

MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN & DIASPORA AFFAIRS State Department for Foreign Affairs Secretariat for South Sudan Office of the Mediator





## JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT

## HIGH LEVEL MEDIATION FOR SOUTH SUDAN

## 20<sup>th</sup> MAY 2024

- 1. The Government of Kenya-led Mediation Phase of the High-Level Mediation for South Sudan brings to the attention of the public that upon consultation with the Hotel security, parties, civil society and stakeholders confirm that the peace process is conducted in a secure environment. All parties reaffirm their commitment and pro-active participation in the peace process.
- 2. On the reported incidents, the Hotel Security, Kenya Police Service and the complainants comprehensively reviewed all the footage and were satisfied with the outcome that no suspicious incidents occurred.
- 3. The regrettable incident circulating in social media, is under investigation by the relevant security agencies of the Republic of Kenya and the outcome of the same shall be communicated publicly.
- 4. The Mediation Team consequently directs the delegations to observe the agreed Rules of Procedures. Furthermore, the Mediators will be continuously in touch with the Parties in order to review operational, administrative and security matters and ensure that the mediation takes place in a conducive environment.

HIGH LEVEL MEDIATION for SOUTH SUDAN **2024** 

- 5. The High-Level Mediation (Tumaini Initiative) for South Sudan, which was initiated by H.E. President William Ruto, upon request by H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan, began in earnest from 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2024. The process is Co-Chaired by the Inter-Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD) and the Community of Sant'Egidio.
- 6. The Mediation has had several successes to date, including reaching agreement on the agenda items for discussion, adoption of the Rules of Procedure, the Launch of the process at State House, hosting of a Presidential-Donor Roundtable, and most recently, the signing of a Declaration of Commitment on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024, by the parties, stakeholders and observers. The parties are currently engaged in the negotiation of the substantiative agenda items and implementation mechanisms.
- 7. The Government of Kenya has been involved at the highest political levels, with direct involvement of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya, Dr William Samoei Ruto. The Chief Mediator specifically wishes to appreciate his personal dedication to the Tumaini Initiative, as well as his unparalleled commitment.
- 8. Several parties and stakeholders are participating in this inclusive process, including: the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity, the South Sudan United Front / Army, the Real-SPLM, the South Sudan People's Movement / Army and the SSUNA Alliance, the National Salvation Front Revolutionary Council Command, Patriots' Resistance Movement, and stakeholders including PCCA, civil society, academia, youth, and women's groups.

LT. GEN. LAZARO SUMBEIYWO (RTD) CHIEF MEDIATOR

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