It also listened to the proposed amendments to the passport and immigration laws 2013.

In his explanation to the press, John Luk said that the Law Review Commission is geared towards establishment of a legal frame work and organizing the work of the law review commission in the country.

He said the bill of procurement and purchase whose need is enshrined in the Transitional Constitution gives government obligation to regulate procurement in the country.

The Non-Governmental Bill seeks to regulate the structure to monitor the registered organizations in the country.

As per the business, the August House referred the three bills to their respectful Committees of; Justice, Economy and Finance, and Human Rights and Humanitarian respectively to present to the House in their second reading from next week.

The presentation of the bills marks the commitment of the August House stated last week that it will be fully be involved in passing new bills from this week.

Jonglei state gets assets to boost youth projects

Gurtong.net Bor, 9/5/2013 – The Jonglei state government officials witnessed the official handing over of assets from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) with hope that the support will double their efforts and strengthen agriculture service delivery for the youth in the volatile state.

The government received primacy of the state high court, a constructed medical laboratory for the ministry of health and 30 tractors to boost the state economy.

Jonglei state Governor Kuol Manyang Juuk has said that the infrastructure will improve the quality of work in the state because the 30 new tractors donated by UNDP will be added to their current 18.

Manyang said that with the more efforts they will do in the fields they will be closer to reduce hunger in the state.

He said that they should not depend on foreign donations because those who contribute to their development have their own problems that they should take care of.

The minister of Agriculture and Forestry Mayen Ngor Atem has expressed his profound delight as they marked the wonderful day of the UNDP handing over of the 30 tractors and their accessories to the state government.

Mayen said that the great UNDP funding for the state food security program will be a remarkable achievement not only to the state but to the nation.

He said the 30 tractors are for youth agriculture project to improve peace, food and security in the conflict prone region of the country.

Ngor said that this youth food security and peace building program will seek to achieve food sufficiency of the youth as an entry point for conflict management, mitigation and peace building.

He adds the overall goal is to reduce poverty, improve food security and advance rural livelihood by supporting to become productive, responsible and useful.

Ngor said the agricultural project will facilitate the transformation of agriculture from subsistence farming into economic sustainable market driven sector supporting youth rural growth income and employment.

He said that the project will bring a new hope of building a peaceful counties and state at large.

The UNDP country Director, Balazs Horvath said they are handing over 30 tractors and the associated sophisticated equipments to extend food production sustainably in 11 counties.

Balazs said that youth farmer associations have already been created and established in each of the 51 payams across the state and will use the 30 tractors to plough and prepare the land which will be the responsibility of youth farmers.

He said that these are the resources that will empower local communities particularly you to generate income in a peaceful manner.

Facing meningitis outbreak, UN and South Sudan announce vaccination campaign in Upper Nile

AllAfrica.com 9/5/2013 – The United Nations World Health Organization (WHO) and South Sudan today announced they will carry out a vaccination campaign to address a meningitis outbreak in the Upper Nile state that has killed three people.

The campaign will target 150,000 people out of 220,000 living in the city of Malakal. The first case was reported by health officials on 12 April and the state ministry of health declared the outbreak on 30 April. Eighty-seven people are currently receiving treatment.

"Partners are boosting capacity at the Malakal hospital, including by establishing an isolation ward, and are monitoring neighbouring counties for an eventual further spread of the outbreak," the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in South Sudan said in a report.

WHO medical officer Tesfaye Zewde said the agency is supporting the health ministry with testing and drugs. "WHO has supported the state ministry of health in taking samples to Nairobi for testing," said Dr. Zewde. "We are also helping in transporting the vaccines."

A community outreach campaign would also be implemented to increase communities' awareness of meningitis and help identify new cases as early as possible, OCHA said.

AU calls for urgent inquiry into death of Dinka Ngok chief

Sudantribune.com Juba, 9/5/2013 – The African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) has called for a "credible, transparent and independent" inquiry into circumstances that resulted into the recent killing of the Dinka Ngok paramount chief in Abyei.

Kuol Deng Majok and a United Nations Interim Forces for Abyei (UNISFA) personnel were on 4 May, killed when armed men reportedly attacked their convoy in Baloom, an area within the contested region. Three other peacekeepers were also injured in the incident.

The AUPSC, in a communiqué issued after its meeting on Abyei developments, urged the Government of Sudan to ensure that all those responsible for this terrible crime are brought to justice immediately.

“(..)Council also stresses the need for the urgent definition of the Terms of Reference of the proposed inquiry,” the statement reads in part.

The AUPSC, at its meeting, also expressed concern over reports that the various communities living in Abyei were heavily armed, contrary to the June 2011 Agreement on Temporary Arrangements for the Administration and Security of the disputed region.

The agreement, in part, stipulates that Abyei should be a weapons-free Area and that only UNISFA is authorized to carry weapons inside the area.

“To this end, [the] Council urges the two Governments to take all the necessary steps to ensure that Abyei is effectively demilitarized, including through disarmament programmes as necessary. [The] Council further appeals to the Government of Sudan to fully and immediately withdraw its forces from the demilitarized zone,” further reads the communiqué.

The AU also urged the leaders of the two countries to ensure the final status on the disputed region is reached, based on its High Level Implementation Panel proposal of 21 September 2012.

