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Inside this edition

President Kiir Assumes The Chairmanship Of East African Community

President Kiir Attends AU Summit In Ethiopia, Urges African Unity And Peace

The Transformative Leadership Of The Ministry Of Petroleum: A Diplomatic Analysis...



Guided by our vision for a prosperous, competitive, secure, stable and politically united East Africa, I will focus on enhancing integration within the region during my tenure and shall continue to focus on regional peace initiatives, strengthen security measures, advance political processes and establish emergency response mechanisms. All these will be aimed at promoting good governance.
-President Kiir

Ambassador Cecilia A.M. Adeng Assumes Role As South Sudan's Permanent Representative To The United Nations



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Content:

04

President Kiir Assumes The Chairmanship Of E.A.C

President Salva Kiir Mayardit has formally assumed the Chairmanship of the East African Community. This came as East African leaders gathered in Arusha for the 23rd Ordinary EAC.

06

President Kiir Attends AU Summit In Ethiopia...

President Salva Kiir Mayardit of South Sudan participated in the 37th African Union (AU) Summit held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The summit brought together Heads of State and Government from across Africa to address crucial matters...

08

Profile: Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan...

Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of South Sudan, is a distinguished diplomat with an impressive track record spanning several decades...

24

Dep. Minister Attends Security Conference

Hon. Ramadan M. Abdallah Goc, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, along with his delegation, participated in the 60th Munich Security Conference held at Bayerischer Hof in Munich, Germany, from February 16th to 18th.

28

Transformative Leadership Of The Ministry Of Petroleum...

This article provides an in-depth analysis of the achievements, positive policy changes, environmental concerns, and investor attraction strategies implemented by the Minister of Petroleum, highlighting their impact on South Sudan's economic growth and stability.

44

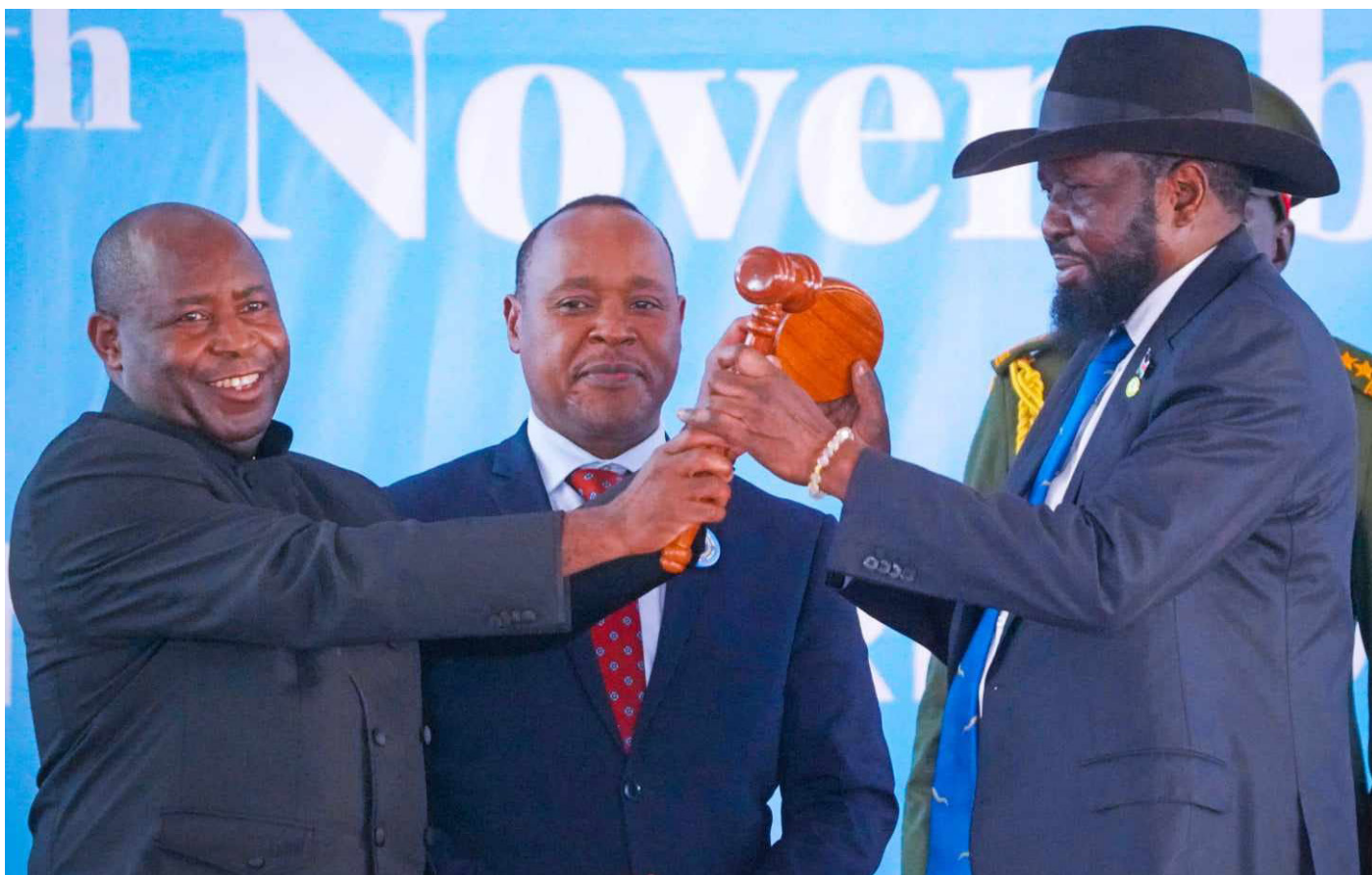
Remembering A Champion Of Justice: Amb. Sabit Alley

We mourn the passing of Ambassador Sabit Abbe Alley, a true champion of justice, equality and human rights. Ambassador Alley dedicated his career to these ideals, both in his work advancing the causes of South Sudan...

50

Improving Relations: South Sudan, USA And EU

In a bid to strengthen diplomatic ties and foster mutual cooperation, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan, has expressed a commitment to enhancing the relationship...



Burundian President Evariste Ndayshimiye handing the mantle to President Salva Kiir Photo by Office of the President

President Kiir Assumes The Chairmanship Of East African Community

Arusha, November 24, 2023 (PPU):

President Salva Kiir Mayardit formally assumed the Chairmanship of the East African Community on 24 February 2024. This came as East African leaders gathered in Arusha for the 23rd Ordinary EAC. Burundian President Evariste Ndayshimiye whose tenure has come to an end, handed the mantle to Pres-

ident Kiir in an elaborated ceremony. The East African Community Heads of State summit also admitted the Federal Republic of Somalia as the 8th Member state of the bloc, in accordance with Article 3 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC. In his address, President Kiir pledged to foster regional integration for greater prosperity and strategic security for the region. “Guided by our vision for a prosperous, competitive,

secure, stable and politically united East Africa, I will focus on enhancing integration within the region during my tenure and shall continue to focus on regional peace initiatives, strengthen security measures, advance political processes and establish emergency response mechanisms. All these will be aimed at promoting good governance.” President Kiir reiterated.

Burundian President, Evariste congratulated Presi-

Continued from page 4

dent Kiir on his new role, saying the region should focus on building infrastructure to enhance intra-state trade and supply chain system. Tanzania's President Samia Suluhu commended President Kiir for assuming the leadership of the regional bloc, promising to support his tenure. Meanwhile, Kenya's President Dr. William Samoei Ruto said "the region must not lose sight of great potential that East Africa has and the region must build a common market".

President Salva Kiir Photo by Office of the President



“

Guided by our vision for a prosperous, competitive, secure, stable and politically united East Africa, I will focus on enhancing integration within the region during my tenure and shall continue to focus on regional peace initiatives, strengthen security measures, advance political processes and establish emergency response mechanisms. All these will be aimed at promoting good governance.”

President Kiir

»



East African leaders gathered in Arusha for the 23rd Ordinary EAC. Photo by Office of the President



highlighted the need for collaborative approaches to address ongoing conflicts in various parts of Africa. One of the significant events of the summit was the transition of leadership within the African Union. President H.E. Mohamed Ould Ghazouani of Mauritania assumed the role of Chairperson, succeeding President H.E. Azali Assoumani of Comoros. The discussions at the summit encompassed a broad range of topics, including peace, security, and development. African leaders deliberated on ways to tackle fundamental issues that affect the continent's progress and prosperity. Lily Adhieu Martin, the Press Secretary, affirmed that the summit provided an essential platform for leaders to exchange ideas and strategies to advance the collective interests of Africa. The conference served as a testament to the commitment of African nations to work together towards a brighter future for the continent.

President Salva Kiir Mayardit in the 37th African Union (AU) Summit held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Photo by Office of the President

President Kiir Attends AU Summit In Ethiopia, Urges African Unity And Peace

Press Unit-Office of the President
Addis Ababa, February 17, 2024

President Salva Kiir Mayardit of South Sudan participated in

the 37th African Union (AU) Summit held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The summit brought together Heads of State and Government from across Africa to address crucial matters impacting the continent and

chart the future course of development. During the summit, President Kiir emphasized the importance of African unity and called for concerted efforts to promote peace and stability in the region. He



President Salva Kiir (top and middle right pictures), Honorables Bol Mel, Bangasi Bakasoro (bottom left) and Dr. James Pitia Morga (bottom right) at the 37th African Union (AU) Summit. Photo by Office of the President

Profile Story: Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan - A Trailblazer In Diplomacy And International Cooperation

Dr. Morgan's journey towards becoming a prominent figure in the Ministry of Foreign affairs and International Cooperation can be traced back to his diplomatic role where he started from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Republic of Sudan, where he served as a Deputy Director, Department of Human Rights.

By Denis Dumo

Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of South Sudan, is a distinguished diplomat with an impressive track record spanning several decades, he has played a crucial role in representing South Sudan on the global stage and fostering positive relationships with international partners. Dr. Morgan's journey towards becoming a prominent figure in the Ministry of Foreign affairs and International Cooperation can be traced back to his diplomatic role where he started from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Republic of Sudan, where he served as a Deputy Director, Department of Human Rights.

Dr. Morgan also served as a Deputy Director in the Department of the Technical and Economic Assistance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Khartoum, Sudan. He obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management, from Colorado Technical University in the United States, followed by a Master's Degree in Business Administration, Colorado Tech University, USA. Master's Degree in Peace and Security Studies at Addis Ababa University. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. His commitment to continuous learning led him to complete a Doctorate Degree in International Relations from the International Leadership Institute in Partnership with the Metropolitan Research and Education Bureau in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Equipped with a solid educational foundation, Dr.

Morgan embarked on a series of training programs that honed his diplomatic skills. Notably, he received the prestigious United Nations Training Certificate in 2012, which solidified his understanding of international relations. He attended Clineadel Institute of the Diplomatic Studies in Netherlands. He also underwent an induction course organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya in Mombasa further enhancing his diplomatic acumen. Dr. Morgan's work experience is marked by a series of notable accomplishments. In 2012, he achieved a historic milestone by establishing the Embassy of the Republic of South Sudan in New Delhi, India, for the first time in the country's history. Amb. Morgan served as a Deputy Head of Mission

Embassy of the Republic of Sudan in Jakarta, the Republic of Indonesia during the interim period of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), 2009 - 2011. Prior to this, he served as a Speechwriter to H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS), showcasing his exceptional writing skills and ability to craft impactful messages. From 2016 to 2023, Dr. Morgan served as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of South Sudan to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the Republic of Djibouti, concurrently. In this role, he also held the position of Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Sudan to the African Union, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. And also a member of the Committee of the Ambassadors of the IGAD member States, based in Addis Ababa Ethiopia and



Continued on page 32

Dr. Morgan served as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of South Sudan to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the Republic of Djibouti, concurrently. In this role, he also held the position of Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Sudan to the African Union, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa...



