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PRESS STATEMENT

Talks resume between President Kiir and Dr. Riek Machar ahead of 5 March deadline

3 March 2015, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: This afternoon, in the presence of Ato Hailemariam Dessalegn, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Chairperson of the IGAD Assembly, President of the Republic of South Sudan Salva Kiir Mayardit and Leader of the SPLM/A (In Opposition) Dr. Riek Machar resumed face-to-face talks on the outstanding issues of the mediation agenda as per the 1 February 2015 Working Document. Amongst the critical issues are the structure of the executive of the Transitional Government of National Unity, the power sharing ratios, the composition of the National Assembly and transitional security arrangements.

Cognizant of the commitment of the Parties to conclude a final agreement by 5 March 2015, the IGAD Special Envoys for South Sudan call on the Parties to accelerate their efforts to reach a final agreement. The IGAD Special Envoys also appeal to the IGAD Heads of State and Government, the United Nations, the African Union and the broader international community to join the call of the IGAD Special Envoys. ##

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