Meanwhile, members of the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee (AJOC) appealed to both Sudan and South Sudan to speed up the formation of the Abyei Area Council as well as the Abyei Area Administration.

Missierya, Dinka to hold joint meeting over tensions in Abyei

Sudanese Media Center Khartoum, 9/5/2013 – Arrangements are underway for holding joint meeting between Missierya and Dinka to discuss impacts of killing Dinka Ngok paramount Chief Kuol Deng and a group of people from Missierya tribe, Abyei joint customary commission reveals.

The commission blames UNISFA as responsible for tensions in the area. Head of customary commission Bashtana Mohamed Salim told (*SMC*) that situation was escalated after UNISFA uses material force.

At time Bashtana urges grassroots exercises restraint and gives ample time for customary commission returns situation to normal.

He assures that they are arranging to hold meeting with customary commission on other side at neutral zone and collaborates to defuse tension and return things to normal situation.

Bashtana urges concern parties to form investigation committee to probe the situation and block the door before any possible tensions in the area.

Agar, Arman set to trail in abstained

Sudanese Media Center Khartoum, 9/5/2013 – Ministry of justice announces completion of investigations in the file of Blue Nile state events during which Malik Agar attempted to capture Damazine town in August 2011.

Ministry of justice senior consultant Mohamed Farid told reporters Wednesday that Agar and Arman files were referred to court together with 17 accusers to be trial in abstained.

Investigation resulted in finding them involved in the events that led to death of civilians and regular forces. Noted Farid

Sudan approves 22% pay raise for military

Sudantribune.com Khartoum, 9/5/2013 – The Sudanese army has agreed to boost salaries of soldiers and officers by 22% amid growing military activities against rebels in the country.

Under the new pay adjustment, soldiers and officers will now receive 450 Sudanese pounds (\$75) 600 (\$100) respectively in what is known as "operations allowance".

The Sudanese army is now preparing for new offensive in South Kordofan to eject rebels of the Sudanese Revolutionary Front (SRF) from Abu Kershola district in South Kordofan state.

A week ago, the SRF, which includes the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N), along with several Darfur rebel groups, launched a major attack most notably in Um Rawaba, the second-largest town in North Kordofan state, during coordinated attacks on several nearby areas.

In the past, the rebels' military activity was generally confined to the Darfur region, as well as the border states of South Kordofan and Blue Nile. The only exception was in 2008 when the Darfur Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) attacked Sudan's twin capital of Omdurman.

The Sudanese government has begun a mobilizing campaign to support the army and the Sudanese parliament suspended its activities next week to allow MP's to head to their constituencies in order to rally youth behind the army.

Church in Africa to start continental news agency

Sudan catholic Radio Network, 9/5/2013 – The Catholic Church in Africa is taking steps to establish a continental news agency by appointing a coordinator to oversee the realization of the initiative.

Archbishop Charles G. Palmer-Buckle of Accra, Ghana, appointed Don Bosco Ochieng Onyalla of the Catholic Diocese of Rumbek as the Catholic News Agency for Africa or CANAA Coordinator with effect from May 2.

Archbishop Palmer-Buckle is the Acting Chairman of the Board of Directors for CANAA and the Treasurer of the Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar or SECAM.

Fr Onyalla was tasked with the duty to coordinate the setting up of the continental news agency in Nairobi, Kenya as CANAA headquarters.

Other responsibilities include establishing and maintaining contacts with other Catholic communication channels in Africa and elsewhere, reaching out to potential partners to support the activities of this new communication initiative.

CANAA's fundamental mission is to report news about, and of interest, to the local Churches of Africa and to disseminate the information to the whole Church in Africa, and globally.

Fr Onyalla was the founder and Director of Good News Radio of the Catholic Diocese of Rumbek until last October.

Sudanese president travels to Chad for regional summit

Sudantribune.com Khartoum, 9/5/2013 – The Sudanese president Omer Hassan al-Bashir will fly to Chad on Friday to attend the Great Green Wall summit, a presidential official said today.

Bashir's press secretary Emad Sid Ahmed said that Bashir will address the summit which has been postponed twice before. The summit was originally scheduled for March but rescheduled amid speculations that it was delayed over controversy related to Bashir's presence.

Chad has dismissed reports of international pressure to shun the Sudanese leader and insisted that the rescheduling was a result of the participants' busy calendars.

Human Rights Watch (HRW) has condemned the upcoming visit by Bashir to Chad.

"This would represent the fourth time Chad has welcomed ICC fugitive Sudanese president al-Bashir. Chad's hosting him is an insult to victims. He should be arrested, not welcomed in Chad", said HRW senior international justice counsel Elise Keppler in an emailed statement to *Sudan Tribune*.

Kenya calls on UN to drop Kenyatta trials

Al-Jazeera News, 9/5/2013 – Kenya asks UN to scrap international crimes against humanity charges against President Kenyatta and Vice President Ruto.

Kenya has written to the UN Security Council seeking to scrap the international crimes against humanity trials for President Uhuru Kenyatta and his Vice President William Ruto.

"What this delegation is asking for is not deferral," Kenya's ambassador to the UN, Macharia Kamau, wrote in a letter to the Council seen by *AFP news agency* on Thursday.

"What this delegation is asking for is for the immediate termination of the case at The Hague."

