



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

Office of the Chief Negotiator

June 12th 2014.

H.E. Amb. Seyoum Mesfin,
Chairperson of the Mediation Process,
South Sudan Peace Talks,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

RE: LETTER OF PROTEST TO IGAD

Your Excellency,

Reference to the article entitled (South Sudan Warring Leaders agree deadline for new government) subtitled (IGAD disappointed by failure to commitment of two parties) pages 1 and 16 of the Daily Monitor Vol. XX, No. 133 Dated: Thursday 12th of June 2014 in which the IGAD Executive Secretary Mr. Mahboub Maalim is quoted by the newspaper as saying "both Kiir and Machar were "stupid" if they thought they could win on the battlefield..."

And also "If we want to apportion blame, it's theirs. I think sometimes they thought they could win on the ground militarily, something which is very stupid," Maalim said.

He also said that "Delegates for Kiir and Machar have been meeting in luxury hotels in the Ethiopian capital since January, with both sides bickering over the agenda and even the venue of discussions".

He also went on to say that "Previous rounds of peace talks have made little progress and been repeatedly delayed, so far costing over 17 million dollars (12 million euros)" the IGAD Official said.

Relevant parts of the Newspaper attached.

Your Excellency,

The Government of the Republic of South Sudan Delegation to the Peace Talks is deeply disappointed with the statements made by Mr. Mahboub Maalim, the Executive Secretary of IGAD abusing H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, the President of the Republic of South Sudan and a Member of the IGAD Heads of States as "STUPID".

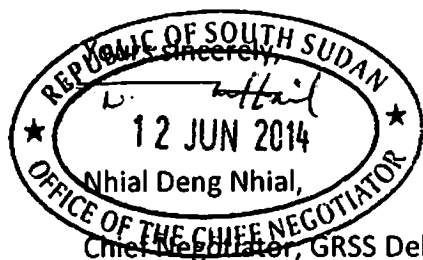
The Delegation is also very disappointed by his statements describing that the delegates are living in luxurious hotels in the Ethiopian Capital since January and that "the parties had been repeatedly delaying the process so far costing over 17 million USD".

The Delegation of the GRSS condemns the above mentioned statements by Mr. Mahboub Maalim, especially those that relate to the President of the Republic of South Sudan in the strongest possible terms as they are abusive and irresponsible.

In the light of the above, the Government of the Republic of South Sudan Delegation demands clarification from IGAD on the irresponsible, unacceptable conduct and behaviour of its Executive Secretary against the Head of State.

It is noteworthy that this is not the first time for IGAD officials to make such disparaging remarks about the President of The Republic of South Sudan and its Government. As a member state of IGAD, South Sudan finds these remarks inappropriate and unacceptable.

Therefore the GRSS Delegation may have to reconsider its participation in the IGAD-led mediation peace process if satisfactory clarifications sought are not given with regards to the statements of the IGAD Executive Secretary. Kindly accept Your Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration and best regards.



Chief Negotiator, GRSS Delegation,

Addis Ababa; Ethiopia.

Cc:

H.E. Hailemariam Dessalegn; Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the Chairman of IGAD

H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit; President of the Republic of South Sudan

H.E. Gen. Lazaro K. Sumbeiywo; Special Envoy, IGAD

H.Ef. Gen. Mohamed A. El-Dabi; Special Envoy, IGAD

South Sudan Embassy in Addis Ababa; Ethiopia