

## December 2016 Update

### Brief Report on the situation in the South Sudan

1	Introduction
2	Current events
3	Political situation
4.	Economic Crisis
5.	X-mas Celebration
6.	To Khartoum

#### 1. Introduction

I am writing this report as to update you about the situation of the South Sudan which include the current event, political, economic crisis and X-Mas celebration activities that happen during the month of December 2016

#### 2. Current event

December 14, 2016 (JUBA) - South Sudan President Salva Kiir has Addressed members of South Sudan National Legislative Assembly in the capital, Juba where he launched a national dialogue that encompasses all the country's rival political parties and groups.

The President Kiir asked the people of South Sudan for forgiveness for wrongs he committed and he mentioned that.

- National dialogue in my view is both a forum and process through which the people of South Sudan can gather to redefine the basis of their unity as it relates to nationhood, and sense of belonging
- In the light of national endeavor, I am calling upon all of you to forgive one another, enter into dialogue with one another in your personal capacities, embrace yourself," he said adding
- A national committee of eminent personalities and persons of consensus he decreed to steer the process. The committee will work with independent experts from Juba-based think tanks, such as the Ebony Center, Sudd Institute and Centre for Peace and Development. The three institutions will also constitute secretariat work for the committee. The process will have bottom-top approach with the three phases;
  1. First phase being "grass-roots consultation" to map out grievances unique to each community and the region.
  2. Second phase will converge regional peace conferences
  3. Final phase will lead to convergence in Juba for the National Conference.

- The National Conference shall tackle remaining issues that are not addressed in the sub-national processes, which would have direct bearing on national cohesion,” especially to address issues in a tribally divided, war torn country.
- The resolutions adopted will aid writing of permanent national constitution

More importantly,

- ◆ The president said he will hold peace rallies for the first time since the peace was signed in August 2015 in main town of South Sudan.
- ◆ Armed opposition groups, will be invited to take part in the dialogue.

### 3. Political situation

The political situation in the country is calm. In April 28, 2016 (JUBA) the four institutions with 30 ministries of the Transitional Government of the National Unity (TGoNU) – in accordance to the Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict on the Republic of South Sudan have taken up their position as follows:-

- i. 16 Ministries for Sudan People Liberation Movement - SPLM in the Government
- ii. 10 Ministries of Sudan People Liberation Movement in Opposition – SPLM-IO
- iii. 2 Ministries for Sudan People Liberation Movement Former Détentes- SPLM-FDs
- iv. 2 Ministries for Other Political Parties -OPP

In the Transitional National Legislative Assembly have 68 new additional members to make the Assembly 400 members. These 68 Members the President has appointed them and they are as follow;

- a. 50 Members for Sudan People Liberation Movement in Opposition – SPLM-IO
- b. 17 Members Other Political Parties –OPP
- c. 1 Member for Sudan People Liberation Movement Former Détentes- SPLM-FDs

The Government is being monitored and evaluated by the Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission to access the implementation of the Agreement of peace in the South Sudan until 2018 were the general election will be conducted according to the agreement signed in August 2015.

### 4. Economic Crisis

our economic situation is not as it was before, the President said “As long as I am your president, I will not allow the suffering of my people to continue and I will not also allow this country to fall apart,” He expressed disappointment with the economic and security situation affecting lives of the people, declaring that peace and reconciliation would be his priorities.

He added that "My Vices, Taban Deng Gai, James Wani Igga and I will do our part in National dialogue. We will hold peace rallies within Juba and across the Country to educate our people on peace and unity. I have directed the Minister of Finance and Planning to mobilize necessary resources",

He mentioned that he was particularly concerned with the rise in living costs because of the shrinking economy resulting from effects of war his administration struggles to end. "I

am deeply concerned about the parents who can no longer feed their children because of our shrinking economy. I am also concerned about the growing number of street children and women who have lost everything due to the ongoing political situation. I am deeply concerned that all our citizens are distraught over the current political conflict and drastically declining economy.”

He continued: “At this festive season, I have come before you to share your government’s efforts to end the conflict and to consolidate peace in the Country”.

#### **5. To Khartoum**

From 27<sup>th</sup> Nov. – 8<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2016 I was in Khartoum for my medical follow up with the Doctor and all the result are OK. The Doctor requested me to come after six month.

While I am in Khartoum I met Dr. Kawahara and his son, and we had a dinner in my sister’s house. I was so happy to meet Dr. Kawahara that time, which gave me peace and joy for his care and kindness. I thank him and Ms. Chizu Shiomi Hiroshima from the bottom of my heart.

#### **6. X-Mas Celebrations**

In X-mas 2016 was celebrated very well in the churches although for the first time to celebrate as separate family; Yor and Jur are in Uganda. They did not join us because of financial crisis, tickets are very high

- Christmases Eve. were characterized by the full nights of baking cookies, cooking, and the scene of food that accompanied it all.
- The Church, starting schedule of the day on 24th night. The choirs and hymns during the night up to the morning.  
We celebrated with joy and happiness, because the Government controlled the security by searched for un-league guns usually used by criminal to kill and loot the people.
- The Government announced the three days’ holidays because of the Merry X-Mas celebration.
- We do have many challenges because the economic situation in the country; no new cloth or shoe bought for some of the children

The Christmas like other peaceful years where we all of us to have new clothes furniture in the houses. As I mentioned above, our sons Yor and Jur have not come to Juba for Christmas they spent their Christmas in the University, we have send them their feeding allowance because the university is on holidays for three weeks and did not provide food for them. The University will open on 5<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2017 and we are happy that they are well although they are alone