Continued from page 31

Djibouti in the Republic of Djibouti respectively. These high-level positions allowed him to represent his country in various regional and international conferences, seminars and workshops, including participation in the Peace talks and mediation processes, African Union and IGAD Summits and many more contributions to the well being of the region, continent and the global issues. Attending the United Nations General Assemblies in New York, where he advocated for South Sudan's interests on the global stage. Before assuming his ministerial role, Dr. Morgan held several key positions within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. He served as the Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of the Republic of South Sudan in Nairobi, Kenya, from 2014 to 2016, and in New Delhi, India, from 2012 to 2014. Additionally, he worked as the Director of Research at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and

International Cooperation in Juba from 2011 to 2012, where he contributed to shaping South Sudan's foreign policy. Dr. Morgan's dedication to public service extends beyond his diplomatic roles. He served as the SPLM Associate Representative for the Midwest region of the United States from 1999 to 2005, demonstrating his commitment to the struggle of the Sudanese people for the freedom and the independence of the marginalized people of South Sudan and other regions of the old Sudan. With his extensive experience in diplomacy, Dr. Morgan is fluent in English, Arabic, Bahasa-Indonesia, and Swahili. This linguistic proficiency has undoubtedly facilitated effective communication and strengthened South Sudan's diplomatic ties with various nations. Throughout his career, Dr. Morgan has been recognized for his leadership and expertise in international relations. His achievements and contributions have not only

elevated South Sudan's diplomatic standing but also paved the way for the future generations of diplomats and leaders. As the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan continues to navigate the complex landscape of international relations, representing the Republic of South Sudan with distinction. His unwavering commitment to promoting peace, fostering cooperation, and advancing his country's interests has solidified his position as a respected figure in the country, the continent as well as in the global diplomatic arena. We wish Dr James Pitia Morgan good health and success in his new assignment.

Our Gratitude also goes to His Excellency Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan for having his trust in the abilities and capabilities of Hon. Amb. Dr. Morgan as he steers this highly prestigious Institution in our newly born nation.



Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan (center) in his farewell ceremony in Addis Ababa organized by the Embassy of Switzerland in Ethiopia. MFA&IC Photo



President Salva Kiir Mayardit with Prime Minister Dr Abiy Ahmed Ali of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. Photo by Office of the President

President Kiir Calls For Peaceful Resolution Of Ethiopia-Somalia Dispute

Addis Ababa, February 18, 2024

President Salva Kiir Mayardit of the Republic of South Sudan met with Prime Minister Dr Abiy Ahmed Ali

of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia on the sidelines of the AU Summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The leaders discussed bilateral relations between their countries and explored ways to

enhance cooperation. President Kiir Mayardit and Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali also discussed the misunderstandings between Ethiopia and Somalia. President Kiir emphasized the impor-



tance of restraint and dialogue in peacefully resolving the issue. The President called upon both neighboring countries to embrace peace and tranquility as the only path to achieving progress and prosperity for the region and the continent as a whole. The discussions held between President Kiir and Prime Minister Abiy reflect the desire to maintain harmonious relations between South Sudan and Ethiopia and to contribute to the stability of the Horn of Africa. The leaders emphasized the significance of diplomatic dialogue in resolving conflicts and fostering peaceful coexistence among nations. The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to continued cooperation and mutual support between South Sudan and Ethiopia, as well as an appeal for Ethiopia and Somalia to engage in peaceful negotiations to resolve their differences. The leaders' call for peace and tranquility serves as a reminder of the importance of dialogue in resolving disputes and promoting regional stability.

South Sudan Stresses Climate Change Challenges, Calls For Comprehensive Approach

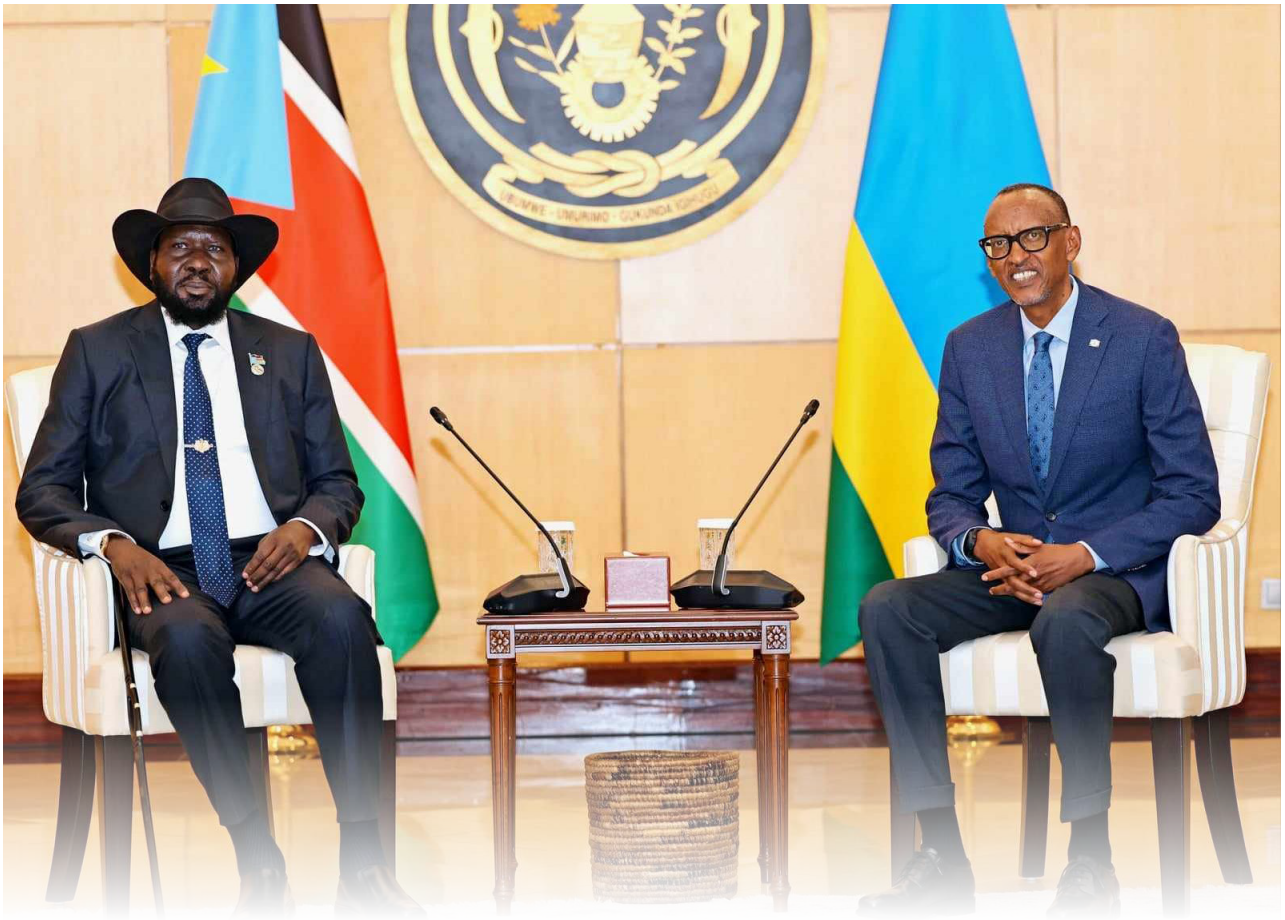
The article also highlighted the alarming food insecurity situation in South Sudan. Over 7.8 million people are projected to face food shortages by the end of the year, an increase from the 6.3 million people affected in 2022. The country's vulnerability to floods and droughts, coupled with limited infrastructure, has resulted in over 2 million internally displaced persons. Amb. Alier Deng Ruai, the Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Sudan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, underscored the need for urgent support in terms of food, medicine, water, and shelter for those who have crossed into South Sudan.

Juba,
February 17, 2024

Amb. Alier Deng Ruai, the permanent Representative of the Republic of South Sudan to the United Nations Office

and other international organizations in Geneva, participated in the event entitled "Launch of IOM's Crisis Response Plans 2024." The event, organized by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), aimed to discuss

Continued on page 38



President Salva Kiir Mayardit, with Rwandan President Paul Kagame. MFA&IC Photo

President Kiir Meets Kagame, Calls For Peace In The EAC Region

Kigali, Thursday (February 22, 2024)

H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit, chairperson of the East African Community (EAC), and Rwandan President Paul Kagame on 22 February 2024 held a meeting on peace in the region. Speaking to reporters, EAC Secretary General

Dr. Peter Mathuki said President Kiir discussed ways of strengthening intra-partner state relations within East Africa, besides peace and security situations within the region, particularly in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The Head of State will proceed to the Burundian capital, Bujumbura, to meet President Evariste Ndayishimiye be-

fore making a final leg of the visit to DR Congo, where he will hold similar discussions with President Felix Tshisekedi.

After concluding the three-nation peace tour, President Kiir will then convene an EAC Summit, with the view of mending relations between member states and resolve conflicts in the region.



On the 17th April 2023, via a telephone call with H.E. Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, President Kiir discussed the emerging situation in the Sudan and on bringing an end to the war and resumption to dialogue. He also conveyed the same message to Gen. Abdel Fattah al-Burhan. On the 8th May 2023, He'll received a Special Envoy of the H.E. President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, Hon. Sameh Shoukry, Minister of Foreign Affairs who delivered a message on this particular meeting.

Extract from the Focus on Sudan article published in the 2nd Edition of the Diplomatic Journal



Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Ramadan Mohammed Abdallah Goc, with the Swiss Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, Ambassador Sylvain Astier.

MFA&IC Photo



Juba, January 6, 2024
(MFA&IC)

The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Ramadan Mohammed Abdallah Goc, met with the Swiss Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, Ambassador Sylvain Astier.

The meeting discussed efforts and initiatives aimed at finding solutions to ending the conflict in the Republic of Sudan.

Hon. Ramadan emphasized that it is crucial for the Sudanese people to resolve their differences through peaceful means.

In response, Ambassador Sylvain Astier, the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, expressed appreciation to the South Sudan Government for its hos-

pitality towards Sudanese refugees.

Ambassador Astier also urged for the immediate establishment of a humanitarian corridor, a ceasefire, and a resumption of the political process.

Furthermore, Switzerland in the Horn of Africa, particularly in South Sudan, have been actively contributing to developmental projects, including the provision of food and non-food items, as part of their support for South Sudan.

South Sudan recognises the complexities of the Sudan conflict and recognises that a peaceful resolution necessitates open discourse, human rights respect, and the establishment of democratic institutions. South Sudan, as a close neighbour is totally dedicated to assisting Sudan on its path to stability, peace, and development.

Extract from the Focus on Sudan article published in the 2nd Edition of the Diplomatic Journal

Deputy Minister Goc, Swiss Special Envoy For The Horn Of Africa, Discuss Sudan Peace Initiatives



Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan (center), in the meeting with the Norwegian Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan, Jon Anton Johnson (right of the Minister). MFA&IC Photo

Minister Pitia, Norwegian Special Envoy For Sudan And South Sudan Discuss Elections

Juba, February 5, 2024
(MFA&IC)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan, held a meeting with the Norwegian Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan, Jon Anton Johnson. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the upcoming elections and the im-

plementation of the peace agreement, focusing on the unification of forces for security arrangements. Minister Dr. Morgan emphasized that the roadmap for the implementation of the peace agreement has a two-year lifespan, which is currently progressing well. He also highlighted that the Electoral Commissions have been sworn in, indicating positive progress. On his part, Jon Anton

Johnson, the Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan, stated that the meeting involved a productive exchange on the country's development, with a particular focus on the upcoming elections. Additionally, he highlighted the importance of implementing the peace agreement, specifically the security arrangements, to ensure a conducive environment for the elections.



