



**Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya  
to the United Nations, New York  
Security Council - 2021-2022**

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**A3+1 STATEMENT DURING BRIEFING AND CONSULTATIONS ON THE  
UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SOUTH SUDAN**

**MONDAY, 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2021 - 10:00 A.M**

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**Thank you Mr. President**

1. I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the A3+1, comprising Kenya, Niger, Tunisia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.
2. We take note of the Secretary General's comprehensive report and thank SRSG Nicholas Haysom, USG Mark Lowcock and Mr. Rajab Mohandis for the briefings. *We acknowledge and welcome the participation of the Permanent Representative of South Sudan, our colleague Amb. Akuei Bona.*

**Mr. President,**

3. The A3+1 is fully cognizant of what South Sudan has gone through for years, and acknowledges and commends the people of South Sudan for the gradual and cumulative progress in the implementation of the Revitalized Peace Agreement.

4. Notably, the reconstitution of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly and the formation of the state and lower levels of government are paving the way for adoption of laws and policies that will further accelerate the peace process. The new administrative structures will also be critical to efforts to improve governance, provide the much-needed public services and, deal with insecurity, including resolving localized intercommunal conflicts.
5. We salute all the parties for their continued commitment to the permanent ceasefire which has now held for the last three years.
6. We welcome the transitioning of the UN Protection of Civilians site in Bentiu, Unity state, to camps of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) under the responsibility of the Government of South Sudan, as well as the returning of refugees. These positive developments are indicative of increased public confidence in the peace process and the country's nascent institutions.
7. The A3+1 is encouraged by the progress made under the "Rome Initiative of the South Sudan Peace Process" including the signing of the Declaration of Principles between the Government of South Sudan and South Sudan Opposition Movement Alliance (SSOMA) in Naivasha, Kenya. We commend the Community of Sant'Egidio and Kenya for their role and urge the parties to remain committed to the process.

**Mr. President,**

8. To speed up and sustain the peace process, it is necessary to pay attention to a number of concerns.

9. The A3+1 remains concerned by the slow progress of the transitional security arrangements. We acknowledge the limitations and challenges of technical capacity and resources. However, the Parties can and should do more to advance the training, graduation and redeployment of the Necessary Unified Forces.
10. Equally critical is the implementation of the DDR process, the finalization of the Strategic Defense and Security Review (SDSR), as well as the establishment of proper management system of arms and ammunition stockpiles.
11. The A3+1 is also concerned by the dire humanitarian situation. Food insecurity remains alarming and has been worsened by climate-change induced challenges including drought and resource based intercommunal violence. The Covid-19 pandemic has also had the greatest impact on the most vulnerable. We extend appreciation to all humanitarian agencies working in South Sudan for their assistance and urge international partners to continue to extend the much-needed humanitarian support to address the existing shortfalls.
12. We further urge the government to take the appropriate measures to ensure the safety, protection and security of all humanitarian aid agencies, and facilitate the delivery of assistance.

**Mr. President,**

13. As a way forward and in addition to the foregoing, the A3+1 wishes to underscore three (3) points:
14. **First: As South Sudan celebrates its tenth anniversary, peace consolidation through state building and institution building must remain of utmost priority.**
15. With enhanced state and institution capacity, South Sudan will be better positioned to address the root causes of the conflict. In this regard, the launch of the permanent constitution-making process, envisaged under Chapter 6 of the Revitalized Peace Agreement is an encouraging step.
16. We commend the initiative by the United Nations, in partnership with the Governments of Sweden, Ireland, and Kenya to facilitate the conduct of population and housing census in 2022. This is a key prerequisite not only for socioeconomic planning but also an imperative for the political process towards the conduct of the next general elections.
17. The A3+1 holds the view that South Sudan's engagement with the Peace Building Commission would be complementary to the efforts of the Council. We therefore encourage South Sudan to consider engaging the PBC for support for its programmes including the Development Plan and the WPS National Action Plan.
18. **Secondly: The A3+1 reiterates its call for augmentation of international support for South Sudan.** The peace process and the Revitalized Peace Agreement is complex and costly arrangement requiring

strong political commitment, as well as considerable amount of time and resources.

19. We are grateful for all diplomatic support as well as technical, financial, and logistical assistance from regional and international partners. We encourage the international partners to continue providing the much-needed resources to sustain the peace and stabilization efforts.
  
20. **Thirdly, Mr. President, the A3+1 notes that UNMISS is as old as South Sudan having been established** on the eve of South Sudan independence. Today, UNMISS is one of the largest UN Peace Operations globally with an annual budget USD\$ 1.17 billion. As the mission achieves its tenth anniversary, it is important for the Security Council to reflect on whether UNMISS has been achieving its mandate.
  
21. The most important role of UNMISS must remain to support the people of South Sudan to lay a firm foundation for achievement peace, stability and development. It is important that the Mission calibrates its priorities to focus on giving concrete support to the peace process, including technical and logistical support for the implementation of the Revitalized Peace Agreement.
  
22. To conclude, **Mr. President**, the A3+1 would like to reiterate its appreciation for the continued efforts of the UN, AU, IGAD and all international partners in supporting the people of South Sudan on their journey towards sustainable peace, stability and prosperity.
  
23. **I thank you for your attention**