The letter, dated May 2 and stamped confidential, is the first such official request for the cases to be dropped.

However, while the Security Council can ask for a case to be deferred for a year, it does not have the authority to order the ICC drop a case completely.

Kenya however appealed to "friendly nations to use their good offices and prevail upon the International Criminal Court to reconsider the continued process".

What began as political riots quickly turned into ethnic killings and reprisal attacks, plunging Kenya into its worst wave of violence since independence in 1963.

The letter warned that continuing with the trials would risk destabilizing Kenya.

"Kenyans... spoke with a loud, clear, concise voice when they overwhelmingly elected Uhuru Kenyatta and William Ruto as president and deputy president," it said.

"It is obvious that their absence from the country may undermine the prevailing peace and any resultant insecurity may spill over to the neighbouring countries."

Kenya: British PM defends Uhuru UK Invitation

The Star/AllAfrica.com, 9/5/2013 – The British government has defended meetings by its officials with President Uhuru Kenyatta despite his indictment by the International Criminal Court.

Prime Minister David Cameron told the *BBC* that he met Uhuru because Kenya was playing a vital role fighting al-Shabaab in Somalia.

He said Uhuru had assured him that he was cooperating with the ICC and in Cameron's view; he is "innocent until proved guilty." Before the elections, the UK said it would have only "essential contact" with Uhuru if he was elected president because he is an ICC indictee.

The trip to the London conference on Somalia was Uhuru's first trip to Europe, apart from travelling to The Hague, since he was charged with crimes against humanity by the ICC in December 2010. His trial is due to start on July 9.

Some UK media houses, particularly *Sky News*, had prior to his visit, raised issue of why British officials and leaders would meet with a president facing criminal charges at the ICC.

Meeting Uhuru at Lancaster House before the start of the conference, Cameron hailed the strong historic ties between Kenya and the United Kingdom.

The Prime Minister underlined the commitment of the British Government to further strengthen relations. Cameron said that the UK was particularly keen on enhancing the levels of trade and investment between the two countries.

British Foreign Secretary William Hague also met Uhuru and discussed Kenya's significant contribution to Somalia. The Foreign Secretary acknowledged Uhuru's commitment to the judicial process with regards to the ICC.

"I expressed gratitude for Kenya's significant contribution to bringing security to Somalia through the AU Mission in Somalia, and welcomed the progress made in recent discussions between regional leaders and the Somali President on building political stability in Somalia. We also discussed bilateral relations. The UK is the largest cumulative investor in Kenya, and there are more British visitors to Kenya than from anywhere else. It is in the interests of both our countries to build on these strong ties," Hague said after the meeting.

Hague and Uhuru discussed how to support the Somali government; Kenya's contribution to Amisom; and the large number of Somali refugees in Kenya.

Uhuru applauded the fraternal relations between the two countries and appreciated the assistance that the United Kingdom extends to Kenya.

Uhuru said the assistance in education, health as well as humanitarian and social protection had improved the lives of many Kenyans particularly in the rural areas.

"I am convinced that we can expand the scope of our bilateral cooperation and traditional friendship based on mutual trust and respect for the benefit of our two countries," Uhuru said and invited the British business community to invest in Kenya.

"The country is indeed on the path for high economic growth and is emerging as the regional economic, trading and investment hub. The potential for increasing the level of investments, diversification as well as enhancing the volume and value of bilateral trade remains high," Uhuru said.

Uhuru thanked Cameron for the timely decision to convene the London Conference on Somalia, saying the Conference was a follow up on a similar conference held last year. He said the conference offered a unique opportunity for initiating new partnerships between Somalia and the international community.

Malaria hope: Bacteria that make mosquitoes resistant

BBC News, 9/5/2013 – Researchers have found a strain of bacteria that can infect mosquitoes and make them resistant to the malaria parasite.

The study, in the journal *Science*, showed the parasite struggled to survive in infected mosquitoes.

Malaria is spread between people by the insects so it is hoped that giving mosquitoes malaria immunity could reduce human cases.

Experts said this was a first, distant prospect for malaria control.

Malaria is a major global disease. The World Health Organization estimates that 220 million people are infected annually and 660,000 die.

Challenge

The study at Michigan State University in the US looked at the *Wolbachia* bacterium, which commonly infects insects.

It passes only from females to their offspring. In some insects the bug is exceptionally good at manipulating insects to boost the number of females for its own ends.

Wolbachia kills male embryos in some butterflies and ladybirds. In other situations, it can produce males that can breed only with infected females, and even allows some female wasps to give birth without mating.

Malaria-carrying *Anopheles* mosquitoes are not naturally plagued by *Wolbachia*, yet laboratory studies have shown that temporary infection made the insects immune to the malaria parasite.

The challenge was to turn a temporary infection into one that would be passed on. The research team found a strain of *Wolbachia* that could persist in one species of mosquito, *Anopheles stephensi*, for the entire length of the study - 34 generations.

Malaria parasites found it difficult to cope in these mosquitoes, with parasite levels fourfold lower than in uninfected bugs.

Research in Australia has shown that a different strain of *Wolbachia* can prevent the spread of dengue fever by mosquitoes. That research is more advanced and has been shown to work in large trials in the wild.

Dr Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases in the US, said this study was a proof of concept that the same could be done for malaria.

