

South Sudan Council of Churches
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مجلس كنائس جنوب السودان
المكتب الرئيسي
ص - ب ٢٠٩ جوبا - جنوب السودان

**STATEMENT OF CONCERN BY THE SOUTH SUDAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES ON THE CURRENT
SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION IN SOUTH SUDAN**

Juba, South Sudan

6th March 2025



**“May the Lord Bless you and keep you
May The Lord Let His Face shine on you and be gracious to you
May the Lord Uncover His Face to you and bring you Peace” (Numbers 6:24-26).**

Your Excellency,

In the name of God, the Creator and Sustainer of all life, we, the leaders of the South Sudan Council of Churches, come before you today as servants of the people and messengers of hope. We bring with us the prayers and hopes of millions of South Sudanese mothers, fathers, children, and elders, who long for a nation where peace reigns, where their children can grow in peace and dignity. We offer our prayers for you, Your Excellency, and for all our leaders, that God may grant you wisdom, courage, and compassion as you guide our beloved nation through these challenging times.

Your Excellency,

As shepherds of God’s people, our hearts are heavy with the weight of the escalating insecurity, political tensions, and violence that threaten the peace you and many others have worked so hard to build. The Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS), signed in 2018, remains a gift of hope to our nation. It is a promise to our people—a promise to end their suffering and to lay the foundation for a South Sudan where justice, peace, and prosperity prevail. Yet, today, we stand at a critical juncture where this precious agreement is being shaken by the current wave of hostilities and limited political will among the Parties.

Your Excellency,

We are deeply troubled by the recent violence in Upper Nile, Western Equatoria, Western Bahr el Ghazal, and Southern Warrap. These conflicts have stolen innocent lives, torn families apart, and

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forced thousands to flee their homes. The cries of the wounded, the tears of the grieving, and the despair of the displaced remind us of the dark days we had hoped were behind us.

We commend you, Your Excellency, for your unwavering commitment to peace, as demonstrated by your powerful declaration during the Rome Retreat with the Holy Father, Pope Francis: ***“I will not take the People of South Sudan back to war.”*** These words gave our people hope, and they still do. We are encouraged by the recent bold and decisive steps taken by the Presidency under your leadership to calm the tension along the Sobat River (Ulang and Nasir Counties) in Upper Nile State. In the same spirit, we urge you to address the hostilities across the country, and to ensure the full implementation of the R-ARCSS. The future of our nation and that of our children depend on the choices we make today. Let us choose peace and not war.

We also call upon the Principals of the R-ARCSS to rise above their differences, to continue prioritizing dialogue over confrontation, and to place the well-being of the people above political interests. Furthermore, we call upon your leadership to release those who are arrested for the sake of peace.

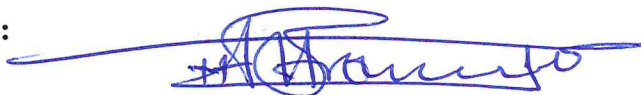
Your Excellency,

The Church stands with you and with the people of South Sudan in this journey toward peace, justice, and prosperity. We are committed to fostering forgiveness, healing, and reconciliation in every corner of our nation. We will continue to pray, to mediate, and to work tirelessly for the common good of all South Sudanese. Our people are tired of war and displacement that have always compromised their dignity. Let's give peace a chance.

In this critical moment of our history, let us turn to God, the source of all peace, and ask for His guidance and blessings upon our nation, particularly during this special time of Lent, when God is calling us to conversion “The time has come, and God’s Kingdom is near, change the way you think and act and believe the Good News” (Mark 1:15). We pray for you, Your Excellency, and for all our leaders, that you may be instruments of God’s peace in our land.

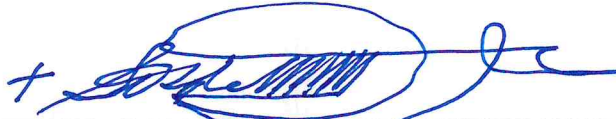
May the peace of Christ, which surpasses all understanding, fill the hearts of all South Sudanese and guide us toward a future of unity, justice, and lasting peace.

Signed:

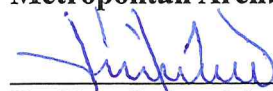


The Most Rev. Dr. Justin Badi Arama
Chair, South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC) &
Primate of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (ECSS).





His Eminence Stephen Cardinal Ameyu Martin Mulla
Metropolitan Archbishop of Juba, Catholic Archdiocese of Juba.



Rt. Rev. James Makuei Chuol
Moderator of the 34th General Assembly
Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCSS), Juba.



Rt. Rev. Thomas Tut Puot
Moderator of South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church (SSPEC), Juba.

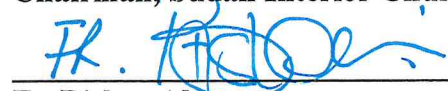
Bishop James Lagos Alexander
Presiding Bishop of Africa Inland Church (AIC), South Sudan.



Bishop James Lado Emiliano
General Overseer, Sudan Pentecostal Church (SPC), Juba.



Rev. Benykeng Ajak Pal
Chairman, Sudan Interior Church (SIC), Juba.

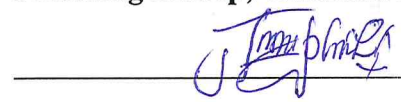


Fr. Bishay Alantony
General Vicar
Coptic Orthodox Church, Khartoum and South Sudan

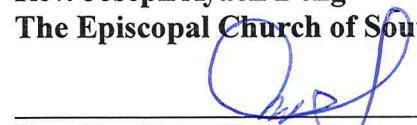
Rt. Rev. Kewy Ismail Geng
President, General Synod Sudanese Reformed Church



Bishop Simon Nyamara Tibi
Presiding Bishop, Christian Brotherhood Church



Rev. Joseph Ayach Deng
The Episcopal Church of South Sudan (ECSS).



Rev. Tut Kony Nyang Kon
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