Juba, February 14, 2024

HE. President Salva Kiir Mayardit on February 14, 2024 met a delegation from the UN Human Rights Commission in South Sudan led by Yasmin Sooka to discuss collaborative efforts to address and promote human rights in the country.

Speaking to the media, The Minister of Cabinet Affairs, Dr. Elia Lomuro, said the government has provided a comprehensive report to the Commission on the implementation of the peace agreement and the human rights situation in the country.

For her part, Yasmin said they exchanged views on human rights issues and assured the President of their readiness to prepare an authentic report on the current situation in South Sudan.

Formed by the UN Human Rights Council in March 2016, the Commission is mandated to monitor and report about human rights in South Sudan, to make recommendations to prevent further deterioration of the situation, and to report and provide guidance on transitional justice.

*President Salva Kiir Mayardit with Ms. Yasmin Sooka.
Photo by Office of the President*

President Kiir Meets Members Of The UN Human Rights Commission In S. Sudan





The delegation from the African Union, led by Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace, and Security, H.E. Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, in a courtesy visit to Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Ramadan Mohammed Abdallah. MFA&IC Photo

African Union Delegation Pays Courtesy Visit To Deputy Minister Of Foreign Affairs

Juba, January 29, 2024
(MFA&IC)

A delegation from the African Union, led by Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace, and Security, H.E. Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, paid a courtesy visit to Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Ramadan Mohammed Abdallah. Hon. Deputy Minister Ramadan Mohammed Abdallah Goc provided a comprehensive overview of the status of the implemen-

tation of the Revitalized Peace Agreement as well as the government's role in mediating the peace process in Sudan.

Hon. Ramadan expressed the government's readiness to conduct the elections on time.

Regarding Sudan, the deputy Minister explained the role of South Sudan in the mediation process for the situation in Sudan.

He acknowledged the role and support from the African Union and IGAD in ensuring that the cessation of hostilities is holding in Sudan. Hon. Ramadan

urged the African Union to provide technical support to the Government of South Sudan, especially in the upcoming elections, which will be conducted according to the roadmap.

On his part, Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, the Commissioner for Political Affairs and Peace Security, stated that he was in the country to show solidarity and support for South Sudan in its peace efforts.

He added that the African Union stands ready to provide assistance for peace, stability, and democratic elections in the region.

February 9, 2024. (MFA&IC)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Amb. Dr James Pitia Morgan, met with Ambassador Ismail Wais, the IGAD Special Envoy to South Sudan, in a productive discussion centered around the progress of the peace process and the upcoming elections in the country.

During the meeting, both parties acknowledged the crucial role played by IGAD and other regional organizations in South Sudan's transition towards stability.

The Minister expressed gratitude for IGAD's continued support and affirmed South Sudan's commitment to working closely with the IGAD.

On the same note, Hon. Morgan welcomed Mr. David Kwaje, the incoming head of IGAD mission to the Republic of South Sudan, who presented his credentials during the meeting.

The Minister commended IGAD's significant contributions to South Sudan and the region, emphasizing the South Sudan's focus on peacebuilding and transitional projects for development and peace implementation.

Furthermore, the Minister highlighted the need for regional intervention in addressing the current crisis in Sudan, expressing the Government of South Sudan's strong desire for lasting peace in the neighboring Sudan.

Minister Of Foreign Affairs Meets With IGAD Special Envoy On South Sudan



Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Amb. Dr James Pitia Morgan, with Ambassador Ismail Wais, the IGAD Special Envoy to South Sudan. MFA&IC Photo



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Media In The Contemporary World:

The Role of Media Diplomacy in Shaping South Sudan's Foreign Policy

Introduction:

The role of media in diplomacy has become a significant tool for foreign policy, with journalists participating in diplomatic activities and procedures more regularly and intensively. Media diplomacy focuses on how the media connects policymakers to foreign governments and people, serving as a channel for transmitting the diplomatic narrative between state actors and achieving specific goals.

This editorial emphasizes the importance of media diplomacy and its potential to advance foreign policy.

Media outlets possess the power to influence public opinion, which, in turn, can impact a government's decisions concerning foreign affairs. Through news coverage, analysis, and opinion pieces, the media can frame international events and shape the public's perception of other countries, their leaders, and global issues. This ultimately affects government priorities, diplomatic relations, and policy decisions. However, it is important to note that the media is just one of many factors influencing foreign policy, along with

government officials, diplomats, interest groups, and public opinion.

Significance of Media Diplomacy in Modern Times:

Media plays a crucial role in advancing the goals of foreign policy by creating a platform for diplomatic communication. It allows governments to convey their messages to foreign audiences, engage in public diplomacy, and influence international discourse. Through media channels, governments can shape narratives, build alliances, and project soft power on the global stage. Media diplomacy also facilitates information exchange, cultural understanding, and negotiation, thereby impacting foreign

policy decisions and international relations.

The media functions both as an independent actor and as a tool in the hands of policymakers and journalists. Media coverage of negotiations and summit meetings among leaders has transformed traditional, mostly secret, formal professional diplomacy.

Impact on Diplomacy:

Diplomacy thrives on information gathering, sharing, and reporting, a prevalent aspect for centuries. In the past few decades, there have been tremendous changes in communication technologies worldwide. Information is now easily available at the click of a mouse, can be digitally shared across multiple platforms, and has become cheap and free-flowing, reaching vast audiences across borders. Information storage has also become easier and more affordable.

New terms have emerged in the arena of diplomacy, such as “virtual diplomacy,” “cyber diplomacy,” “media diplomacy,” “public diplomacy,” and “media-broker diplomacy.” In “public diplomacy,” various state and non-state actors use the media to influence public opinion. In “media diplomacy,” officials employ the media to communicate with conflicting parties and promote conflict resolution. In “media-broker diplomacy,” journalists act as temporary mediators, facilitating negotiations between international players. There has been a “democratization of diplomacy” with the increasing influence of non-state actors and global communities of influencers. Media in today’s world can either support or hinder diplomatic negotiations.

Representing South Sudan: As the Chief diplomat, the President of the Republic of South Sudan, H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit, travels around the world to represent the country. During his trips, he attends meetings, summits, and ceremonies, serving as the main articulator and implementer of the country’s foreign policy.

The President appoints ambassadors who function as his representatives in various posts. He also receives ambassadors from other countries. Visitors from other countries or multilateral organizations consider their visits incomplete without an audience with the President, and it is his message that they take back home. The office of the President of the Republic of South Sudan has a well-established and organized media presence that showcases all the President’s activities, playing a crucial role in shaping the country’s foreign policy.

Foreign Affairs: The Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan places the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in charge of carrying out the country’s foreign policy, with the overarching objective of protecting and projecting the national interest abroad. Career foreign

affairs personnel are critical to shaping foreign policy as they serve as the agents through which states communicate, negotiate, and sustain relationships.

The ministry’s Office of Media and Spokesperson informs the public about the activities of the ministry and embassies abroad. This is achieved through press conferences, press releases, daily coverage of the ministry, dissemination of news reports, documentaries, talk shows, publication of magazines, and continuous distribution of brochures to embassies abroad.

In Conclusion:

Media diplomacy encompasses various uses of the media by officials and mediators to promote negotiations and conflict resolution. Diplomacy, once confined to closed-door meetings and official statements, has now expanded its reach through platforms like X (previously Twitter), Facebook, and Instagram.

The role of media in diplomacy is vast, connecting foreign audiences, governments, and heads of state. When a political figure addresses an issue, it should be remembered that they are speaking for a diverse audience.

**Diplomat Emmanuel Jada Bennett
Office of Media and Spokesperson
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.**



Ambassador Cecilia A.M. Adeng of the Republic of South Sudan with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres. MFA&IC Photo

Ambassador Cecilia A.M. Adeng Assumes Role As South Sudan's Permanent Representative To The United Nations

February 13, 2024

In a significant diplomatic milestone, Ambassador Cecilia A.M. Adeng of the Republic of South Sudan

presented her credentials on 13 February 2024 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres. This ceremonial act officially marks the commencement of her role

The road to foreign diplomatic service may present hurdles, but don't let gender stereotypes or bias hinder your aspirations. Embrace your identity as a South Sudanese young woman with unwavering determination.

Ambassador Adeng

Quote from her article: Embracing A World Of Opportunities, published in the 2nd edition of the Diplomatic Journal

Ambassador Cecilia A.M. Adeng's presentation of credentials symbolizes a new chapter for the Republic of South Sudan at the United Nations. It represents the aspirations and commitment of South Sudan seeking to make its mark in the international arena through diplomacy, cooperation, and active participation in addressing global challenges.



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Continued from page 16

as South Sudan's Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

Ambassador Adeng, an experienced diplomat, brings a wealth of knowledge and a strong commitment to advancing the interests of South Sudan within the United Nations framework. Her appointment as Permanent Representative positions her as a key figure in fostering dialogue, promoting cooperation, and addressing global challenges.

Ambassador Adeng's appointment as the Permanent Representative highlights the importance South Sudan places on engaging with the international community.

During the presentation of her credentials, Ambassador Adeng expressed South Sudan's dedication to positively

contributing to global affairs and upholding the principles of the United Nations Charter.

As the Permanent Representative, Ambassador Adeng will represent South Sudan's interests, participate in committees and forums, and engage in diplomatic negotiations on pressing global issues. Her tenure is expected to involve active involvement in discussions related to peace and security, development, human rights, and other critical matters that affect South Sudan and the wider world.

Moreover, Ambassador Adeng's appointment as a woman in this esteemed diplomatic role underscores the growing diversity and inclusion within diplomatic circles. Her presence reflects not only her individual capabilities

but also the evolving landscape of diplomatic representation. Ambassador Adeng's role at the United Nations provides a platform for her to advocate for international support, resources, and collaboration to address these pressing issues.

Her contributions will play a crucial role in shaping South Sudan's engagement on the world stage. In conclusion, Ambassador Cecilia A.M. Adeng's presentation of credentials symbolizes a new chapter for the Republic of South Sudan at the United Nations. It represents the aspirations and commitment of South Sudan seeking to make its mark in the international arena through diplomacy, cooperation, and active participation in addressing global challenges.

Ambassador Adeng's appointment as a woman in this esteemed diplomatic role underscores the growing diversity and inclusion within diplomatic circles.

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Attends Munich Security Conference



Hillary Clinton commended the government of South Sudan for its commitment to conducting free and fair elections and expressed her hopes for a smooth outcome.

Munich, February 16, 2024

Hon. Ramadan M. Abdallah Goc, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, along with his delegation, participated in the 60th Munich Security Conference held at Bayerischer Hof in Munich,

Germany, from February 16th to 18th.

The Munich Security Conference, an annual event, serves as a platform for senior government officials from across the globe to address pressing international security concerns, including the crisis in the Republic of Sudan.

During the conference, Hon. Ramadan engaged

in sideline meetings with prominent leaders, including former United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and the Minister of Finance of the Federal Republic of Germany, Christian Lindner.

