



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

**REPORT OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO
INVESTIGATE THE UNDESIREABLE INCIDENCE THAT
OCCURRED IN THE MALAKAL PROTECTION OF
CIVILIANS (POC) SITE (FEBRUARY 17th – 18th, 2016).**

**5th April 2016
Juba, RSS**

SUMMARY

Following the end of the interim period of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), and the subsequent independence of South Sudan in July 2011, the United Nation Security Council (UNSC) established its first mission in the Republic of South Sudan. This mission was known as the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS). The mission, who never included the protection of civilians, came into force after the UNSC adoption of resolution 1996 (2011) on 8th July 2011.

However, when the violence erupted in Juba after the crisis of 15th December 2013, which quickly spread to other locations around the country, resulting into civil war, the UNSC renewed its mandate without consultation with the Government of the Republic of South Sudan (GRSS). This new mandate by the UNCS resolution 2155 (2014), adopted on the 27th May 2014 placed the protection of civilian as its top priority, and gave birth to the so called the Protection of Civilian (POC) sites. It is to be noted that there has never been such POC sites anywhere in an independent and sovereign state in the world but only in South Sudan.

In its meeting No. 7581, on 15th December 2015, the UNSC again renewed and adopted a new UNMISS mandate by resolution 2252 (2015) without any courtesy to consult or even listen to the Government side regarding the POC sites in the Country. Although resolution 2252 (2015) also placed the protection of civilians as the top priority for UNMISS, there have been repeated killings and raping in those camps. It is worth mentioning that there have been and there are still civil servants who live in the POC sites but frequently come to work in their respective Ministries in Juba. There has never been any reported incident of those coming in and out of the POC site. It is perplexing to see that resolution 2252 (2015) maintained POC sites even after the Government and other stakeholders sign an Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan in August 2015.

The undesirable incident that caused unnecessary lost of lives in Malakal from 17th – 18th February 2016 is a clear failure and violation by UNMISS officials in the Malakal POC site. Paragraph 8 (a) (i) and (iv) of the UNSC resolution 2252 (2015) clearly stipulates that UNMISS mandate among others is *“to protect civilians under threat of physical violence, irrespective of the source of such violence, within its capacity and areas of deployment, with specific protection for women and children, including through the continued use of the Mission's child protection and women's protection advisers”* and; *“to maintain public safety and security within UNMISS protection of civilians sites”*.

UNMISS responded so reluctantly and weakly to stop the fighting. They failed to address the rising tension among the different ethnic groups in the camp promptly. UNMISS also refused to open its gate to allow people to escape the attack until the fleeing civilians forced their way out by cutting out the rear fence.

It was expected that such POC sites would provide safety and harness coexistence among the citizens. Unfortunately, the sites became the bases for ethnic tension, tribalism and hatred, apparently encouraged by UNMISS, as shown by the sectional grouping of people along ethnic line as seen in many of these camps around the including the one in Malakal.

With the situation in those camps remaining so deplorable and unfathomably undesirable and with no sign of closing them down any time soon, it is imperative that UNMISS take responsibility to ensure that the situations in the POC sites across the country are improved.

The fighting in the Malakal POC site among South Sudanese and along ethnic divide, resulting in unnecessary loss of lives prompted the Government of the Republic of South Sudan to form a dispatch a high-level fact finding delegation to investigate the circumstances which led to the undesirable event in Malakal PoC site.

The High-Level Fact Finding Delegation was dispatched to Malakal on the 15th of March 2016 and spend seven days in their investigation. The committee interviewed a cross-sectional group of people, which includes the State Government Officials, faith based leaders, civil societies leaders, youth, women, elderly and eminent personality.

This report, therefore, gives the background of the investigation, people investigated, their responses, recommendations, other documents relevant to the investigation and finally conclusion.

So as not to compromise the safety and security of the persons interviewed, the names of the individuals interviewed are withheld with the exception of the State Government Officials.

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INTRODUCTION

1. From the interviews conducted with people who ran out of the POC site, the crisis started around 5:30 pm on the 17th of February, 2016. It was revealed that the Nuer and Shilluk kids were throwing stones at the Dinka compound. This was quickly followed by a fierce fighting using **white weapons**¹. Subsequently guns were used and the shooting was directed towards the Dinka compound. The majority of Dinka IDPs and other nationalities tried to escape through the main gate, but UNMISS refused to open the gate. Fearing for their lives, people had no option but to break the fence and escape the scene of violence and came out of POC site to Malakal town for safety.

