



The South Sudan Civil Society Forum

September 7, 2020

The Director General of Traffic Police,
South Sudan National Police Service,
Republic of South Sudan, Juba.

Dear Director General,

Re: Petition on Traffic Police Announcement on Factory Shaded Window Glasses of Vehicles

The South Sudan Civil Society Forum is in possession of an announcement you issued and signed on Sunday, September 6, 2020. The announcement bears five points. The Forum welcomes this announcement and the points contained therein except for contradictions in the first point.

The first point in the announcement consists of two parts. One part calls for detention of vehicles with tinted window glasses. The Forum welcomes this part of the announcement and the rest of the points in the announcement and encourages their strict implementation by the traffic police.

The second part calls for the use of vehicles with **factory shaded** window glasses, which the announcement refers to as "**factory tinted**" only with permission. This aspect of the order gives authority for the traffic police to cause unnecessary inconveniences to drivers over permission letters to use vehicles bearing **factory shaded** window glasses.

In previous cases, people were forced to pay between five thousand and twenty thousand South Sudanese pounds in order to get permission receipt to use their vehicles with **factory shaded** window glasses for about two weeks subject to replacement of the window glasses or further cost-renewal of the permission receipts. This action caused delays to public and private sector employees for as long as half a day, only to follow up with the traffic police on the road and at their offices. This time spent by unspecified number of public and private sector employees meant loss of work-time worth millions if not billions of South Sudanese pounds in the economy. These unjustified thousands of pounds collected from people also had implications on the welfare of families affected. This is what the renewed issue of the shaded factory window glasses of vehicles will repeat as a result of the authorization in the announcement you made.

SSCSF contends that the **factory shaded** window glasses of vehicles are not opaque like the **improvised tinted** window glasses. Secondly, these vehicles were already brought into the country and legally licensed by government. The owners followed all lawful procedures to import them and paid all required fees to legalize their importation and use in the country. As such, the demand for permission to use them is not lawful.

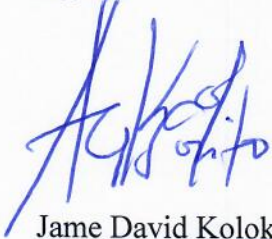
SSCSF calls on you to revoke the part of the first point in the announcement that applies to **factory shaded** window glasses of vehicles only and to do so within 72 hours to prevent this announcement taking effect and causing undue inconveniences to vehicle owners such as inflicting costs on them.

However, in case the traffic police considers the **factory shaded** window glasses a problem, the traffic police should provide general permission letters to affected vehicle owners at no cost on the side of the vehicle owners and these permission letters should be readily available at all check points of the traffic police on the road.

Should the traffic police proceed with implementation of the order on factory shaded window glasses of vehicles, as indicated in the announcement and it involves cost implications on vehicle owners, SSCSF through its members, may seek legal redress to this persistent matter of public concern.

SSCSF ceases this opportunity to renew to the traffic police, the assurances of its support for implementation of all lawful traffic regulations with defined penalties in the Republic of South Sudan.

Signed,



Jame David Kolok
Chairperson, SSCSF



Rajab Mohandis
Coordinator, SSCSF

Cc: Inspector General of Police, South Sudan National Police Service

Cc: A/IGP for Traffic

Cc: All media houses

Cc: File