

# The Republic of the Sudan

## Press Release

The following response to the press release issued on 1 April, 2012 by South Sudan negotiation team on outstanding issues:-

As the negotiation is going on, facilitated by the AUHIP, on security as the most vital issue for normalization of relations between the two countries, the South Sudan delegation has issued this unfortunate and negative press release.

Though of the series of hostilities from the Government of South Sudan against Sudan directly and by proxy, Sudan preparatory negotiation team on security has arrived on time with high level and mandated to take all joint arrangement to solve the security issues.

The hostilities of the Government of South Sudan was expressed, explicitly, by President Silva Kiir when he announced, among cheers of the members of the liberation council of the SPLM, the occupation of HegLieg area by SPLA troops.

The failure of the SPLA to meet it's obligation, stipulated by the CPA, to redeploy its forces in Blue Nile and Southern kurdofan state, and failure to disengage with 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> divisions, and continuation to support the rebel groups in the two regions and Darfur, are indicative of the expansion mentally of the Government South Sudan.

The Border line between the two countries is well defined by the CPA as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 1956. Accordingly, the claims about Sudan occupation of some disputed areas are false and untrue and reflects unfortunate deviation from the new approach, agreed upon between the two negating team, to solve the outstanding issues and create conducive environment to normalize the relations between the two countries.

The Sudan delegation to the meeting of the joint political and security mechanism (JPSM) is well represented with high ranking Ministers and officials of the concerned authorities. But as the matter of fact, the Government of Sudan has been committed to the meetings of the JPSM, while the other party failed twice to send their high level counterparts.

We urge the Government of South Sudan to refrain from the counter-productive statements and come true to the negotiating table to settle peacefully all the outstanding issues, for the ultimate prosperity of the people of our two sisterly countries, and to abide by the new approach and spirit agreed upon to create conducive environment.

We would like to assure the international community of our destiny towards peace and stability, and that all the efforts to drag us to war again will be deemed failure.

**1<sup>st</sup> April, 2012**