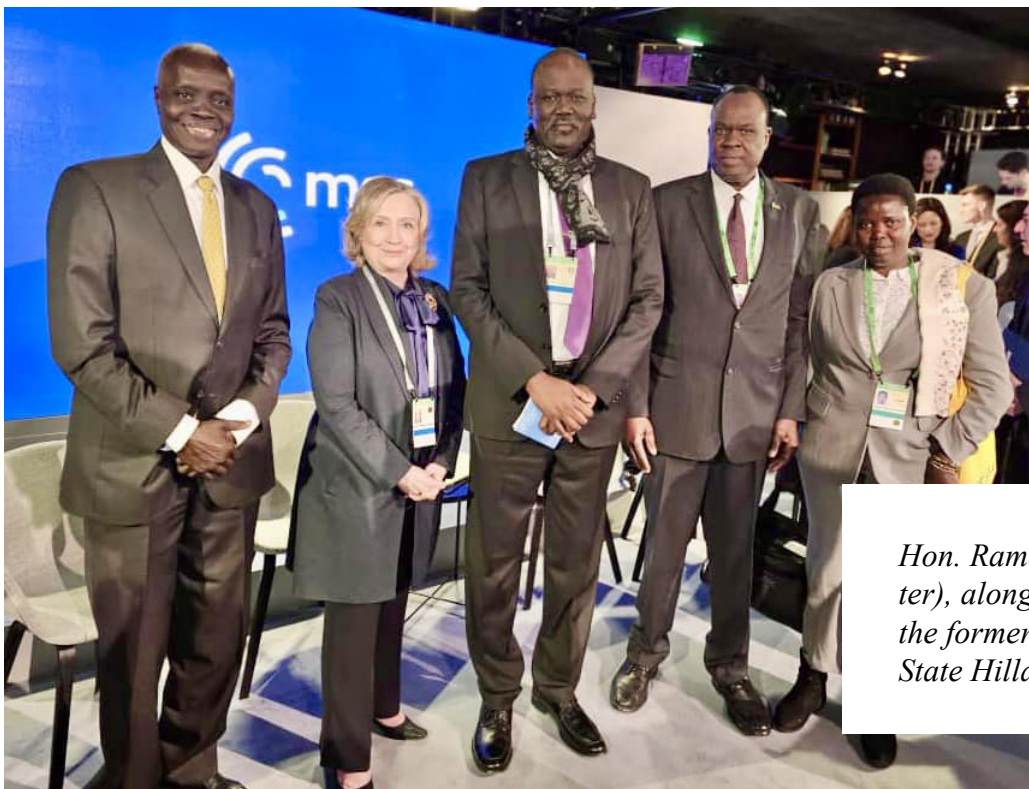
In a discussion with Hillary Clinton, the Deputy Minister deliberated on South Sudan's upcoming elections in 2024.

Clinton commended the government of South Sudan for its commitment to conducting free and fair elections and expressed her hopes for a smooth outcome.

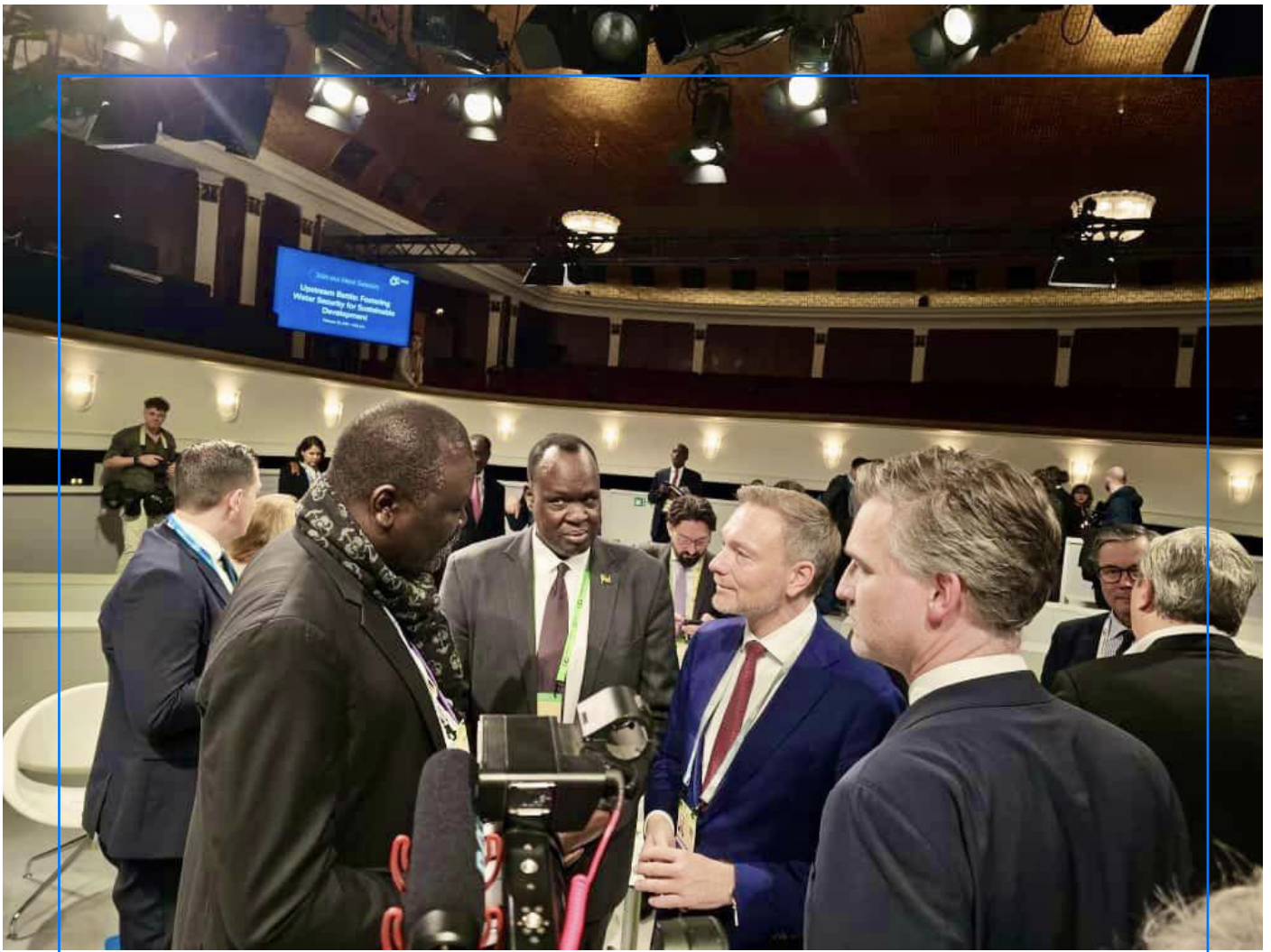
Furthermore, Hon. Ramadan and the German Finance Minister discussed investment opportunities in South Sudan, building upon the recent visit of the German Foreign Minister to the country.

Among the attendees were Amb. Deng Nhial, Director General of Bilateral Relations, Amb. Jacqueline Natepi, Director of Passports and Visas; Amb. Mawien Ariik, Head of Mission, South Sudan Embassy in the Federal Republic of Germany; and Diplomat Mark Yuel Thiek.

The Munich Security Conference concluded on February 18.



Hon. Ramadan M. Abdallah Goc (center), along with his delegation, and the former United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. MFA&IC Photo





Honorable Puot Kang Chol, the Minister of Petroleum for the Republic of South Sudan. Ministry Of Petroleum Photo

Honorable Puot Kang Chol, the Minister of Petroleum for the Republic of South Sudan, is a highly accomplished and esteemed politician and lawyer. Born on January 1st, 1985, he has emerged as a prominent figure in South Sudan's government, leading the nation's efforts in the petroleum sector.

South Sudan, as the youngest nation in the world, holds remarkable potential that remains largely untapped. With limited industrial activities and being the sole oil-producing country

in the East African region, South Sudan has the fifth-largest proven oil reserves in Africa. Additionally, the nation boasts a unique characteristic where the combined population of cattle, sheep, and goats.

Hon. Puot Kang Chol recognizes the lucrative business opportunities and high return on investment that South Sudan's potential offers to stakeholders. With an impressive background and notable achievements, he is well-positioned to harness this potential and drive the nation's oil industry to greater heights.

Starting with his educational background,

Hon. Puot attended the Dima Refugee Primary School in Ethiopia for his primary education and later went on to Kebena Secondary School, also in Ethiopia, for his intermediate and secondary education. He pursued a Bachelor of Law (LLB) degree at Cavendish University in Kampala, Uganda. His professional career has been marked by significant achievements and progressive roles.

He served in different capacities in the country prior to appointment in 2020, following the signing of the revitalized peace agreement, he was appointed as the Minis-

Hon. Puot Kang Chol, Minister Of Petroleum, Spearheads South Sudan's Oil Industry



With his proven track record of success, comprehensive knowledge of the petroleum sector, and unwavering commitment to sustainable growth and development, Hon. Puot Kang Chol is poised to lead South Sudan's petroleum industry to even greater heights.

ter of Petroleum of the Unity Government in the Republic of South Sudan.

Throughout his tenure as Minister of Petroleum, Hon. Puot has spearheaded numerous successful projects and initiatives. Some of the noteworthy achievements include the construction and commissioning of the first-ever South Sudan National Digitized Data Centre, conducting comprehensive Cost Recovery Audits of oilfield activities through esteemed audit firms KPMG and E&Y, and initiating and overseeing successful environmental audits of the oilfields.

Under his leadership, the Ministry of Petroleum has developed and operationalized the Unified Human Resources Policy Manual (HRPM-2020), empowering and increasing the participation of women in the petroleum value chain through institutional

diversity initiatives and programs. The Ministry has also developed and operationalized the Petroleum Local Content Regulation 2019, successfully resumed crude oil production in Block 5A (Tharjath Oilfields), and conducted intensive training and development programs to enhance the competency of its employees.

Hon. Puot Kang Chol has been instrumental in strengthening the relationship between host communities and operating companies through continuous engagement, effective communication, and dialogue.

He has also focused on procurement and registration of aircraft for petroleum geophysical seismic activities and spraying pesticides on agricultural farmlands. Furthermore, he launched the first-ever Licensing Round in South Sudan to promote open oil blocks.

Currently, Hon. Puot Kang Chol is overseeing the construction of a new headquarters for the Ministry of Petroleum and ensuring the publication of annual Petroleum Reports.

He has also procured land at Port Djibouti for logistical and transportation purposes, further contributing to the growth and development of South Sudan's petroleum industry.

With his proven track record of success, comprehensive knowledge of the petroleum sector, and unwavering commitment to sustainable growth and development, Hon. Puot Kang Chol is poised to lead South Sudan's petroleum industry to even greater heights.

He eagerly anticipates leveraging the nation's immense potential and fostering mutually beneficial partnerships with local and international stakeholders, ensuring a prosperous future for South Sudan.



Special Focus on Oil

This article provides an in-depth analysis of the achievements, positive policy changes, environmental concerns, and investor attraction strategies implemented by the Minister of Petroleum, highlighting their impact on South Sudan's economic growth and stability.

The Republic of South Sudan has experienced a remarkable transformation in its petroleum sector under the capable leadership of its Minister of Petroleum. Through visionary policies, strategic initiatives, and effective diplomacy, the Minister has propelled the country towards economic prosperity, attracting investments, ensuring sustainable oil production, and fostering environmental consciousness.

Under the Minister's leadership, South Sudan has witnessed a significant increase in oil production. Through the implementation of innovative technologies, optimization of existing oil fields, and ex-

ploration of new reserves, the country's output levels have soared, generating substantial revenue. This increase in production has bolstered the nation's economic prospects, contributing to its overall growth and stability.

