



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

The President

31st December 2023

New Year Message of H. E Salva Kiir Mayardit President of the Republic of South Sudan

Fellow Citizens,

As we end the year 2023 and as we welcome 2024, I urge all of you to observe a moment of silence for the fellow compatriots we lost in the course of the year.

Fellow South Sudanese, I take this opportunity to thank you, for your resilience and unyielding faith in overcoming the various challenges we faced in 2023.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

There is no doubt 2023 will hold a special place in our history book because we, the people of South Sudan proved to the world that we can achieve so much more with limited resources for our nation to thrive in peace and prosperity among the community of nations. Together with our partners, we made significant progress in the implementation of the Revitalized Peace Agreement. Notable achievements include graduation and deployment of first batch of the Unified Forces, passing of critical legislations and formation of important constitutional bodies.

Fellow Citizens,

The Government is well aware of the current economic challenges and the toll it is taking on our people, but rest assured that during these challenging times, our Government is committed to finding solutions that will ease the burden on our people. We are working tirelessly to address the inflation, reduce commodity prices and boost domestic production to counter the cost of foreign imports.

Fellow citizens,

Ever since the country descended into war in 2013, our economy has been under constant pressure, and as a result, public servants have not received their salaries on time, whilst, spending on development programs is at all time low.

Despite these challenges, we have never stopped exploring suitable policies that support economic recovery and growth for all. This year alone, we increased the salaries of our civil servants by up to 400% as part of our efforts to meet the current economic conditions.

The Government has also embarked on major infrastructural development projects by launching nationwide road networks that aims to connect the whole country.

These infrastructural developments will not only create economic opportunities but also reduced insecurity.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

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Our dream of promoting quality education and health care and laying a solid foundation for our children is in progress, thanks to the Government and our International partners in supporting and investing significant resources in Education, Health and water sectors.

Fellow citizens,

We are disturbed by the ongoing conflict in The Sudan which has resulted in massive displacement and suffering of the Sudanese people. South Sudan and IGAD member states are working tirelessly in an effort to mediate peace in the Sudan. We hope these efforts will result in permanent peace for the people of the Sudan.

Fellow Citizens,

The year 2024 looks promising but our country continues to suffer from international economic sanctions and arms embargo imposed on us. These arms embargo is in a way affecting implementation of peace agreement. Despite these challenges, the implementation of peace agreement is on track and the final stage of this agreement will lead to general election at the end of 2024.

I therefore urge the people of South Sudan wherever you are to participate in the General Elections.

I call upon the opposition forces, especially the hold out groups who are fighting against the Government to lay down their arms and return home and exercise their democratic rights in the upcoming general Elections.

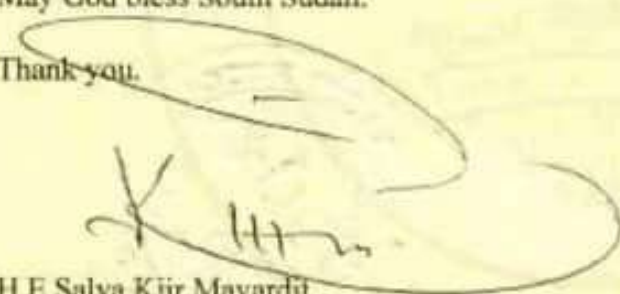
In conclusion, I have ordered the release of 20 inmates effective on the 1st January 2024.

In the name of the land of great abundance, I wish you all a Happy, peaceful and prosperous 2024.

May God bless you all.

May God bless South Sudan.

Thank you.



H.E Salva Kiir Mayardit
President
Republic of South Sudan