

**POSITION OF THE PEOPLE OF ABYEI AREA
ON THE FINAL RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT ON ABYEI
WITHIN THE PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS AS SET BY UNSC IN
MAY 2012**

Considering, that resolution of conflict on Abyei Area has been a thorny issue all along the process to implement the CPA since AD 2005,

Recalling, that all interim arrangements on Abyei have so far resulted in utter disaster, involving loss of dear lives, resources and generous assistance provided by various donors worldwide,

Taking into account the limited timeframe as prescribed by the UNSC, which does not tolerate learning of new lessons by furthermore repeating failed experiences, demonstrated by Abyei crises of May 2008 and May 2011

Notwithstanding positive achievements to date through partial implementation of the Addis Ababa Agreement (June 2011),

We the people of Abyei Area meeting in Agok Town today, the 4th of June 2012, hereby forward our position to the negotiating team representing the SPLM/Government of the Republic of South Sudan as following:

1. Final Solution to Conflict on Abyei

Formation of the Abyei Joint Overseeing Committee (AJOC) and deployment of UNISFA perhaps constitute positive outcomes of the Addis Ababa Agreement (June 2011). However, full implementation of that agreement is only a means, not a final goal! An interim administration for Abyei, though in the agreement, cannot be one of the outstanding issues of the CPA. Abyei Area interim administration was successfully formed before, but unilaterally dissolved by a decree of President Omar Beshir in May 2011. Abyei has now been without a recognized political administration for one year. Any effort now to reconstitute a joint administration will not only be wasting limited time, but will lead to isolation of the Abyei case once more. That eventuality can only be a recipe for a third disaster!!

Therefore, we urge our negotiating team on Abyei to focus fully on what constitutes a final solution, be it an administrative order or a referendum.

2. SAF withdrawal

While applauding highly the pressure exerted by UNSC and the AU to force the government of the Republic of Sudan to withdraw its forces from Abyei Town and other locations, we believe this withdrawal has not been fully completed, considering,

- a) *All so-called police guarding oil installations in northern territories of Abyei and its associated civilian population of whatever ethnic origin, are all SAF and allied militias;*
- b) *All so-called traders and other civilians remaining behind in Abyei Town, irrespective of their ethnic origin, are SAF and/or allied militia, some of who came for the first time with invading forces;*

We urge that all such persons be asked to leave Abyei Area as part and parcel of unconditional withdrawal of SAF.

3. Sudan exploitation of Abyei oil

NCP/Government of Sudan has flagrantly been violating the CPA with respect to exploitation of oil produced in Abyei Area. Keeping its so-called “police” force around the oil installations is to continue this one-sided exploitation of Abyei oil and to preclude right of the people of Abyei to any employment opportunities available.

We urge that our negotiating team demand full compensation by NCP/Government of Sudan for unpaid for share of oil revenues in accordance with the CPA.

4. Compensation to the people of Abyei

Twice during peace era, NCP/Government of Sudan invaded and occupied Abyei Area. Apparently, it has become a lucrative business for SAF and its allied militias, killing innocent civilians in the process and looting their property! Whatsoever, nothing can justify destruction of schools, health clinics and water facilities! Meanwhile, NCP/Government of Sudan has been exploiting Abyei oil and other resources (minerals, wood, etc..). We believe that this is a systematic plan of NCP/Government of Sudan to force the people of Abyei out of their ancestral land!!

We urge our negotiating team to file the case for a financial compensation to the people of Abyei to be imposed on Sudan Government by the UNSC.

Participants,

Representative, Chiefs of The Nine-Ngok Dinka Chiefdoms

Representative, Abyei Women Association

Representative, Abyei Youth Union

Representative, Abyei Youth League

Representative, Abyei Chamber of Commerce

Agok, 6 June 2012.