Transparency and accountability have been central to the minister's leadership approach. By championing these principles within the petroleum sector, the minister has instilled investor confidence and strengthened the fight

against corruption. Robust mechanisms have been put in place to ensure ethical practices and sound financial management, creating a conducive environment for business growth. Recognizing the importance of empowering local communities, the minister has prioritized local content de-

velopment. By promoting the involvement of South Sudanese companies and workforce in the petroleum value chain, the minister has created employment opportunities, transferred knowledge and skills, and stimulated economic growth at the grassroots level. This approach has not only contributed to poverty alleviation but also fostered a sense of ownership and national pride. Addressing environmental concerns has been a key focus of the minister's leadership. Through stringent regulations and the adoption of clean technologies, the minister has minimized the ecological footprint of oil production activities. Proactive waste management strategies and adherence to international standards have

The Transformative Leadership Of The Ministry Of Petroleum: A Diplomatic Analysis Of Achievements And Challenges



ensured that economic development does not come at the expense of environmental sustainability. Additionally, the minister has spearheaded reforestation and conservation initiatives to mitigate the impact of oil exploration on natural habitats, protecting wildlife habitats and raising awareness about the impor-

tant role of the petroleum sector in the country's economic development.



Hon. Puot Kang Chol, South Sudan's Minister Of Petroleum, with Namibia's Minister of Mines and Energy Tom Alweendo. The minister has fostered regional cooperation and partnerships with neighboring countries. Ministry Of Petroleum Photo

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tance of biodiversity conservation. The minister's investor attraction strategies have played a crucial role in promoting economic growth. By implementing investor-friendly policies, reducing bureaucratic hurdles, and providing fiscal incentives, the minister has created a stable and secure investment climate. These initiatives have attracted both domestic and international investors to the South

Sudanese petroleum sector, stimulating economic growth and job creation. Furthermore, the minister has fostered regional cooperation and partnerships with neighboring countries. These collaborations have facilitated cross-border investments and joint ventures, leading to knowledge exchange, infrastructure development, and enhanced regional economic integration. By leverag-

ing these partnerships, South Sudan has positioned itself as an attractive investment destination and a key player in the regional petroleum industry.



Recognizing the importance of empowering local communities, the minister has prioritized local content development. By promoting the involvement of South Sudanese companies and workforce in the petroleum value chain, the minister has created employment opportunities, transferred knowledge and skills, and stimulated economic growth at the grassroots level.



Hon. Puot Kang Chol, Minister Of Petroleum (center) in a panel during the Africa Energy Week in Cape Town, South Africa. Ministry Of Petroleum Photo

Introduction:

South Sudan, East Africa’s only producing country, has recently introduced a comprehensive policy framework in its petroleum sector. The Ministry of Petroleum has passed significant policies and launched various initiatives aimed at fostering collaboration, promoting local content, protecting the environment, and attracting investments. These measures are crucial for the country’s economic growth, post-COVID-19 recovery, and sustainable development.

Unified Human Resources Resource Policy Manual and Petroleum Local Content Regulations:

The Ministry of Petroleum has introduced the Unified Human Resources Resource Policy Manual (UHRPM) and Petroleum Local Content Regulations 2019. These policies aim to strengthen the working relationship between the government, investors, employees, and other stakeholders in the petroleum value chain. The UHRPM ensures fair and transparent human resource practices, while the Local Content Regulations promote linkages between

foreign companies and the local economy, facilitating the transfer of skills, knowledge, and technology.

Operational and Financial Cost Recovery Audit:

In partnership with multinational accounting and auditing firms KPMG and Ernest & Young (E&Y) Global Limited, the Ministry of Petroleum has initiated an Operational and Financial Cost Recovery Audit of all Joint Operating Companies (JOCs) in the petroleum sector. This audit aims to identify gaps, improve transparency, and enhance the overall efficiency

Petroleum Sector Implements Robust Policy Framework To Foster Development And Environmental Stewardship

cy of petroleum activities in the country. The findings will help the government and stakeholders make informed decisions to drive improvements in the sector.

Comprehensive Environmental Review and Audit:

To address environmental concerns related to petroleum ac-

tivities, the Ministry of Petroleum, in collaboration with the National Ministry of Environment, has launched an open and competitive

tender for a Comprehensive Environmental Review and Audit of all the country's oil fields. This audit aims to assess environmental damage, strengthen regulatory enforcement, and develop an

environmental protection framework aligned with international standards. It demonstrates the government's commitment to responsible resource exploitation and compliance with multilateral environmental agreements.

Oil Licensing Round:

South Sudan recently launched its first-ever oil licensing round, offering five open blocks for exploration and production. The government invites experienced partners, investors, and operators to unlock South Sudan's oil and gas acreage, which remains 90% unexplored. The objective is to attract investments, promote regional exploration, and stimulate economic growth. The government encourages win-win partnerships between indigenous companies and foreign operators to drive ex-

ploration and production activities in South Sudan and internationally.

Incentive Program for Compliance:

The Ministry of Petroleum has established a comprehensive Petroleum Local Content framework, prioritizing the procurement of locally produced goods and services and contributing to the training and development of South Sudanese citizens across the petroleum value chain. The government is developing an incentive framework to reward companies and investors that fully comply with the Local Content Policy. This initiative aims to enhance local capacity building, access to finance, and entrepreneurial skills development, particularly among Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs).

90%

Percentage of South Sudan's oil and gas acreage, which remains unexplored.

Continued on page 32

Regional and Cross-Sector Collaboration:

South Sudan actively fosters collaboration with both foreign and regional entities. The government welcomes investments across energy and non-energy industries, positioning private sector-led growth as the engine of sustainable economic development. By forging partnerships and maintaining commitments to international conventions on climate change, South Sudan aims to attract increased foreign direct investment and facilitate multi-sector collaboration.

South Sudan Commitment to COP26:

South Sudan is committed to the principles and guidelines set forth in COP26, aiming to transition to renewable and green energy sources. The country possesses significant potential for renewable energy generation, including hydropower, solar photovoltaic, wind, biomass, geothermal, and waste-to-energy. While the current share of renewables in the national generation mix is zero, numerous hydropower

projects are in the pipeline.

To support this transition, the Ministry of Petroleum has established a committee in collaboration with relevant national institutions and international partners such as the World Bank Group and UNDP.

The committee aims to promote renewable energy and energy efficiency through the development of comprehensive legislation, strategic action plans, and financial mechanisms.

However, South Sudan faces challenges such as the lack of policies and a sound regulatory framework, hindering private investments in the power sector. Mobilizing public and private investments, as well as involving NGOs and community-based organizations, will be crucial for the successful implementation of hydro power projects.

Our readiness and commitment to compliance:

South Sudan demonstrates a strong readiness and commitment to compliance in various aspects of its petroleum sector. The Ministry of

Petroleum, in collaboration with multinational accounting and auditing firms KPMG and Ernest & Young (E&Y) Global Limited, has initiated and conducted an Operational and Financial Cost Recovery Audit of all Joint Operating Companies (JOCs) in the petroleum sector. This audit aims to identify gaps and loopholes, leading to improvements and increased transparency in petroleum activities within the country.

Over the past three years, the Ministry has implemented several reform programs. One notable initiative is the development and operationalization of the Unified Human Resource Policy Manual (UHRPM-2020), which regulates labor practices in the oil sector. This manual covers recruitment, employee placement, training and development programs, competitive compensation packages, and capacity building guidelines. Additionally, the Ministry has introduced Petroleum Local Content Regulations, prioritizing the use of local services and products. This emphasis on local markets strengthens the country's

economic growth at the city and state levels.

In collaboration with the National Minister of Environment, the Ministry of Petroleum has launched an open and competitive tender for a Comprehensive Environmental Review and Audit of all oilfields in the country. This review aims to address environmental pollution and strengthen environmental laws. The findings will inform corrective actions, restoration exercises, and mitigation plans to minimize the impact of petroleum activities on the environment and ensure compliance with environmental agreements. The Ministry has utilized 3% of oil proceeds to purchase three small aircraft. One of

South Sudan emphasizes an inclusive and fair implementation process, taking into account national economic growth and environmental concerns.

these aircraft is dedicated to petroleum geophysical seismic activities, while the other two are used for spraying pesticides on agricultural farmlands in the oilfields and across the country. This effort contributes to food security for local communities. Furthermore, the Ministry has constructed the first National Digitized

Data Centre to house all petroleum and non-petroleum-related data, facilitating future petroleum development and exploration activities.

The Ministry of Petroleum is committed to optimizing the value of South Sudan's petroleum resources and converting them into benefits for current and future generations. This commitment is demonstrated through targeted and smart investments in infrastructure projects, such as planned refineries and alternative routes for oil evacuation. The construction of large depots for storing refined petroleum products, catering to domestic consumption and non-petroleum sectors, also supports national economic growth.

Transparency and accountability are paramount for the Ministry of Petroleum. It regularly reports on petroleum activities, including daily production and the sales and marketing of crude oil in international markets. The Ministry collaborates transparently and accountably with relevant governmental and non-governmental institutions regarding transfers from oil proceeds into the country's treasury under the Ministry of Finance.

Moreover, the Ministry is currently conducting an operational audit of all Joint Operating Companies to ensure compliance with the Exploration and Production Sharing Agreement (EPSA) and relevant laws.

South Sudan is dedicated to adhering to the principles and guidelines established during the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) forum in Glasgow, Scotland. The country emphasizes an inclusive and fair implementation process, taking into account national economic growth and environmental concerns. Joining the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) as a member is an immediate objective, as it equips relevant institutions with the necessary knowledge and expertise to effectively manage the petroleum sector.

In terms of women's participation in the petroleum value chain, the Ministry of Petroleum has made significant strides in the past three years.

Through empowerment initiatives, intensive recruitment, and training programs, the Ministry has increased the number of women professionals in the sector. Various positions, including director-level

Continued on page 34

roles, have been filled by women, and the Ministry has seen a significant increase in female engineers, geologists, geoscientists, and support staff. This commitment to a diverse workforce and female empowerment is evident.

Collaborating with investment partners such as Petronas, CNPC, SINOPET, and ONGC, as well as the national oil company NILEPET, the Ministry has made wise investments in oilfield facilities with a particular focus on women's participation. Special attention has been given to providing accommodation, sanitation, and health facilities for women in the sector. Additional female doctors have been employed to provide medical services to oilfield workers and host communities.

The Ministry of Petroleum believes that empowering women benefits society as a whole. By empowering women, the country improves the quality of life, opens opportunities for families, and helps children receive an education, leading to better futures. The Ministry has implemented various initiatives, such as enhanced maternity pay, support for women returners, and flexible working arrangements. Furthermore,

the right to request flexible working has been extended to all employees, shared parental leave has been introduced, and a review is underway to remove barriers hindering women's career advancement.

Our World is changing:

Our country, the Republic of South Sudan, is a signatory to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), an international body that places a high priority on environmental protection. The Conference of Parties (COP1) was held in November 1995 in Berlin, marking the first meeting of the signatories. It was agreed that the parties would convene annually to address global warming and the need to reduce emissions of polluting gases, such as the vented gas produced as a by-product of fossil fuel extraction activities, which is relevant to our situation in South Sudan.