"If you can get it to survive and proliferate in the environment of mosquitoes in malaria-stricken areas, this could conceivably have an important impact on the control of malaria.

"I think the potential for this is very important. The implementation will be the challenge."

'Struggle to spread'

Commenting on the study, Prof David Conway, of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, said: "It is interesting and is the first report of Wolbachia clearly replicating, but a number of things took away the punch."

He said the infected females produced fewer eggs than uninfected females, which meant the infection would struggle to spread in the real world.

Also he cautioned that it was in just one species, *Anopheles stephensi*, which carries malaria in the Middle East and South Asia. *Anopheles gambiae*, in Africa, is a bigger problem.

One of the researchers, Dr Zhiyong Xi, told the BBC: "We have done only one strain. If we target *Anopheles gambiae* we would need to apply the same technique again."

He added that if it could be shown to work then "the Wolbachia tool can complement currently available tools", such as mosquito nets and medication.

Breaking silence on Abyei

Sudantribune.com, 9/5/2013 - "I don't know what's right and wrong anymore", he said, tears streaming down his cheeks. "On the one hand, I am warned that you are the tool of oppression against our people, an enemy of the Christians and an agent of the evil. On the other hand, when I am with you, I see a kind and compassionate person whom I cannot believe could be evil man I am warned about. Oh! Uncle Ali, what shall I do? Whom shall I believe?" Cry of the Owl. Francis Mading Deng p.131

May 9, 2013 - I struggled within myself for ages over Abyei contestable identity between the Republic of South Sudan and the Sudan. Historically, I made remarkable recollections and decided to break the silence. It was not a pleasing night on date 5 April 2013 when I wake up at 2:15 am midnight and start to think about endless issue of Abyei. I concluded that Abyei saga exactly fall within the context of the above mentioned quote between Elias Bol Malek, a southerner and captain Ali of northern Sudanese nationality.

Certainly, I must tell you this is current situation of Abyei. The questions then follows: What shall we do now with this conflicting identity of Abyei between South Sudan and Sudan since our political leadership of the two countries fails to reach amicable solution over Abyei? Whom shall we believe as true owners of Abyei in this scenario? What is the fate of innocent lives lost every year in Abyei as a result of boarder conflicts and politically motivated contract killings? The list of questions goes on, but no proper answers ever met them. God knows!

In fact, where is Abyei Area and what is the bond of contention so far? Although the geographical area of Abyei is clearly known to be a territory within the Republic of South Sudan, yet the international community was allowed to fork in their nose and confused the true identity of Abyei which they do not know. The political leadership of the two countries also followed the suit and complicated the matter by describing Abyei in many controversial identities. Some self-claimed analysts describe Abyei as Kashmir of Sudan and South Sudan which is not true. This gave Arabs Misseriya and the Khartoum based administration some sense of ownership. However, the issue of Abyei has been wrangling on since 1965 when hostilities first broke out between the Dinka Ngok and Missiriya with massacre of 72 Dinka Ngok in the Misseriya town of Babanusa. The Ngok Dinka then decided to join the Anyanya revolutionary movement to liberate themselves from such brutal killings when the war intensified in the South, against monolithic Arabs in the Sudan including Messiriya.

Unfortunately, during the Addis Ababa peace agreement in 1972, the position of Abyei was disputed, with the Southern rebels asserting that Abyei was part of the South, while the government in Khartoum claimed it to be part of the north just like similar game during CPA 2005 negotiations between SPLM and NCP-led government which is not implemented to date.

The Addis Ababa peace agreement provided self-determination referendum under Article 3 (iii) of the Agreement for the Dinka Ngok to choose whether to remain in the north or to join the south. In the civil service jobs, most intellectuals of Dinka Ngok of Abyei decided to work with the then regional government of Higher Executive Council as a signal of their full attachment to Southern region and to ensure the implementation of Article 3 (iii) of the peace agreement. The same thing is happening today with Dinka Ngok who are occupying key constitutional and civil service jobs in South Sudan at all levels of government in an attempt to alert Khartoum that South Sudan is their ancestral land. But the question is whether all Dinka Ngok are united under common intention as part of South Sudan or does exist different voices who supported being part of Sudan.

Plainly speaking, research show that the Dinka Ngok positions over the status of Abyei ever since remain divided. The Dinka Ngok currently residing in Sudan and even some on the ground in Abyei are seen supporting being part of Sudan. A clear example is an unfortunate killing of Paramount Chief Kuol Deng Kuol popularly known as Kuol Adol dated 4 May, 2013 at around 6:00 PM by Messiriya armed groups. The circumstances surrounding his assassination surely left us speechless whether it is calculated by fifth columnist or not. How can the Misseriya armed groups know the presence of Chief Kuol Adol in the UNISFA vehicles if there is no indoor act of Judas Iscariot, perhaps the contrary shall only be proved by thorough investigation if it is done well.

In a continuation for system attack on community leaders in Abyei, it was awful evening on 17 September, 1970, when a similar attack happened. Paramount Chief Moyak Deng, two of his brothers and three uncles were shot dead by a military squad led personally by the then commanding officer 1st Lt. Mohamed El Basha according to a report published by Abyei Information Centre. In other words, the killing of Chief Kuol Adol is a systematic extermination of key leaders in Abyei to spoil the agenda.

