

### Press Release

#### **AMDISS applauds the unity government and UNMISS for reaching a consensus on the status of Radio Miraya.**

Juba, August 3, 2023, the Association for Media Development in South Sudan (AMDISS) has welcomed the recent consensus reached between the transitional government of national unity and the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) on the status of Radio Miraya's registration with the Media Authority—the media regulatory body in South Sudan.

The lifting of the suspension comes at a crucial time as the country prepares for its first-ever general elections where the people of South Sudan will head to polling stations to cast their ballots in a sealed box in line with democratic standards.

Chairperson of the Executive Board of AMDISS, Mr. Koang Pal Chang welcomed the timely consensus reached between the unity government and UN mission in the country, saying the Radio Miraya will now fully participate in informing and educating the people at the grassroots on their democratic rights ahead of the 2024 elections.

*"The lifting of the ban on Radio Miraya has come at the right time as the country prepares for general elections at the end of the transitional period in 2024. The consensus is timely. It has taken five years to resolve the impasse between the government and the UNMISS. I think the journalists working for Radio Miraya will now be allowed to cover public events freely without interference,"* Koang said.

AMDISS further appeals to the unity government to implement the resolutions reached with UNMISS on the status of Radio Miraya and equally urged the government to direct the security agencies to cooperate with the journalists to allow the media to do its work freely for the public interest.

AMDISS also appeals to the unity government to open up the civic space and promote press freedom and access to information to allow the public to share their opinions freely as the government uses the media to communicate its policies to the public.

AMDISS also advises Radio Miraya to stick to media professionalism by observing the ethics and code of conduct of journalism to promote credible reporting and fact-checking to reduce harm.

AMDISS is a media advocacy and training NGO formed in 2003 to help address the news and information void in the country and to build the capacity of national journalists to report on the issues of human rights, good governance, freedom of expression, and democracy.

*For more information you may want to get clarification, kindly contact us on Tel: 0924 302 140/0922 592 227 or by email at [info@amdiss.org](mailto:info@amdiss.org)*