The 26th Conference of Parties (COP26) took place in Glasgow, Scotland in November 2021. During this conference, over 100 governments from developed and developing countries made pledges in various areas, including deforestation, adaptation fi-

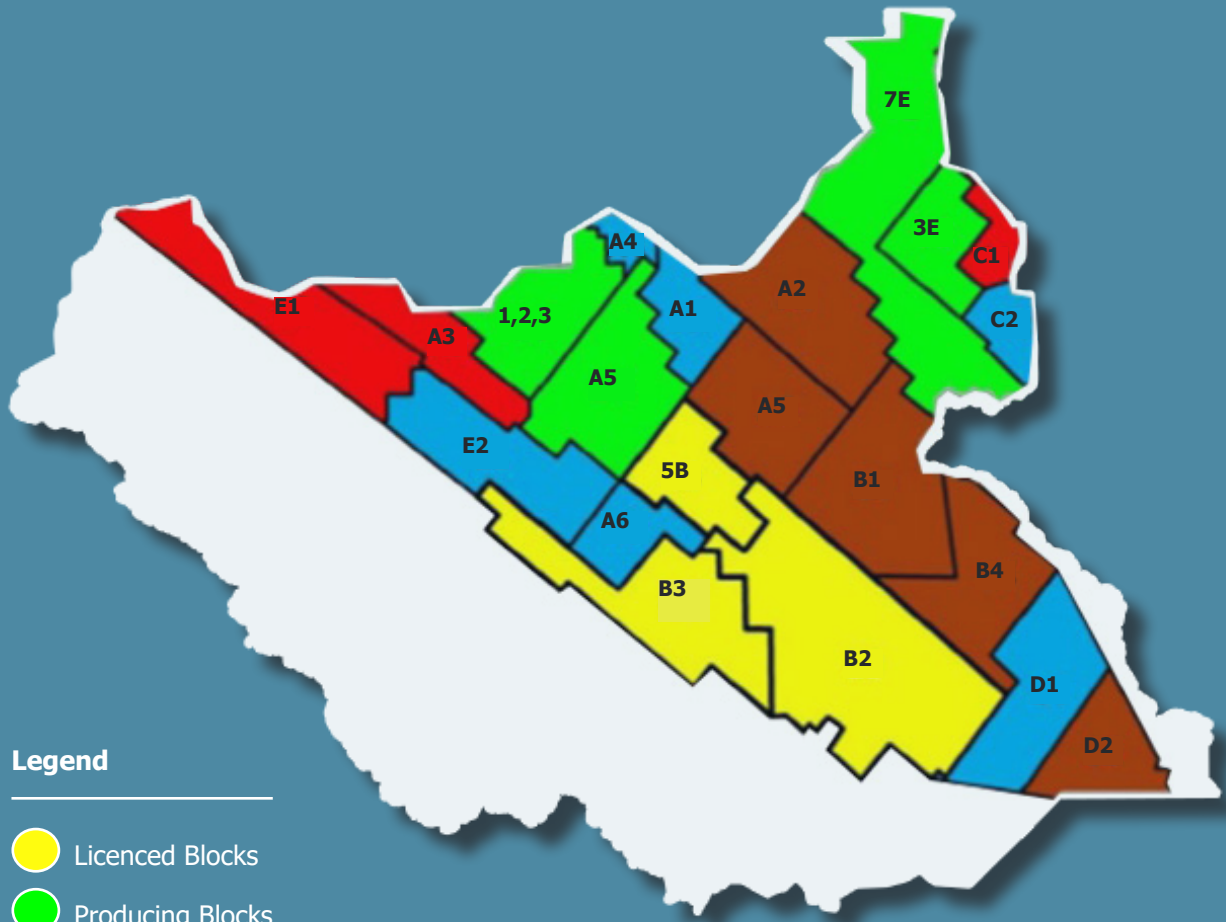
nance, fossil fuel financing, and commitments to reduce global methane emissions. Additionally, there was a commitment to transition to greener energy sources by discontinuing investments, exploration, and development of fossil fuel resources by 2030.

This commitment aims to cut down Carbon Dioxide Emissions (CO2) to zero percent and halt deforestation by 2030. By achieving these goals, it is expected that the average global temperature increase can be limited to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The most recent conference, the 28th Conference of Parties (COP28), was held in Dubai's Expo City. During this conference, the world reaffirmed its intention to move beyond discussion, negotiation, and planning phases and into the implementation phase of transitioning from conventional fossil fuels to greener and renewable energy sources by the year 2030. This transition aligns with the objectives set in COP26.

South Sudan, is a signatory to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), an international body that places a high priority on environmental protection.

South Sudan Oil Blocks Map Bid Round Plan



Legend

- Licenced Blocks
- Producing Blocks
- Free Blocks Bid Round One
- Free Blocks Bid Round Two
- Free Blocks Bid Round Three

14

Total number of unlicensed oil blocks

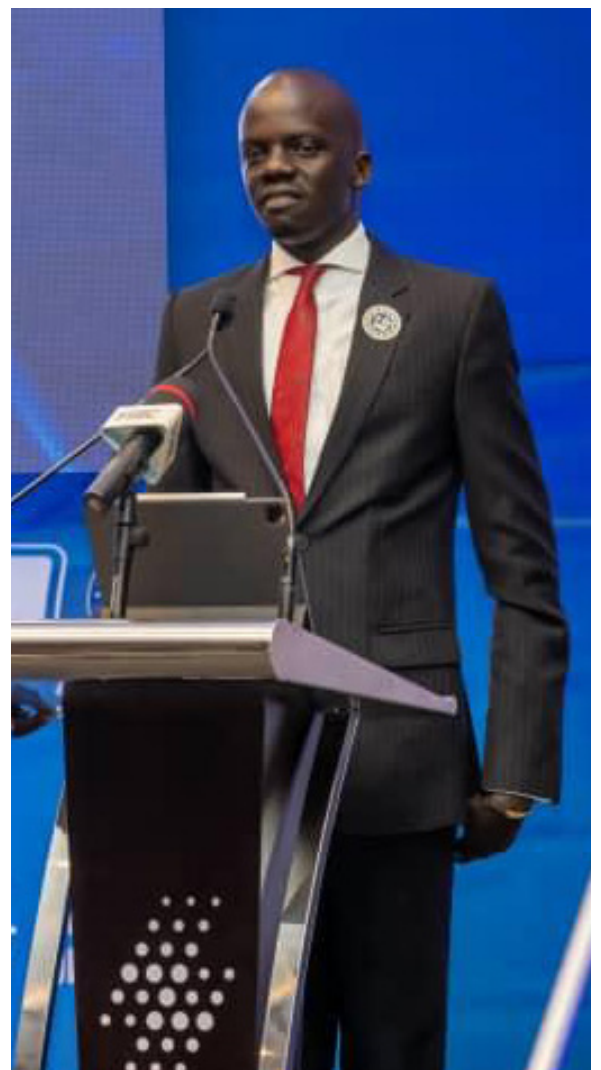
Oil Licensing Round:

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South Sudan recently launched its first-ever oil licensing round, offering five open blocks for exploration and production. The government invites experienced partners, investors, and operators to unlock South Sudan's oil and gas acreage, which remains 90% unexplored. The objective is to attract investments, promote regional exploration, and stimulate economic growth. The government encourages win-win partnerships between indigenous companies and foreign operators to drive exploration and production activities in South Sudan and internationally.

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Pictorial on some of the milestones by the Ministry of Petroleum





Continued from page 34

It is important to note that the future of our petroleum sector is becoming increasingly uncertain. We must begin preparing for a time, within the next 10-30 years, when our petroleum products will no longer be in high demand in the market. This shift will occur as more of our current customers transition to renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, geothermal, and hydropower. Furthermore, it is projected that over 90-95% of the transportation systems, including vehicles, will be powered by electricity generated from these renewable sources. In anticipation of these changes, the Ministry of Petroleum, in collaboration with the National Ministry of Environment, is currently conducting an Environmental Review and Audit of all the country's oilfields. The purpose

of this audit is to mitigate significant environmental pollution. The findings of the audit will help the country review, improve, and strengthen its environmental laws. Corrective actions will be taken to restore affected areas, and mitigation action plans will be implemented to minimize the impact of petroleum activities on the environment in the producing states. These actions are necessary to ensure compliance with the expectations of our citizens and all multilateral environmental agreements.

Therefore, it is crucial for our country to prioritize diversification of our economy by making smart investments in sectors such as health, education, agriculture, tourism, infrastructure, security, and finance. The revenue generated from the petroleum industry should

be strategically invested in the development of these non-petroleum sectors. To facilitate this economic diversification process, it is essential to review and enact the Petroleum Revenue Management Act promptly. Additionally, the Ministry of Petroleum is diligently working to optimize the value of our petroleum resources and convert them into benefits for current and future generations. This includes targeted and smart investments in infrastructure projects, such as planned refineries, as well as exploring alternative routes for the transportation of our country's crude oil. Constructing large depots for storing refined petroleum products for domestic consumption and other non-petroleum sectors will also contribute to our national economic growth and agenda.



South Sudan Stresses Climate Change Challenges, Calls For Comprehensive Approach



Continued from page 13

and address the challenges posed by climate change.

As a speaker and panelist, Amb. Alier Deng Ruai highlighted the multifaceted nature of addressing climate change impacts from the standpoint of the Government of South Sudan. He emphasized the need for a comprehensive approach that encompasses data and risk analysis, funding mechanisms, and climate-resilient development.

South Sudan, being a country where IOM implements various crisis responses, including those related to climate change, expressed gratitude towards IOM and international partners for their ongoing support to migrants and affected populations in South Sudan and worldwide.

During his intervention at the panel, Amb. Alier Deng Ruai raised several key points. Firstly, he highlighted the significant increase in the influx of people fleeing to South Sudan since

the outbreak of fighting in Sudan in April 2023. This influx has resulted in challenges related to border control and the provision of essential services to the affected population.

The conflict in Sudan has also had economic repercussions on South Sudan, particularly in the northern states heavily reliant on imports from Sudan. The increase in food prices and fuel costs has further exacerbated the vulnerability and protection risks faced by the population, including returnees from Sudan.

South Sudan emphasizes data, funding, and development in tackling climate change. Amb. Alier emphasized the critical role of data and risk analysis in making informed decisions and formulating effective response strategies. The Government of South Sudan is committed to enhancing its capacity for climate data collection, risk assessment, and early warning systems. Col-

laboration with international organizations like IOM and climate research institutions is vital for accurate risk assessment and timely responses.

The Ambassador also stressed the importance of funding mechanisms for translating climate resilience strategies into actionable interventions. While South Sudan recognizes the significance of securing sustainable funding for adaptation, preparedness, and early intervention, it acknowledges that countries facing peace and security challenges receive less financing compared to other developing settings. Engaging with international partners, financial institutions, and climate funds is crucial to mobilize resources in South Sudan's context. In terms of climate-resilient development, South Sudan emphasizes the integration of adaptation measures into national policies and development planning. This includes investing in infrastructure

Continued on page 40

Amb. Alier Deng Ruai, the permanent Representative of the Republic of South Sudan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, participating in the panel discussion (above picture). MFA&IC Photo



Continued from page 39

capable of withstanding climate-related shocks, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, and enhancing water resource management.

South Sudan recognizes the urgent need for a holistic approach to address climate change impacts. Through strengthened data and risk analysis, effective funding mechanisms, and a commitment to climate-resilient development, the country aspires to minimize the impact of disasters and shift from reactive humanitarian responses to proactive and sustainable solutions.

Calls for proactive solutions to climate change and lifting of sanctions at IOM's Crisis Response Plans 2024 Event

Climate factors have not

only humanitarian implications but also significant implications for peace and security in South Sudan. The competition between pastoralists and farmers, migration to highlands, and the resulting communal conflicts and displacement highlight the interconnectedness of climate change and security challenges.

South Sudan called for technical assistance, capacity building, and the lifting of imposed sanctions to enable the country to respond effectively as a host, origin, and transit country for migrants, refugees, IDPs, and returnees. The government emphasized that humanitarian assistance should not be isolated from development efforts, as underdevelop-

ment is one of the main factors driving migration. In concluding remarks, South Sudan expressed appreciation to IOM and international partners for their continued support to migrants and affected populations in South Sudan and globally. The country encouraged IOM to explore new avenues to address current financial gaps and emphasized the importance of honoring previous commitments without subjecting humanitarian assistance to conditionalities or politicization.

