

UN Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan

**Conference on Sustaining Momentum for Transitional Justice in South Sudan
20 – 22 February 2023
Mombasa, Kenya & Microsoft Teams**



Summary of Outcomes Adopted at the Conference on Sustaining Momentum for Transitional Justice in South Sudan

1. The UN Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan convened the 3rd Conference on *Sustaining Momentum for Transitional Justice in South Sudan* from 20 to 22 February 2023. The primary objective of the Conference was to assess the progress in implementation of Chapter V of the peace agreement and Resolutions adopted by key State and non-State actors in December 2021 to promote timely, holistic, inclusive, and citizen-and-victim-centered transitional justice processes in South Sudan.
2. The South Sudan Minister for Gender, Child and Social Welfare, Hon. Aya Benjamin Warille, High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr. Volker Türk (via pre-recording), and IGAD Special Envoy to South Sudan, H.E. Amb. Ismail Waiss (online) presided over the opening of the Conference, among other national and regional leaders.
3. The Conference brought together Ministers and officials from key Government institutions and representatives of the African Union, Guarantors (Uganda), Troika (USA), South Sudan Human Rights Commission, Judicial Reforms Committee, Technical Committee on National Consultations for the Establishment of the Commission on Truth, Reconciliation and Healing, UNDP, UNMISS, UN Women, Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission, and Civil Society including religious leaders, union of journalists, and national and international Non-Governmental Organizations.



Participants key take-aways from the discussions

4. Stakeholders at the Conference stressed the need for **greater national ownership and genuine political will by the Government and its citizenry (moving beyond promises to tangible action)** to accelerate the realization of holistic transitional justice, encompassing truth-seeking, accountability, reparation, memorialization, reconciliation, institutional and legal reforms, and other complementary measures to prevent recurrence of conflict and atrocities in South Sudan.



5. **The Conference concluded with the adoption of the following outcomes as key priorities to be completed within one year of the extended 24-month period of the peace agreement:**
 - a. The Government to immediately enact legislation and operationalize the Commission for Truth Reconciliation and Healing, and Compensation and Reparation Authority, with broad public participation and inclusion of refugees, women, children, and other marginalized groups.
 - b. The African Union to step up its engagement with the Government of South Sudan, including through the offices of its Chairperson, Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, Peace and Security Council, and C5 Group, to finalize the development and adoption of broad guidelines and legislation for the establishment and operationalization of the Hybrid Court for South Sudan.
 - c. The Government to fast-track implementation of judicial reforms as provided in the peace agreement and initiate other legal and institutional measures, including within the military justice system, to provide effective, human rights-based and victim-centered accountability and reparation for conflict-related violations.
 - d. The Government to initiate mapping of victims of conflict-related violations, including survivors of conflict-related sexual violence and children born out of rape, and feasible interim reparation and assistance measures to address their urgent health care and psychosocial needs.
 - e. The Government to swiftly put in place effective measures to curb ongoing conflict and insecurity across the country to provide a safe environment for citizens to participate freely and openly in transitional justice, constitution-making and other reform processes. This includes immediate enactment and enforcement of the amended National Security Service Act and *Presidential Directive to Governors, County Commissioners and Administrative Chiefs on ensuring open and civic space, access to information and freedom of media, assembly, and association*, deployment of graduated armed forces, and completion of training and graduation of the Necessary Unified Forces.
 - f. The Government to allocate adequate funding in the 2023-24 national budget to operationalize the CTRH, CRA, HCSS and facilitate broad-based civic education and awareness on holistic implementation of transitional justice and related reform processes in South Sudan.
 - g. The UN and other development partners, African Union, IGAD, Troika, Guarantors, RJMEC and civil society, to collaborate with the Government to address financial and technical resource deficits following the Government's budgetary allocation, including through grants, technical assistance, and capacity building to support implementation of transitional justice and related reform processes.
6. Conference participants agreed to **meet quarterly in Juba, South Sudan**, to assess the progress achieved and address emerging challenges in implementation of the adopted priorities.



The Sud of The Sudan
From The Rule of War to The Rule of Law

1. All across the marshlands and highlands of the Sud of Sudan, guns on the battlefields still rumble. The silence on the plains, still groans with the moaning of the dying, leaving orphans and widows, wailing in trauma; and millions upon millions wallowing in the anguish of the refugee dungeons!
2. The never-ending wars, take their toll. Fighting across the land, never ends; The fire of the weapons never ceases.
3. But now, a ray of light on the horizon. In the cool suburbs of Nairobi and in the sweltering heat of coastal Mombasa, Ambassadors of Peace congregate: a gospel of justice to preach; a doctrine of liberty to proclaim.
4. They gather thus, to garner support from friend and foe alike. They meet, a just platform to design. They assemble at the altar of the conference hall, a prayer of benediction to proffer; divine intercession for National Healing, to invoke.
5. The Delegates' work done: The Eagle of the Sud readies to fly, to soar upwards and outwards: forwards ever, backwards never!
6. And so: Let the Sud to her destination fly... perpetrators of crimes of infamy, to punish; victims of such, to compensate; the wounds of the population, to heal; and the destiny of a Nation, to uphold.
7. Long live Peace in the Nation;
Long live Liberty to the Citizen;
Long live Justice to All;
Long live The Sud of The Sudan!

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*Composed and recited at Voyager Beach Resort
Mombasa, Kenya, 22nd February 2023*

*In commemoration of affirmative Resolutions of an
International Conference (20 - 22 Feb. 2023) urging quick
action to kick-start implementation of appropriate
mechanisms for Transitional Justice in South Sudan.*