South Sudan Council of Churches Head Office

P.O. Box 209 - Juba, South Sudan.



مجلس كنائس جنوب السودان المكتب الرئيسي ص - ب ۲۰۹ جوبا - جنوب السودان

Tuesday 18th November 2025

His Excellence, Dr. William Samoei Ruto, C.G.H President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces

Subject: Appreciation and Appeal for Continued Leadership in Supporting Peace and Stability in South Sudan

Your Excellency,

'For lack of guidance, a nation falls, but victory is won through many advisors' (Prov. 11:14)

On behalf of the South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC), we would like to express our sincere appreciation for the opportunity to meet with you and for Kenya's continued moral, diplomatic, and political leadership in supporting peace and stability in South Sudan.

Kenya has played a historic and enduring role in our nation's peace journey - from its instrumental contribution to the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in 2005, to the current mediation efforts under IGAD and the Tumaini Initiative. These efforts continue to inspire hope and confidence among South Sudanese. We also recognize your government's commitment to bringing holdout groups into the peace process, and your strong commitment to regional peace through the East African Community (EAC) and the African Union (AU).

Your Excellency, South Sudan is at a delicate and challenging moment. The deteriorating security situation threatens to unravel the fragile gains achieved through the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS).

In recent months, violent clashes between the South Sudan People's Defense Forces (SSPDF) and the Sudan People's Liberation Army–In Opposition (SPLA-IO) have escalated, particularly in the Upper Nile, Jonglei, and Equatoria regions. These confrontations—have displaced thousands of people and reignited cycles of mistrust and retaliation. Without urgent diplomatic and political intervention, South Sudan risks sliding back into large-scale conflict—an outcome that would have dire consequences for the country and the region.

Your Excellency, the SSCC continues to serve as a trusted, impartial, and unifying voice for peace in South Sudan. Since its inception, the Council has played a pivotal role in reconciliation, mediation, and community dialogue nationwide.

And now, we, the spiritual leaders, have developed a Church-led initiative for national healing and reconciliation—a timely home-grown effort aimed at breaking the current political deadlock and safeguarding the fragile peace under the theme: "Let us dialogue and live in Peace! (Isaiah 1:18)". This process outlines a practical roadmap, led by South Sudanese faith leaders and informed by the voices of citizens, our Action Plan for Peace (APP), and other grassroots initiatives.

The Church remains a moral and stabilizing force, promoting reconciliation, nurturing hope, and striving to prevent societal disintegration. **However, these efforts require corresponding political will and regional solidarity**. The Revitalized Peace Agreement remains the only viable framework for sustainable peace, yet, its implementation is now at a serious risk.

Your Excellency, as South Sudan is scheduled to conduct its national elections in December 2026, we emphasize the importance of holding elections, to give citizens the democratic opportunity to elect their leaders and hold them accountable. **When free, fair, and inclusive** elections can serve as a path to **legitimacy, stability, and national renewal**. However, this will require restoration of political trust, security, and the implementation of critical peace provisions.

We therefore respectfully request Your Excellency to:

- 1. Call for an Immediate Ceasefire: Provide decisive leadership in urging an immediate cessation of hostilities and a complete ceasefire among all warring parties in South Sudan.
- **2. Facilitate High-Level Political Dialogue**: Continue Kenya's leadership in enabling direct engagement between H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit and Dr. Riek Machar to rebuild trust, recommit to the inclusive implementation of the R-ARCSS, and create the conditions necessary for the permanent constitution-making process and credible national elections.
- **3.** Bring non-signatories to the R-ARCSS, and other groups into the peace process: Sustain diplomatic efforts to engage these groups so that South Sudan's political future is shaped through broad-based consensus and national ownership.
- **4. Strengthen the Role of Faith-Based and Civil Society Actors**: Affirm and support the indispensable work of faith institutions, civil society, and other non-partisan actors who are holding communities together and advancing people-centered peacebuilding.

Your Excellency, the South Sudan Council of Churches reiterates its unwavering commitment to work with all parties and partners in the pursuit of peace, justice, and national healing. We are deeply grateful for Kenya's partnership, moral leadership, and steadfast solidarity with the people of South Sudan.

Your Excellency, be assured of our prayers for you and may God bless all your ways.

Yours sincerely,

The Most Rev. Dr. Justin BADI ARAMA

Chair, South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC) & Primate of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (ECSS).

H. E. Stephen AMEYU MARTIN CARDINAL MULLA, Member of the BoTs, & Metropolitan Archbishop of Juba

Rt. Rev. James MAKUEI CHUOL,

Member BoTs, & Moderator of the 34th General Assembly Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCSS), Juba.

Bishop James LAGOS ALEXANDER,

Member of the BoTs & Presiding Bishop of Africa Inland Church (AIC), South Sudan.

Rev. Tut Kony NYANG KON,

General Secretary, South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC), Juba.