The above article was compiled by Mr. Denis Dumo Scopas, A diplomat, Media and Spokesperson office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

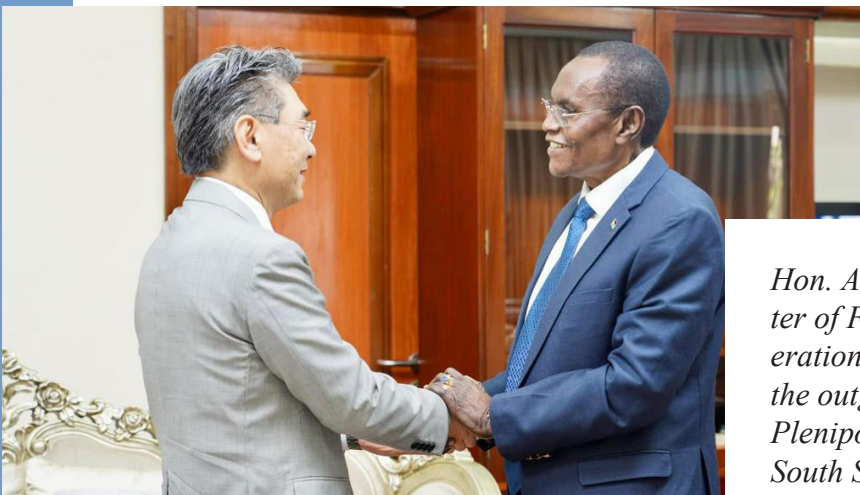
Ambassador Naohiro Concludes Tenure in South Sudan, Commends Strong Bilateral Relations

Juba, December 19, 2023
[MFA&IC]

On 19 December 2023, Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, received a courtesy visit from Ambassador Tsutsumi Naohiro, the outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Republic of South Sudan. During their meeting, Ambassador Naohiro expressed his sincere appreciation to Minister Morgan for the significant progress made in bilateral relations

between South Sudan and Japan during his three and a half years in South Sudan. Ambassador Naohiro acknowledged the strong cooperation and collaboration between the two nations, particularly highlighting the successful initiatives facilitated by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in various developmental projects and their joint efforts in addressing global challenges. Minister Morgan, in response, expressed his gratitude to Ambassador Naohiro for his instrumental role in strengthening the ties between Japan and South Sudan.

He commended the developmental projects initiated under JICA's auspices, including initiatives for women's empowerment, the grant agreement for the improvement of solid waste management in Juba in September 2023, and the project for the management of the water supply system, among other ongoing initiatives in South Sudan. Furthermore, Minister Morgan assured Ambassador Naohiro that the safety and protection of Japanese nationals, as well as other foreign nationals, continue to be a top priority for the Government of South Sudan.



Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, with Ambassador Tsutsumi Naohiro, the outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Republic of South Sudan. MFA&IC Photo



Cultural Diplomacy Feature

The Pari Tribe

The Pari live in South Sudan in an area east of the Nile River. They live around Lafon Hill, a small rocky elevation that rises abruptly out of the surrounding plain and is completely covered with terraced, Pari villages. Although they are a Nilotic group, the Pari are isolated from other Nilotes and are more closely connected with groups such as the Bari. Nilote is a term once used to refer to those people occupying the upper Nile Valley. It now also includes those peoples in surrounding areas who have the same physical, linguistic, and cul-

tural characteristics as those living in the upper Nile Valley. The Pari have had close contact with the Dinka and Nuer groups. The Pari also have been influenced by the Anuak, who occupy a large area north of them. The two groups share many cultural similarities. Some see the Pari as a branch of the Anuak and claim that the two were once one group. When the Second Sudanese Civil War began, many Pari joined the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement, and many were killed. In February 1993 all six Pari villages were burnt down. The Pari were

scattered and now live in various settlements. The multi-ethnic tribe speaks Pari, a Luo language, and practice Luo customs such as an age set system of social organization. Jwok is the local name for God. Most of the Pari belong to the Christian religion.

The Pari live in the former Torit District of Equatoria Province, now Lafon County. Until February 1993 they used to live at the foot of the Lipul Hill (Jebel Lafon) in 6 huge villages: Wiatuo, Bura, Puchwa, Pugerri, Kor and Angulumere. When all the villages were burnt down in the war, people scattered and now live in various settlements along the Hoss 'Atondi' river to the east and the Hinyetti 'Chol' river to the east.

Remembering A Champion Of Justice: A Tribute To Ambassador Sabit Abbe Alley

By Amb. Steven K. Wöndu

We mourn the passing of Ambassador Sabit Abbe Alley, a true champion of justice, equality and human rights. Ambassador Alley dedicated his career to these ideals, both in his work advancing the causes of South Sudan and later as ambassador for the nation. Born on 22 December 1952 in Uganda, Alley was influenced from a young age by the values of discipline, ethics and justice emphasized at his high school. He went on to study development administration in the UK. These formative experiences shaped Alley into a principled public servant committed to justice and fairness. When the SPLM movement emerged calling for justice and equality in Sudan, Alley immediately supported their cause. He helped mobi-

lize international advocacy efforts, influencing US policy. As ambassador, he continued diplomatically representing South Sudanese interests abroad.

Alley played key roles in milestones like the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 2005 and 2011 referendum solidifying South Sudan's independence. As first ambassador to the UK, he strengthened international support for the fledgling nation's transition.

Though now passed, Alley's example of commitment to justice lives on. He reminded us that a democratic, just system is essential for South Sudan's stability and progress.

As we mourn his loss, we honor his dedication and rededicate ourselves to the ideals he championed.

Ambassador Alley will long be remembered for his distinguished career advancing the causes of justice, equality and human rights.



Late Ambassador Sabit Abbe Alley.

Ambassador Alley's life and legacy:

- Alley studied development administration at the University of Birmingham in the UK, further developing his ideals of justice and equality.

- As SPLM representative in the US in the 1990s, he helped build coalitions with American civil society groups and religious organizations to advocate for South Sudan at the UN and in Congress.

- After the CPA, he served with distinction as Sudan's ambassador to Zambia and the regional economic blocks, standing out for his integrity.

- Colleagues recall his warmth, humility and good humor despite his accomplishments. He forged strong friendships and was a mentor to many.

- After independence, as South Sudan's first UK ambassador, he worked tirelessly to build understanding of the country's challenges and potential.

- His family remembers his deep love of South Sudanese cuisine and culture, maintaining close ties despite living abroad for many years.

- Alley quietly continued advising and supporting the transition to democracy from his sickbed, believing democratic governance was essential to lasting peace.

- He remains an inspiration, embodying the highest ideals of public service through a life dedicated to justice, fairness and championing South Sudan's development. His legacy will endure.

The Republic of South Sudan and Turkiye shared common historical perspectives in their struggle to statehood.

The struggle of the people of the Republic of Turkiye towards independence led by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, and the young turks has a lot of similarities with the struggle of the People of South Sudan to statehood led by the Sudan People's Liberation Movement Army, (SPLM/SPLA) under the leadership of Dr. John Garang De Mabior. It was natural for the Government of the Republic of Turkiye to

established a liaison office in Juba before the referendum in the then Southern Sudan and the office was turned into an Embassy on the July 9th 2011, the day South Sudan declared its independence. Hence, Turkiye was one of the first countries that had recognized the Independence of the new country, the Republic of South Sudan.

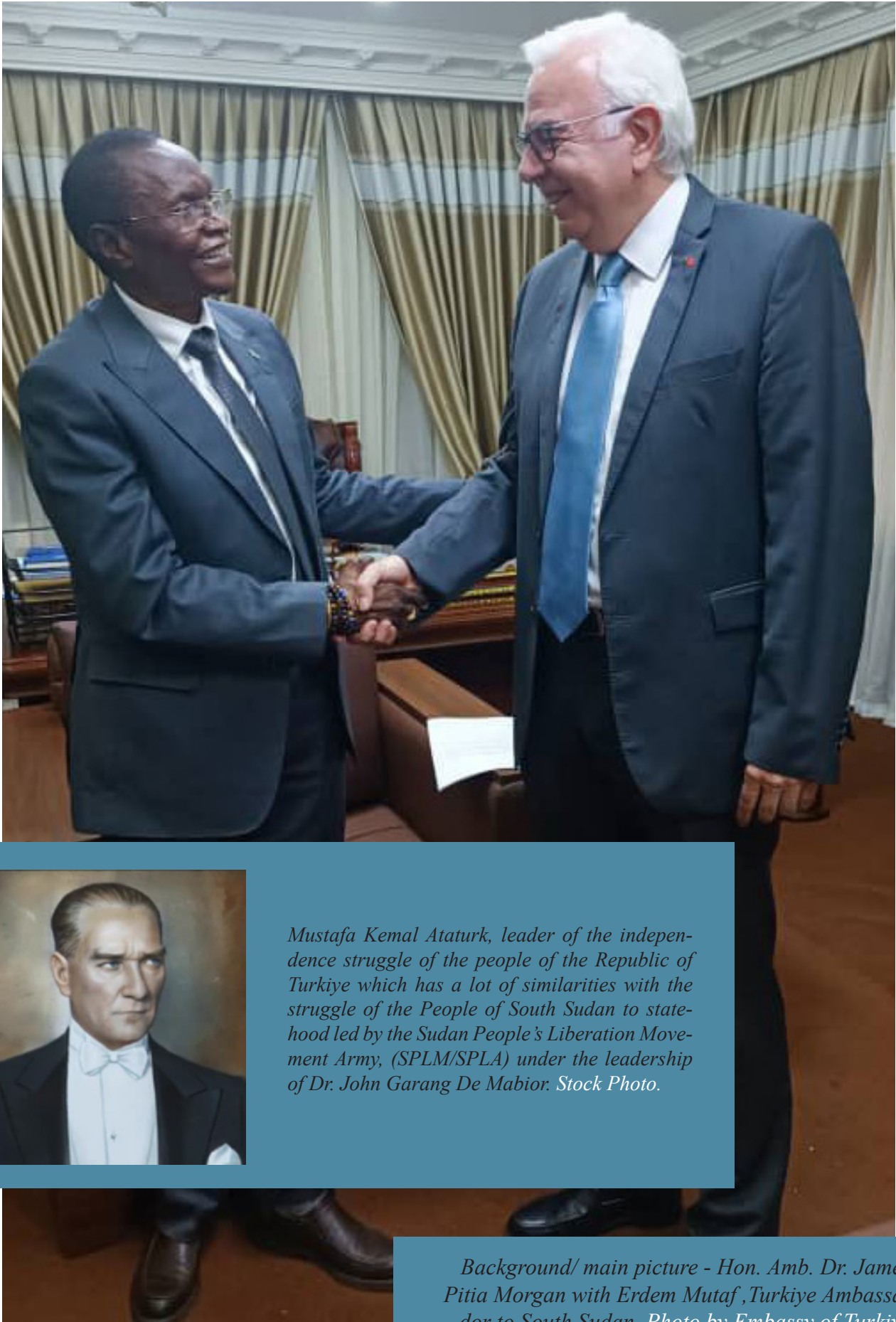
The relationship between the Republic of South Sudan and the Republic of Turkiye, are strong and cordial at all levels, Politically, economically and culturally, and progressing well. The ties between the two friendly countries reached the highest level during the visit of the President of

the Republic H.E. Gen. Salva Kiir Mayardit to Turkiye in 2015, where had constructive bilateral discussion with his Turkish counterpart H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Istanbul. From that time, officials from the two countries continue to exchange visits. The Republic of Turkiye is an important country in the Middle East and Europe. it occupies a strategic location in the world connecting Asia, Africa and Europe. It is one of the major economies in the world, with a modern industrial based economy. The Republic of Turkiye is a power house in the Middle East. With a modern economy, producing a wide range of agricultural, industrial,

Continued on page 47

Bilateral Cooperation Between South Sudan And Turkiye





Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, leader of the independence struggle of the people of the Republic of Turkiye which has a lot of similarities with the struggle of the People of South Sudan to statehood led by the Sudan People's Liberation Movement Army, (SPLM/SPLA) under the leadership of Dr. John Garang De Mabior. Stock Photo.