May their Soul rest in peace!

Again at second crucial point in history, the SPLM and NCP-led government voluntarily fails to reach an agreement on Abyei during CPA negotiations in 2005. The Abyei conflict was handled in a historical repetition just like in 1972 when the self-determination referendum was agreed and dishonored by Khartoum government at broad day light. At the weakest point in our history liberations struggle, the parties allowed the Abyei Protocol to be drafted by foreign nationals which was wholly adopted in the negotiation as the basis for the resolution of Abyei conflict presented by the US Special Envoy to Sudan Senator John Danforth on the 19th March, 2004.

With these principles of Agreement on Abyei, Senator Danforth wrongly defines Abyei as a bridge between the north and the south, linking the people of Sudan under Article 1.1.1 of the Abyei Protocol. How can it be a bridge when the land falls deeply within the Republic of South Sudan? Worst enough; it is crystal clear now that with the presence and intervention of international community as a follow up mechanism of the self-determination referendum for the Dinka Ngok, the situation deteriorates. Finally, it is evident that foreign solution will never solve Abyei issue anymore and the government and people of South Sudan must think otherwise.

In conclusion, I am call upon the government of South Sudan and that of Sudan to expedite the process of implementation of Abyei referendum as scheduled by AU High level implementation panel if it may hold water. Second, let the Dinka Ngok community and intellectuals all over the world come back to Abyei Area for community meeting in order to come out with clear agenda on the status of Abyei conflict. This is when the Government and people of South Sudan will support Ngok Dinka after they are united for purpose. Do not allow Dr. Francis Mading said his different version of the resolution of Abyei conflcit in New York, while some claimed elderly Dinka Ngok members in Sudan have another version as well as Dinka Ngok elites in the SPLM-led government

in Juba have different version on Abyei conflict resolution. We will never reach an intended destination. Indeed, Abyei problem needs Abyei solution and not foreign attempts under stalemate.

Last but not least, the failure of the government and people of South Sudan without retaining full control of Abyei Area as constitutional obligation will be a litmus test for territorial integrity of South Sudan. Such terrorist related act of extermination of community leaders and groundless claimed by Sudan over Abyei Area are sign of temptation on South Sudan muscle of territorial defense. Otherwise let us stand behind President Salva Kiir, who said that he will not leave an inch of Abyei area to Sudan.

Beny Gideon Mabor is an independent commentator on governance and human rights. The author is currently in Nairobi, Kenya and can be reached at benygmabor@gmail.com

Why SPLA cannot defeat South Sudan rebels

Sudantribune.com, 9/5/2013 – It is a common phenomenon in South Sudan that those who are disgruntled with the government in one way or another tend to find refuge in form of rebellion. The aim for such rebellion is often to usurp power and blackmail the government in order to gain concession and obtain higher position within the same government. In other words, the aim of these rebels is to cause destruction so as to be recognized and then be rewarded with positions that they could not have otherwise got under normal circumstance, where competence is put into test. Since South Sudan obtained its autonomy, several of those militancy sprung up under sponsorship of Khartoum government, South Sudan major foe. Even though South Sudan government manages to neutralize key elements among some of these treasonous individuals and bringing some back into the fold, the cycle of rebellion in South Sudanese seems to be an endless affair.

The most current active group of militias is the one led by an obscure former theology student David Yau Yau. David Yau Yau gained notoriety after 2010 general elections. After failing a bid to win a political post, he declared rebellion. Ever since, Yau Yau has been causing havoc in and around Pibor areas. Although Yau Yau for a moment was able to negotiate with the government, earning himself handsomely a rank of a major general in SPLA. He was only to rebel once again after a brief spell as a professional high ranking military officer.

Of recent, Yau Yau seems to be gaining an upper hand against the SPLA, even more so than ever before. Just as the SPLA announced military offensive to rid him once and for all, he proves otherwise. He has been conducting successful ambushes against the SPLA, at times inflicting heavy casualties and damages. He expanded his sphere of operation, overrunning strategic wildlife reserve town of Boma. With momentum of victory on his side, now he is threatening to further spread in Eastern Equatoria town of Kapeota, yet another strategic location, linking Kenya and South Sudan. In a public statement, the SPLA spokesperson Philip Aguer reluctantly acknowledges that Yau Yau forces occupy almost 90 percent of Pibor County. Yau Yau forces are operating in a chaotic state, awash with weapons and characterized by a long history of ethnic conflicts, where the government is incapable of exerting authority or exercise control. The statement in the media by Governor Kuol Manyang Juuk seems to confirm that Jonglei state or South Sudan for that matter is indeed has no authority over its citizens or territory. For example, there are reports of widespread mistreatment of civilians in Bor town by soldiers believed to have either deserted from a frontline or defeated by Yau Yau, but yet (the battle hardened and once known for his disciplinary demeanour as a commander); Governor Kuol Manyang Juuk has no answers as to why this is the case.

The reports of desertion among SPLA soldiers from the frontline, fighting Yau Yau is just one of the many worries that plug South military and hamper the efforts to provide security for country. SPLA which is in dire need of transformation into professionalism is yet being staffed by non-other than ragtag former militia outfits such as those of Yau Yau and the likes. In the process, this erodes moral and institute lack of discipline.

