



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN  
EASTERN EQUATORIA STATE-TORIT  
KAPOETA EAST COUNTY –NARUS  
YOUTHS OFFICE



5<sup>th</sup> /12/2023

### **PRESS RELEASE**

Nakodo, Nadapal, Lokichogio, and Natiera are South Sudan territory belonging to Toposa ethnic group, who joined Equatoria province in 1870s. Toposa are friendly to other communities. They are the third largest group in South Sudan.

Natiera was for Toposa historically in 1902, the Turkana people of Kenya who come to be of the same origin with Toposa people are occupying South Sudan territory Lokichogio and Natiera and claiming for Nadapal and Nakodo.

#### **Geopolitical Interest**

Geopolitics concerns power struggles over territories for the purpose of political control over space. In other words, geopolitics is the practice and ability of a state to control and compete for a territory.

Ilemi triangle is variously claimed by Kenya. This explains why until now the triangle has been unwanted hence not economically developed by any regional government. Ilemi triangle is on the fringe of South Sudan, which is rich in unexplored oil. Nevertheless, no explorations have been made in the contested territory partly due to insecurity from the 30 years of civil war in South Sudan. It lacks infrastructure or modern facilities and is so insulated that its only reminder of the outside world is a South Sudan frontier Territory.

The territory had become campaigns ground for Turkana politician (position seekers), inflaming fire.

Due to oil discoveries in territory 2012, the Kenya government developed an interest on the territory, and started opening roads and deploying soldiers in territory. Though South Sudan government was informing them to refrain, they never hold on but started exploiting the oil and drawing map indicating Nakodo as their border.

Kenyan more recently claim that they had entered into agreement with Sudanese People Liberation Army in 1980s, to administer the contested triangle in return for sanctuary, military and logistical support during 21 years of war.

Since in 1978 Kenyan government has been arming Turkana with automatic weapons, moreover, raiding Toposa cattle using helicopter.



Kenya established what they called KPR (Kenya Police Reserve) continuously and arming, which had become source of insecurity and threat in corridor.

### **International relation**

Kenya had been positively engaged with South Sudan and helping South Sudan in peace mediation with Khartoum government.

In 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2009 the South Sudan Government signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the government of Kenya at Harambee house, Nairobi Kenya. The MoU expressed satisfaction on existing relations between Kenya and Government of South Sudan and agreed as follows

Kenya will establish a temporal border control post at Nadapal adjacent to the existing Southern Sudan Control post to facilitate movement of people, goods, services between two countries.

The establishment of the temporary border control post does not in any way amount to delimitation or demarcation of international boundary between Kenya and South Sudan.

A joint technical team will be established to demarcate the actual boundary between two countries at appropriate time.

The two parties agreed on strengthening collaboration in security issues and protection of rights and civil liberties of citizens of both countries.

A joint liaison office will be established at the temporary border control post at Nadapal to address issues of common interest.

In 2010 the Toposa youth arise against appearance of the Kenyan troops in Nadapal which is their territory and fought with Kenyan government leaving 16 soldiers died and one Toposa youth.

### **Undesirable Source**

In reference to the speech released by Michael Maquei Lueth <sup>1</sup> the minister of postal telecommunication and technology on governor's forum submit, we the citizen of encroach land emotionally feel abundance with terrifying shock in listening unsupportive information from government spoke person.

We feel so prompt in the issues of Nakodo and Nadapal since Kenya government had already indicated on their Global Positioning System (GPS) and google map. However, the issues of border demarcation had been optionally referred to national discussion which all of us paid series of patient to whatever timeframe spend.

My dear leaders we are so much wounded for Nakodo and Nadapal. We were since waiting the cow to deliver but couldn't produce up to this time. Despite the fact, we bondage our heart with patient, our continues pain, tears and love for our encroached land had victimized most of us, and

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<sup>1</sup> <http://cityreviewss.com/machar-makuei-differ-on-how-and-when-to-reclaim-disputed-territories/>

we would give up not until deadly or lively days passed. We can never get healed until our government leaders optionalize Nakodo and Nadapal.

The land is people, land is gold, land is oil, land is all sought of resources upper layer and under layers. The next generations of Toposa people would have no enough land if Nakodo and Nadapal be left for Kenyan based on minister's view.

Notwithstanding, land is purpose of living as creature, it is better for current generation of Toposa to die for the land than the next generations of Toposa people to suffer lack of land, that will give bad history to current generation.

It is good to be Kenyan if my country leaders are paying deaf ears to our cry or bother not Toposa encroach land.

We sincerely request honorable governor, His Excellency the president and other colleges in government to speed up the resolutions for Nakodo and Nadapal because it has become source of frustration and trauma to us here in Kapoeta East. We are agitative when seeing Kenyan government opening new roads in corridor without noticing us the owners.



**LOOJO JOHN MARK LOTIYAN**

**The youth chairperson Kapoeta East County**

