

## Joint Communiqué

The President of the Republic of the Sudan, H.E Omer Hassan Al-Bashir accompanied by a high-level delegation, concluded today, Friday 12 April 2013, a one day official visit to Juba in response to a kind invitation extended by H.E Salva Kiir Mayardit President of the Republic of South Sudan.

The meetings, presided over by the two Presidents were cordial and fruitful and covered all important aspects of the implementation of the matrix for the 9 cooperation agreements signed recently between the two countries.

The two sides affirmed their commitment to implement the cooperation agreements signed in Addis Ababa on Sep 27<sup>th</sup> 2012 honestly to the letter and with the same constructive spirit prevailing between the two countries.

The Presidents expressed their satisfaction with the progress achieved so far in the implementation of the different provisions of the Matrix, and appreciated in particular the progress in implementation of security arrangements, oil, and banking Agreements. They directed all joint mechanisms and committees to accelerate their efforts to enhance the relations between the two countries in all fields of cooperation.

The Presidents further discussed the way forward regarding the remaining issues, and decided to continue their efforts to resolve Abyei issue in accordance with the implementation Matrix.

The two Presidents re-iterated their satisfaction with the Summit meetings mechanism and agreed to establish a high ministerial joint committee led by the Vice Presidents in the two countries with a small number of ministers to support the speedy decision taking to promote the relations between the two countries.

H.E President Al-Bashir expressed his thanks and appreciation for the warm reception accorded to him and the accompanying delegation, and reciprocally invited H.E President Salva Kiir to visit Khartoum shortly to expedite their joint efforts to cement the relations between the two sisterly countries and to strengthen their constructive cooperation.

Juba- April 12<sup>th</sup> 2013