Up to now SPLA receives the largest junk of the country's budget; 40 percent of the overall budget. However, in a country infamous for corruption, the top military brass is among those officials mostly accused and cited for corrupt activities. There are reports of soldiers not receiving their salaries for

months on end. Food provision is lacking, leading some soldiers to resort on looting. Overall logistic is a nightmare. The situation is worsening with the instituted austerity measures.

Even though the threat of Yau Yau rebellion is limited in scope, its effects cannot simply be ignored. This will require the SPLA to institute discipline, exercise judicious management and introduce proper operational doctrines. It will also require a political will from leadership to create conducive atmosphere that is accommodative and discourages rebellion. Otherwise, South Sudan will discern into much more chaos. South Sudan should not be allowed as a fiefdom of warlords.

Steve Paterno is the author of The Rev. Fr. Saturnino Lohure, A Romain Catholic Priest Turned Rebel. He can be reached at stevepaterno@yahoo.com

The political issues facing South Sudan

Gurtong.net, 10/5/2013 - "A constitution must recognize all the aspects in consideration of the cultural diversity of the people that will own it. It is thus a matter of paramount national importance that requires an inclusive participation of all the political and social spectrum of our country."

This gathering is about the same issues we have been talking about since our country became independent and even in the post CPA period. Definitely without change, we the citizens of South Sudan must be obliged to continue complaining about our plight; maybe our Government and the entire World will hear us.

I have just arrived from the United States; and having been honoured by the leadership of our Party to act as Secretary General until the National Council is convened to elect the Secretary General, I find it necessary to address myself to the media and the South Sudan people on the recurring issues of concern facing us today. I believe we are all aware of our problems, but a press conference is a venue where we brainstorm in an attempt to find possible solutions that maybe a way forward for our Government to positively address itself to our concerns, and hence minimize opposition against its policies. The issues we are discussing here are some of the achievements by our Government with some linkages of doubts, which I think our Government should continue to address:

THE CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT IS A POSITIVE ROAD MAP TO PEACE DESPITE THE SCEPTICISM WE ARE STILL FORESEEING. The unresolved issues of the CPA had had a bad impact on the relations between Sudan and South Sudan; but it had always been expected that the two countries peacefully address all the contentious issues that existed and continue to exist. This Co-operation agreement has provided an atmosphere of understanding between the two countries; this we have always been advising our Government. The then bellicose attitude and rhetoric about war by our Government was just being a political ploy to divert public attention from the existing problems it has created, coupled with bad institutional practices.

Not only is this agreement a foundation for future relations between the two countries that definitely need each other, but its implementation will definitely help replace the economic crises facing the two countries as well as pave the way for the outstanding issues to be resolved. For example, the immature decision by our Government to shut down oil had adversely backfired and strained our economy. But seeing believes; we as opposition had before, yet in vain, advised against this shutdown and we were being seen as Khartoum collaborators.

However, despite the destruction that occurred as a result of the decision, we thank the Government for conceding at last although the South had not gained what it had hoped for to gain in the oil shutdown. We also still have to be on alert that without solution to the problems that pose continued rebellions in both countries; this agreement shall continue to be on and off and hence remains to be only a diplomatic gimmick to the enjoyment of all delegations that will always go for a picnic in Addis Ababa.

The only hopeful way will be for both countries to negotiate with their rebels. It is good that South Sudan had had an agreement before with its rebels. Although this agreement was hampered by lack of will to implement on the side of our Government, negotiations on the modalities of

implementation will not need to be so difficult as the current war and killings between the rebels and the armed forces (SPLA).

In case of the Sudan, the CPA protocols remain to be a basis for negotiation with its rebels, no matter what new demands the rebels put forward. Again, the Sudan need to understand that South Sudan will not forgo Abiey and all its Territories for peace; Abiey referendum and border demarcation will be cornerstone for permanent peace in both countries.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW IS A NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY, NOT A ONE PARTY RESPONSIBILITY. This constitution, being the supreme law of the land that will guide the functions of the Government and the people, will be a foundation for stability, good governance, justice, equality and freedom. A constitution must recognize all the aspects in consideration of the cultural diversity of the people that will own it. It is thus a matter of paramount national importance that requires an inclusive participation of all the political and social spectrum of our country. A constitution is a national covenant between the people of the country concerned; hence it must be based on national consensus not on majority view. On this basis, the over representation of the ruling Party in the review commission is not only unfair but is politically unsafe for the future of this country.

My party, for example, advocates for a federal and parliamentary system of Government to be the basis of this constitutional review; are there no people of South Sudan we represent sharing this view? Why then has this Government refused our participation? It is upon people of South Sudan to see that this Government is being biased by excluding the main opposition party in the review commission; a people's Government is expected to be fairly addressing itself to such important issues that may adversely affect the country in the very near future. We do not want this important document to be an instrument of the President but of the people.

THE POLITICAL PARTIES ACT was supposedly enacted to provide a sound basis for multiparty democracy leading to unity in diversity and good governance. The rules governing the registration of political parties could not have been therefore intended for deregistration of parties but for helping their registration. There is no doubt that some provisions in this act were intended to obstruct the registration of some parties minus the ruling party. Therefore, one hopes that we the vulnerable parties must struggle very hard not to allow the possibility of our country falling into the pit of one party State; we hope to overcome.