Background/ main picture - Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan with Erdem Mutaf, Turkiye Ambassador to South Sudan. Photo by Embassy of Turkiye

Continued from page 47

and services products for both domestic and export markets. The Republic of Turkiye, could be able to help our country in the areas of investment and infrastructure development. Many countries from the Gulf Corporation Council are investing heavily in Turkiye.

The Embassy of the Republic of South Sudan in Ankara, has a strategic plan with a mission “Representing the Republic of South Sudan’s interests in the Republic of Turkiye, aiming at the enhancement of bilateral relations at all levels which includes, promoting and protecting the interests of South Sudan in Turkiye and to promote, the Political, Economic, Cultural and Scientific ties between the two friendly nations.

Strategic plans for 2023

The year 2023 strategic plans include the dissemination of the Revitalized Peace Agreement, mobilization of humanitarian assistance for the returnees, displaced persons and the states that have been affected by floods, promote potential investment opportunities in South

Sudan, engage with Turkish Institutions, including the Government and private sectors to Promote economic diplomacy that include trade and investment especially foreign direct investment into the country.

However the Embassy in Ankara is working to strengthen, and promote the bilateral Political, Economic, Cultural and Scientific fields, with the Government of the Republic of Turkiye lobbying all the Ministries, particularly the ones dealing with economy, including Finance to attract Turkish Financial Institutions into our economy; Trade dealing with investment and trade, Tourism to encourage the developed Turkish Tourism sector to assist in developing our tourism including Hotels and Wildlife; Agriculture that could help our huge agricultural potential, by adopting modern techniques; Infrastructure that could help our country in Uniting roads, railways, airports and river ports.

The Embassy is also continuing to engage the private sector in Turkiye,

educating them about the potential investment opportunities existing in our country in all sectors. These private institutions, include the Chamber of Commerce and industry, the Associations of Exporters, and Associations of Manufacturing, the Turkish Construction Association, the Association of Banking and Financial Union and the Associations of Agricultural producers and the Farmers Union. Further we are working to connect our Chamber of Commerce with their counterparts in Turkiye.

In order to attract the Turkish Institutions to invest in our country, the Embassy team has devised strategies, including, visits to Industry and Industrial zones based in various provinces, holding seminars, exhibitions and symposiums, attending business conferences, seminars and annual shows and meetings of the Business community in the Republic of Turkiye. Based on our engagement, many companies from Turkiye have been visiting our country looking for

Continued on page 49

Turkiye is currently providing Scholarships to South Sudanese students and the country is also providing some humanitarian assistance and they support the implementation of the Peace Agreement in South Sudan.

Continued from page 47

investment opportunities. Hence, some have already set up offices in our capital city and other parts of our country and it is our hope that many more will follow in the nearest future.

It is worth-mentioning that South Sudan and Türkiye have signed two important agreements and two Memorandum of understanding (Mous) as follows:

- *The Development Cooperation Agreement that allows Türkiye to provide development assistance to South Sudan*

- *The Trade and investment Agreement between South Sudan and Türkiye, which include*

economic cooperation in the fields of trade and investment

- *The Memorandum of Understanding, on Higher Education, Science and Technology*

- *The Memorandum Education the above-mentioned agreements and MOU are awaiting for ratification by our Government.*

Turkiye is currently providing Scholarships to South Sudanese students and the country is also providing some humanitarian assistance and they support the implementation of the Peace Agreement in South Sudan.

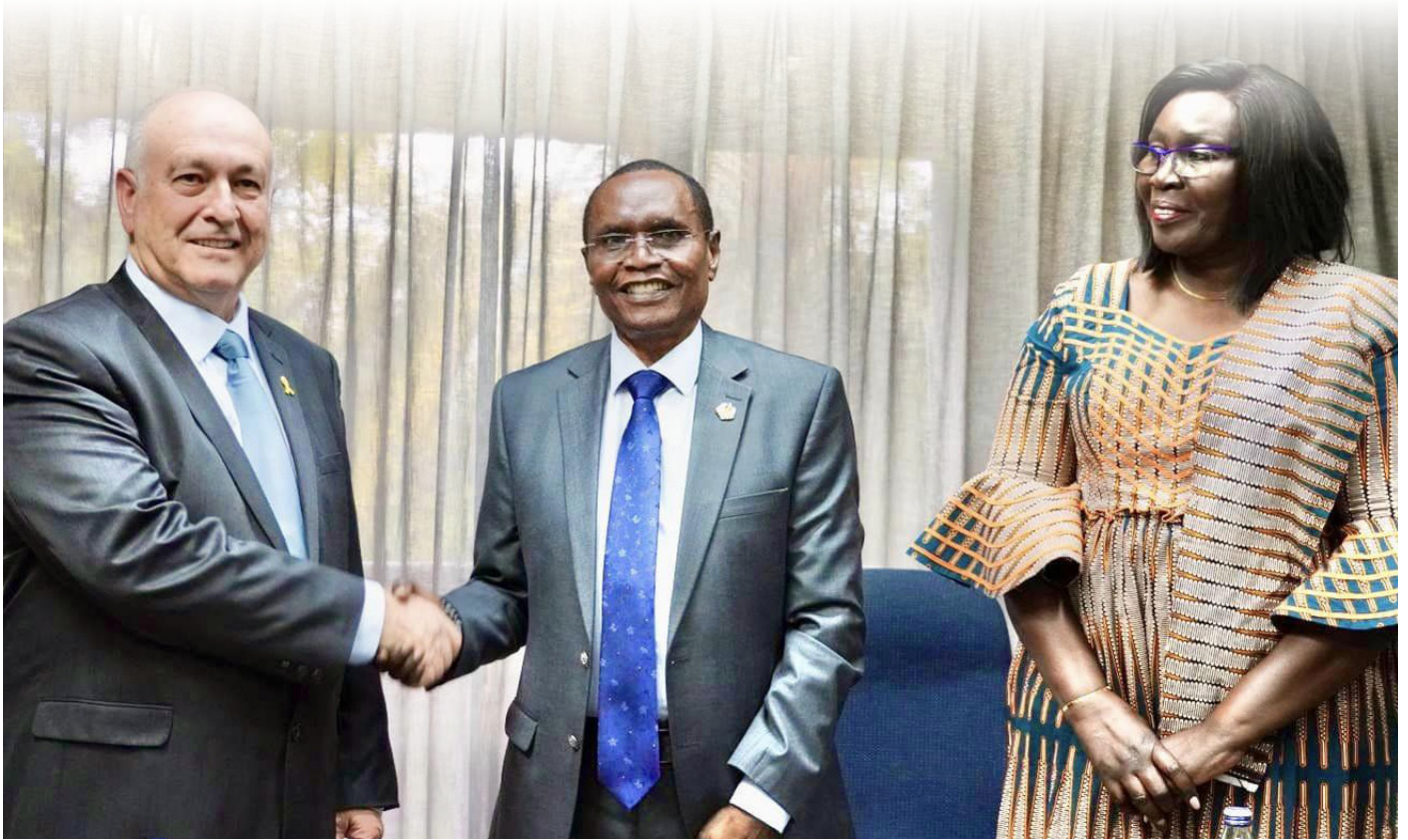
In conclusion the co-

operation between the Governments of the Republic of South Sudan and Türkiye at all levels is developing gradually. Many officials from the Government of the Republic of Türkiye has expressed their willing to work together with the Government of the Republic of South Sudan in many areas, including trade and investment, development and humanitarian assistance, and infrastructural development. We are confident that this cooperation will continue between the two friendly countries at the levels of Government and the Private sector. “We need to enter into partnership in order to realize the potential.”



Many officials from the Government of the Republic of Türkiye has expressed their willing to work together with the Government of the Republic of South Sudan in many areas, including trade and investment, development and humanitarian assistance, and infrastructural development.

Minister Of Foreign Affairs Holds Meeting With Israeli Special Envoy In Addis Ababa



Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan, with Jacob Blitshtein, the Special Envoy of the State of Israel and South Sudan's Ambassador to Ethiopia, H.E. Natalina Mou. MFA&IC Photo

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Addis Ababa, February 13, 2024 (MFA&IC)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan, has safely arrived in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 13 February 2024 to attend

the 44th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union.

Minister Morgan was warmly welcomed by the State Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, H.E. Ambassador Birtukan Amano, and South Sudan's

Ambassador to Ethiopia, H.E. Natalina Mou.

Shortly after his arrival, Dr. James Pitia Morgan had a sideline meeting with Jacob Blitshtein, the Special Envoy of the State of Israel.

The meeting focused on discussing bilateral issues between South Sudan and Israel.

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United States Ambassador to South Sudan, H.E. Michael J. Adler, with Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan
MFA&IC Photo

In a bid to strengthen diplomatic ties and foster mutual cooperation, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Amb. Dr. James Pitia Morgan, has expressed a commitment to enhancing the relationship between South Sudan, the United States, and the European Union.

This move comes as South Sudan prepares for a crucial democratic election at the end of the year. South Sudan has a strong history of collaboration

with the United States, which provided significant support during and after the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). Recognizing the importance of this partnership, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation seeks to continue and improve upon the existing bilateral relations between the people and governments of South Sudan and the United States. During a meeting with the United States Ambassador to South Sudan, H.E.

Michael J. Adler, Hon. Amb. Dr. Morgan expressed his readiness to collaborate with Ambassador Adler and other envoys accredited to South Sudan. He emphasized that his office would always be open to engage in meaningful dialogue with the ambassadors. Hon. Amb. Dr. Morgan also highlighted South Sudan's upcoming elections, scheduled to take place by the end of 2024 as outlined in the roadmap. He emphasized the government's commit-



United States Ambassador to South Sudan (centre) with members of the US and EU diplomatic community in the country. MFA&IC Photo

Improving Relations: South Sudan, United States, And The European Union Forge Stronger Ties



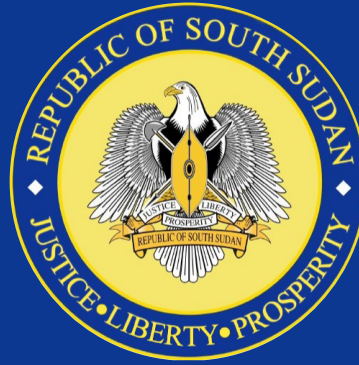
The Underscretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Mayen Dut Wol addressing members of the US and EU diplomatic community in South Sudan. MFA&IC Photo.

The improved relationship between South Sudan, the United States, and the European Union holds great potential for fostering economic growth, political stability, and peace in the region.

ment to a democratic process, stating that by 2025, the country would have a newly elected government chosen by the people. He further emphasized that there would be no extension, underlining the importance of adhering to a clear and transparent electoral process. In response, Ambassador Adler congratulated Hon. Amb. Dr. Morgan on his appointment and assured him of his unwavering commitment to collaboration. The Unit-

ed States Ambassador expressed his support for a credible election in South Sudan, underscoring the significance of a transparent and inclusive democratic process. The improved relationship between South Sudan, the United States, and the European Union holds great potential for fostering economic growth, political stability, and peace in the region. The European Union has been a key partner in supporting South Su-

dan's development, and the strengthened ties between the three entities are expected to create new avenues for cooperation and progress. As South Sudan looks ahead to its democratic elections, the commitment of both the United States and the European Union to support and observe the process will be vital in ensuring its credibility and integrity. This collaborative approach will not only reinforce democratic values but also contribute to the consolidation of stability and prosperity in South Sudan.



Republic of South Sudan
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

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