

Special Consultation in Support of the IGAD-led South Sudan
Peace Process
January 11-12th, 2015, Khartoum, Sudan.

Hon. Dr. Barnaba Marial Benjamin
Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
Head of the Government of South Sudan Delegation

Remarks on Special consultation in Support of the IGAD led South Sudan Peace Process
Organised by H.E. Wang Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of People's Republic of China.

No.2015002

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The Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Republic of South Sudan presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of South Sudan and has the honor to convey the attached draft of Agreement Reached on the Special Consultation in Support of the IGAD-led South Sudan Peace Process (Elements). The Chinese side hopes the South Sudanese government will support the above mentioned document.

The Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Republic of South Sudan avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of South Sudan the assurances of its highest consideration.

Embassy of the People's Republic of China
in the Republic of South Sudan

(Translation)

Agreement Reached on the Special Consultation in Support of the
IGAD-led South Sudan Peace Process (Elements)

With the joint efforts of all parties attending the consultation, the two sides of the South Sudan conflict have reached agreement on accelerating the South Sudan peace process as follows:

They have:

1. agreed to implement the signed agreements in good faith and realize an end to all hostilities;
2. agreed to accelerate negotiations on forming a transitional government as soon as possible and start its operation;
3. agreed to take concrete steps to relieve the humanitarian situation in the conflict zones and provide necessary facilitation for the access of international humanitarian assistance;
4. committed to ensuring the safety of personnel and institutions of various countries in South Sudan; and
5. reiterated their firm support for and active participation in IGAD's efforts of good offices and ceasefire monitoring and expressed welcome to China's support for IGAD.

Your Excellencies,

Hon. Wang Yi- Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs

Hon. Tedros Adhanom – Minister of Foreign Affairs of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Chairperson of IGAD Council of Foreign Ministers.

H.E. Ustaz Ali Karti, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Sudan

Amb. Seyoum Mesfin, Chairperson of IGAD Peace Mediators

Hon. Nhial Deng Nhial, Chief Negotiator Government of South Sudan

Gen. Taban Deng Gai, Chief negotiator of SPLM- In Opposition

Invited guests

Ladies and gentlemen,

Good Afternoon,

I would like to take this opportunity to convey the greetings from my president H.E. Gen Salva Kiir Mayardit and extends his best wishes for a successful consultation and Support of the IGAD Peace Process

The Government of South Sudan is committed to attaining peace and is therefore always available for those willing to find a lasting solution. When we were informed that there is Special Consultation initiated by the Government of the People's Republic of China and in support of the on-going IGAD led mediation, we immediately availed ourselves and were the first delegation to arrive with an open mind. The leadership of South Sudan is committed to accelerate the South Sudan peace process under the auspices of the IGAD and welcomes this initiative Led by foreign minister, H.E. Wang Yi.

The President of the Republic of South Sudan, H.E. General Salva Kiir Mayardit in spirit of peace and reconciliation, has recommitted himself to the quest for lasting peace as indicated in all Previous Head State IGAD meetings in Ethiopia and Kenya. Therefore, the delegation is committed to contribute in enhancing the IGAD peace process and has arrived here with the same spirit, open mind and heart.

Your Excellencies, since the eruption of the conflict in December 2013, the Government has been actively engaged in a series of negotiations, resulting in the Cession of Hostilities Agreement, signed on the 23rd of January 2014. We can assure your Excellences, that in the spirit of peace, the government has been fully committed to observe the Agreement without fail. However, in case of what may be perceived as violation of the agreement is in fact that the Government has only been forced to react in self-defence, especially in cases where there have been attacks from the opposition forces led by Dr. Riak Machar. We have recorded incidences of such violations of Cessation of Hostilities on the side of the SPLM- In Opposition.

Your Excellences, pertaining the 5 proposed points put forward by the Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China reinforces the on-going peace talks in Addis Abba. We believe that these 5 points will strengthen the Bar Dar discussions as well as the direct 8 hours communication between H.E. Gen Salva Kiir and Dr. Riak Machar in Addis Abba last Heads of State meetings. With regards to article 4; we believe that the commitment must ensure that the safety personnel and institutions of various countries in South Sudan including economic installations.

My Government reaffirms its commitments to ensure protection of all our citizens, the safety of personnel and institution of various countries in South Sudan as well as the safety of all economic installations. This is a Sovereign responsibility within our constitutional mandate and authority

It is important to note that the Economic Installations in our country are for the benefit of the people of South Sudan, the Republic of Sudan and the People's Republic of China. It is all our combined responsibility to protect and prevent the destruction of these important and strategic institutions and infrastructure

Your Excellencies I would like to assure you all here at the special consultation meeting that the Republic of South Sudan government is committed and supports the following:

2: We are also committed to enhance negotiations that would lead to the formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity that is inclusive in order to bring peace and reconciliation to South Sudan.

3: I would like to stress that we are already implementing and cooperating in carrying out concrete steps to facilitate Relief for all Humanitarian Assistance in all areas of South Sudan, including conflict zones. We are coordinating with UN agencies and NGO's providing Humanitarian Assistance to all persons in need and these Agencies have access to all areas in need without any restrictions.

4: We have also allowed the free movement and facilitated Humanitarian agencies engaged in Humanitarian Relief in South Sudan.

5: We strongly support the active participation of all people of good will and of IGAD's efforts to bring peace to South Sudan. Furthermore we recognise the good offices and the positive role of the Monitors for Cessation of Hostilities. Also, we fully welcome China's support in promoting IGAD Peace Process as indicated in this meeting today 12th January, 2015.

It is also important to note that the Government of the Republic of South Sudan is fully committed to working together with UNMISS in protection of civilians and allows the movements of the UNMISS forces in carrying out its mandate fully in South Sudan and in harmony with the Government Constitutional mandated responsibilities.

I would like to seize this opportunity to welcome the contribution of the Chinese contingent as part of the UNMISS forces in South Sudan. We can assure you that the forces are allowed to enter South Sudan with all their necessary equipment required to carry out their responsibilities as reflected in UNMISS mandate.

In this regard I also extend my thanks to our Ethiopian brothers and sisters for their contribution towards UNMISS mandate and also to assure them that the Leadership of the Government will continue cooperating with them. The Government also allows their equipment into the country. This is necessary to carry out their UNMISS mandate adequately. At this juncture, I would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to the

Leadership and the Government of Republic of Sudan for hosting this IGAD led consultation together with the Chinese Foreign Minister and we appreciate the warm welcome and hospitality extended to me and my delegation.

Your Excellencies, the leadership of the Government of South Sudan is committed to the observation of all Human Rights and in that spirit the Government has allowed and facilitated the access of various Human Rights investigation teams, including AU President Obasanjo team which is tasked to carry out the investigations into any Human Rights Violations in South Sudan. The Government has also formed its Human Rights Commission, mandated to carry out similar investigations and with the purpose of holding accountable those found guilty of being involved or violated Human Rights.

Your Excellencies, to conclude, I would like to thank the Foreign Minister of China, H.E. Wang Yi, for the initiative he has taken in support of the IGAD peace process and his commitment to promote peace, stability and development in our region.

We can assure your Excellency that the Leadership and the Government of the Republic of South Sudan will always cooperate in the areas of peace and economic development in order to improve the living standards of our people in the country and the entire region.

On behalf of my President, H.E. Gen Salva Kiir Mayardit and my delegation, we wish you a great visit and success on your African tour. I thank you.