However we need to cautiously re-address ourselves to such provisions that are obstructive to the purpose of this act. For example, bringing five hundred delegates from each of eight states to a specific location to be scrutinized by the Political Parties Affairs Council was an intention to deregister other parties and eventually scuttle democracy; because its feasibility in terms of cost can only be in favour of the ruling party unless the Government provides a budget to all political parties. Let us be patient in the hope that the PPAC may soon be formed to seek clarifications on such matters from the government.

THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION may be seen as insignificant because of the pessimistic feeling that elections may not take place in 2015 given that the impugned nature our ruling party in assuming executive powers of our Government may impose its will on our Government to stop elections or rig them. But this commission shall remain to be a future corner stone for our democracy; therefore we must give it due strength for the sake of democracy we yearn for. Let us hope that this commission will be independent and fair in future.

The first test of the commission was what happened in the Lakes State when the President removed the elected Governor from office; Article 101(s) of the Transitional Constitution demands that election of a new Governor takes place within sixty days; i.e. not later than the 21st of March 2013. Nothing happened and we did not hear the voice of the commission on this matter. I don't want to go into the details of what I want this commission to do except to say that we the democratic parties must have to struggle to see that its independence is asserted.

RECONCILIATION OF OUR PEOPLE IS A WAY FORWARD TO BUILD OUR UNITY as a young country that had emerged out of serious circumstances that tends to make us fall apart. What needs to be absolutely clear in this reconciliation initiative is how to define it: who are those to be reconciled, with whom, about what and how? If we cannot answer such questions, we cannot formulate a genuine agenda to start the process of our initiative; the result shall be a de-conciliation. A genuine reconciliation follows the resolution of the problems that caused the conflict in the first place. For example, government needs to embark on policy reforms to deal with this endemic corruption, tribalism and insecurity as a result of on- going insurgencies as well as inter and intra-communal violence.

However, with his recent decree, our President has a good heart and wish for us; but are the civil societies and faith-based groups responsible for the problems of this country to be charged with the responsibility for this initiative and can they really solve political disagreements that cause us problems in this country? I am still in a position to ask my President.

Yet, reconciliation is a way forward if we know what we are to reconcile about. And as a good gesture for reconciliation at the bottom heart of our President, I would wish our President to take a bold decision to release all alleged political detainees or take them to court for fair trial. Our President should also desist from manufactured street charges against some important politicians who can help him on how to make this country go forward. The reconciliation must start with the President himself.

NOTHING IN THE WAY OF OUR LIVES CAN BE TALKED ABOUT WITHOUT SECURITY. I had talked many times in the media about security concerns in our country. Our innocent citizens want to live in their country without fear of today or tomorrow about their life or the life of their children. Our Government knows and understands our security concerns about the existence of armed groups (referred to as militia), cattle rustlers, land grabbers, tribal disputes, and rampant killing in and around Juba and other towns of every state in South Sudan.

Issues like cattle rustling, land disputes etc. are within the administrative power of our Government to resolve; but one cannot understand why our Government could not make headway on that. In relation to the armed groups, the government should implement previous agreements it had made with them. I believe there is no better way forward than negotiations with the rebel groups; otherwise, intransigence is a loss to the country with nobody's benefit. The recent amnesty issued by the President is a right step in the right direction and is highly commendable. However, it must be followed by serious dialogue with the concerned rebels.

OUR PARTY, THE SPLM-DC, IS NOT AN OPPOSITION TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT but to advocate democracy as the only way to freedom, justice, equality and peace in our country. We are therefore not opposed to the leadership of the President but to the policies of the Government. We therefore appeal to all political parties, including the ruling party, for co-operation so that it will be possible for all of us to chart a way forward for our Government to handle our national issues in a fair democratic manner. Our party was founded with a declared objective to reform and transform the Movement's vision into a true democratic vision for which our people fought and died; hence, we do not see the ruling SPLM as our enemy; we expect the co-operation of our comrades within this SPLM because we know we are right and definitely we shall meet somewhere. Politics need the co-operation of and with all, being political parties, civil societies, the media etc.

In my assignment as acting Secretary General of SPLM-DC, I shall co-operate with all towards the achievement of democracy, justice, and freedom for all. I hope the media community will always be in contact with my office on any issue of national concern.

Deng Bior Deng, SPLM-DC 's Secretary-General. CONTACT: dengbior69@gmail.com

The other side of presidential decrees

South Sudan News Agency (SSNA), 10/5/ 2013 – For those whose sun ascend and set within the perimeter of South Sudan, the fuss brought forth, often, by the presidential decrees is something one

must come to terms with. If you are one of those who make fantasies about change and future, hold your breath. Decrees are not going away any time soon. The three decrees issued in the last 24 days stand out. A few others might be on the way. You never know. Although one would feel, sometimes, that the word “decree” sounds archaic and too totalitarian for a modern society, much ado about recent decrees arise from the fact that most of them are thrown to the public in bulk. And in the process of breaking them down into consumable kind of convincing facts –that is the beauty of our cognitive processes, anyway; making sense from nonsense –majority of people run short of logic and, consequently, succumb to confirmation bias –firmly anchored in tribal school of thought. In spite of the ambiguity they present to us, does Mr. President always get his decrees right? Let’s have a fair look at the following decrees:

