

Opening Remarks of the Civil Society on the Final Session of the IGAD Led South Sudan Peace Process.

Your Excellency, Amb. Seyoum Mesfin, Chairperson of the IGAD Special Envoys.

Your Excellency, General Lazarus Sumbeiywo

Your Excellency, Mohamed Mustafa El Dabi

Your Excellency, Executive Secretary of IGAD

Excellencies, Representatives of the AU, UN, Troika, EU, People's Republic of China and IPF.

Excellencies, Chief Negotiator of GRSS, Chief Negotiator of SPLM/SPLA-IO, Former Detainees, Eminent Persons, Faith-based, women block and the IGAD Secretariat. Distinguish guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Good Morning

- We welcome you all to this final session which we hope will end with a genuine comprehensive, inclusive, and everlasting, permanent peace with justice for the suffering people of South Sudan.
- We the civil society representatives participating in this peace talks appreciate the efforts of the IGAD Envoys, regional and international support in the quest for peace in South Sudan.
- We therefore; urge the two parties to the conflict to selflessly consider the suffering of the people of South Sudan, and to bring to an end this devastating war. We thus urge the two warring parties to conclude this session, with a constructive peace agreement, for the people of South Sudan, which shall go beyond the mere demand for power sharing and to address the comprehensive wellbeing of our people.
- Finally, we call upon all the stakeholders to work in genuine unison for the conclusion of a living peace agreement. It is also imperative to point out that, the civil society organizations (CSOs) are the corner stones in the operationalization of the peace agreement. We wish you fruitful deliberations saturated in brotherly and sisterly rapport. Thank you very much. God bless you all and God bless South Sudan.

Ms. Alokir Malual Aguer

Civil Society Team Leader

23 February 2015, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia