

Friday 5th August 2022

South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC) Statement on the Roadmap to a Peaceful and Democratic End of the Transitional Period of the R-ARCSS

“Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.”
(Romans 12:18).

After 20 months of violent conflict, which led to a failing state-building process, the warring parties in South Sudan signed the R-ARCSS on 12th September 2018 giving cautious hope that South Sudan would be on the road to peace. However, in 2022, the country is still fragile with an economy on the brink of collapse despite being an oil-producing country, escalating hunger and an inconsistent and unsteady political will to implement the peace agreement. Inter- and intra-tribal conflict has increased throughout the country due to multiple factors including competition over water and land, competition for livelihoods. There has been persistent deadlock with regards to power sharing within the unified army command and continued armed conflict or violence in many parts of the country. Cattle raids have led to a high number of casualties.

Some of the main goals of the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGoNU) in the Transitional period was to address the humanitarian crisis, reform and strengthen effectiveness of public institutions, deliver transitional justice, draft a permanent constitution, and conduct credible elections within the agreed implementation schedule. However, the progress in the implementation of the R-ARCSS has been generally slow and extremely inconsistent. This is because there is insufficient trust and confidence among parties to this agreement.

As parties to the agreement have agreed on the road map to a peaceful and democratic end of the transitional period, effective leadership must be exhibited among all parties to the agreement. South Sudanese deserve committed leaders that have the security, welfare, and prosperity of the people at heart. Let us also be mindful that the future of the country, marred with uncertainties, lies entirely on us. We are overdue to putting ourselves on the right path and learn from our past and current experiences. It is up to our leaders to make the decision to bring an end to this pain and turmoil that we witness everyday of our lives.

As South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC), we strongly urge parties to the agreement as they reaffirm their commitment to genuine implementation of the R-ARCSS, to deliberately double their effort in ensuring the dignity of the people, build and sustain



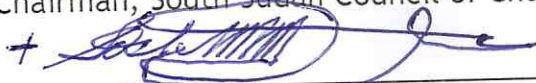
peace and stability through delivery of peace dividends, promotion of peace, good governance and human rights and alleviation of the suffering of South Sudanese. Thinking beyond implementation of the agreement, a pathway to a good system of governance that centres the needs of citizens should be put in place. Let the vision of the country be made clear by highlighting the collective and harmonious work of the RTGoNU.

O God Bless South Sudan!

SIGNED:



Rt. Rev. Moderator James PAR TAP HON
Chairman, South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC), JUBA.



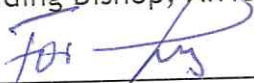
The Most Rev. Dr. Stephen AMEYU MARTIN
Metropolitan Archbishop of JUBA &
Apostolic Administrator, Catholic Diocese of TORIT.



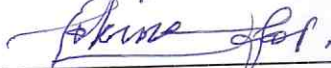
The Most Rev. Dr. Justin BADI ARAMA
Archbishop and Primate
Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (ECSS) &
Metropolitan Archbishop of JUBA Diocese, JUBA.



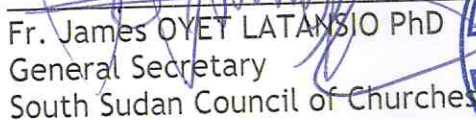
Bishop James LAGOS ALEXANDER
Presiding Bishop, Africa Island Church (AIC), JUBA.



Bishop James LADO
General Overseer, Sudan Pentecostal Church (SPC), JUBA.



Rt. Rev. James MAKUEI CHUOL
Moderator of the General Assembly
Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCSS), JUBA.



Fr. James OYET LATANSIO PhD
General Secretary
South Sudan Council of Churches