Withdrawal of powers delegated to the Vice President

This is where the body temperatures, of participants involved in the debate, soared at a 100°C plus in the last couple weeks. Whereas Mr. Kiir’s sycophants felt that their Nuer political rivals are finally brought to their knees, Dr. Riek’s disciples viewed it as a typical Dinka plot against the Nuer community that must be squashed at all cost. Both parties, however, appeared oblivious to the constitutional requirements, Article 105 sections (a) to (d) that allow the president to delegate and withdraw powers. That is ignorance at its best, isn’t it? It is no-brainer that this is an enshrined law that has nothing to celebrate or lament about. It does not present a perfect win-lose scenario, does it? So, if you considered yourself a winner: start clearing your head. If you felt hard done by the presidential decree: pick yourself up and move on. In my opinion the president has a right to withdraw his powers when he deems it necessary. Whether he made the law himself is another question, but for now let’s assume it is within the limits of his constitutional powers.

Cancellation of Reconciliation Process and the creation of new committee

According to the article posted by *Sudan Tribune* on April 15th, there are two major theories explaining why the initial process had to be booted out with its organizers. One holds that it lacked “clear agenda”. The other suggests that the “vice-president wanted to use it as a political campaign project against the president”. Well, let’s examine the validity of each claim. What “clear agenda” should underlie the ‘reconciliation’? Okay, let’s assume the ‘agenda’ is now defined. Why was Dr. Riek then removed altogether? Oh, hold on, we were told he “wanted to use it as a political campaign project ‘against’ the president”. Really? Does the vice-president operate in vacuum that he would make the “campaign project” out of it without the knowledge of the public? If he does, wouldn’t the public –that needs reconciliation –ask a question or two? Isn’t he accountable for the outcomes his duties before the law? Do you think these claims wouldn’t hold water? Maybe yes. Maybe not. I will leave that to you.

Meanwhile, if you have an illusion that reconciliation is a public muss that can be quelled with decrees, or a peace process that need biblical preaching from Bishops and Popes, think twice. Or forget it altogether. We are talking about reestablishing lost relationships and self-acceptance. It is about people sitting down, acknowledge mistakes on their parts, and convince each other why they have to bury the hatchet and move on as a unit. It is about bringing back the sense of brotherhood, not a mere cessation of hostilities. The difference here is that you don’t necessarily have to acknowledge your mistakes in a peace process. Therefore, peace is temporal and does not guarantee trust. Can you imagine the current S. Sudan, vacuous of trust, in the next two decades? Poor governance and social evils would only rife! The fact, and I would want to opine, that Dr. Riek has inscriptions in both dark and bright history of S. Sudan make him more relevant to reconciliation process than anyone else –including president Kiir. He has more to convince other tribes than Archbishop Deng and the company. Furthermore, ignoring the fact that Dr. Riek has an edge over others on both political and delicate issues concerning Nuer is a sheer hypocrisy and a blatant ignorance to the existing truth that anyone can think of. Let’s take the recent Nuer youth attack [or call it a ‘disarmament campaign’ according to ‘White Army’] on Murle, for instance. With the benefit of hindsight, someone can argue that the role Dr. Riek played would have been played by anyone else. But the naked truth is that neither the Jonglei State governor nor President Kiir himself

could have stopped them. You and I know why. Both know too. Use of coercion wouldn't have helped either. Absolutely not! Besides, if Murle community's decline of Archbishop Deng as peace mediator last year, on grounds that he is a Dinka agent, is something to go by, then what does one expect to have changed overnight? In the wake of these, the recent committee is only but assigned the hardest task of their lives, and failure is eminent on the cards. Whether that appeal to your ears is one, the truth about it is another. In my opinion, this decree neither put into perspective the present degree of tribal tensions nor does it consider reconciliation as a necessity, at least, for the political future of S. Sudan. It is rather cockish and seems to substantiate the suspected political paranoia within the SPLM. Either the president or his advisors, blatantly, wants to justify the notion of "let's see who is the boss" in the expense of national interest. Some issues need command, yes, others literally don't. This is a political blunder, and might be regretted in the near future.

How about the firing of deputy Foreign Affairs Minister?

Well, if you never learned professionalism before being a professional, this is a great lesson. What is moral about working in an office during the day and gossips about it at night, anyway? I wonder why John Clement Kuc is never lauded for his patriotic action. He made, of course, a noble decision when he resigned to keep his hands clean from nepotism and corruption within the judiciary. For those who care about change and morality in public institutions, this is the best way to expose rottenness, and give the government something to think about. It is simple and less costly; just quit and let them feel the pressure. At least if they hire the next person a thing or two would have changed. Otherwise, some people need to shut it up and leave rumormongering to co-wives if they have no guts to stage a noble fight like Mr. Clement. We, the common citizens, do not need your gossips; we need someone with balls to stand up –in the face of adversity –for S. Sudan. In my opinion, Mr. President did a decent job here. Many are still around though, and a few more decrees might be necessary.

Whether the presidential decrees give you a bumpy ride or a smooth one, learn to cope. Generally. Romans do theirs in Roman way. This is the S. Sudanese way.

Philips Al-Ghai can be reached at alghai211@gmail.com

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

United Nations Mission in South Sudan - Public Information Office
www.unmiss.unmissions.org