Committee Mandate

2. During its Regular Meeting No.04/2016 held on Friday 19th February 2016, the National Council of Ministers resolved (resolution² No.36/2016) to constitute a **Fact Finding High-Level Committee**, hereafter referred to as "**Committee**". The Committee Terms of Reference (TOR) were to (i) Investigate the circumstances which led to the undesirable events that occurred in Malakal's Protection of Civilian (POC) Site; (ii) Hold public rally with the aim to restoring public confidence and inter-communal co-existence in the area; and (iii) Submit the findings to H.E. the President of the Republic, and subsequently to the Council of Ministers.
3. On the 19th February 2016, and pursuant to the National Council of Ministers Resolution No.36/2016, and the directive of H.E. the President of the Republic, the Minister of Cabinet Affairs constituted a seven-member committee consisting of people with high moral integrity and track record in fact finding mission of sensitive nature. On the same note, the Minister in the Office of the President send a notification letter to the Governor of Eastern Nile State citing the same TOR for the committee. Furthermore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation on 15th March 2016 wrote a **Note Verbal** to the Office of the Special Representative of the United Nation in Juba requesting the latter to allow the team traveling to Malakal to have access to the POC site to find out what really happened that took place from 17th – 18 February 2016.
4. The selection of the committee was done in a manner that avoided any perception of bias or conflict of interest on the outcome of the investigation. For example, the chair of the committee Hon. Manasae Lomole Waya, the former Deputy Governor of the former Central Equatoria State hails from Yie River State; Prof. Aggrey Ayuen Majok with many years of experience working with the United Nation (UN) hails from Jonglei State; Hon. Munira Abdelwahab Suleiman hails from Boma State; Mr. George Justin Achor hails from Wau State; Counsel General, Filberto Mayuot Mareng who has a strong legal background hails

¹ White weapon is a military term that refers to the use of sticks, spears, arrows, knives, e.t.c.

² Resolutions are the binding decision of the Council of Ministers.

from Gorial state, one of the state from the former Warrap state; and two high ranking Military Officers who have been trained and worked in a similar mission in other countries.

Methodology

5. Cognizant of the sensitivity of the incident and to ensure that the security of the individuals interviewed is not compromised, the Committee in its second meeting on Monday the 14th March 2016 affirmed to be guided by the principle of confidentiality, impartiality and professionalism. The Committee was also guided by questionnaires developed and discussed in its first meeting of Saturday 12th March 2014 and unanimously adopted in its second meeting on the aforementioned date in Juba before traveling to Malakal.
6. While in Malakal, the Committee interviewed a cross-section of people. These include the State Government Officials, Faith based leaders, Youth leaders, Civil Society Organization leaders, Women leaders, eye witness (South Sudanese and foreign nationals from Darfur, Sudan and Ethiopia) who were in the POC site before and during the incident but now prefer to stay outside of the camp. Documents, audio and video recording, and pictures taken showing the movement of women carrying food from the Malakal market to the UNMISS POC site were also collected as evidence that aided in developing this report.
7. The Committee intended to meet and interview the community leaders and traditional leaders to the conflict (Dinka, Nuer and Shilluk). Peace and Security Committee Leaders, and UNMISS officials were also interviewed. Unfortunately, the UNMISS Coordinator and the Force Commander were uncooperative and hence no information was obtained from IDPs in the POC site or their leaders. The UNMISS warned that it was not safe for the Committee to enter the POC site. Heeding to their warning, the Committee suggested that UNMISS organize and arrange for a meeting outside the POC site. This suggestion too was flatly rejected by the Field Coordinator and the Force Commander. They alluded that the IDPs are traumatized and can not meet with the Committee neither inside nor outside the camp. It is ironic that UNMISS could not allow the community leaders to meet the Committee outside the camp while people are seen moving freely in and out of the camp as depicted in this picture. No information was also obtained from UNMISS officials because the field coordinator refused the investigation of all their UNMISS personnel.



Figure 1: Women carrying food items from the Market to the POC site

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

8. Upon arriving Malakal in the afternoon of Tuesday 15th March, 2016, the Committee reviewed its agenda adopted on the 14th March 2016 in Juba, reviewed the proposed activities and, identified and confirmed the target groups to be interviewed.
9. The Committee first meeting was with the State Governor of Eastern Nile State, Hon. Chol Thon Balok and members of his State Government. The second meeting was with the people who were in the POC Site before and during the fighting and fled to the town to scape from the fighting. The third meeting was with those who left the POC Site before the incident. This was followed by the Committee's meeting with the UNMISS State Coordinator and her team of six members. As stated in paragraph 7 above, no information related to the incident was obtained from UNMISS as its team leader refused investigation of its personnel. UNMISS, instead asked that the Committee put questions in writing, and that they [UNMISS] would respond in writing. The Committee felt that this method would not yield much results as investigation requires interaction.

10. The Committee held a public rally with the citizens in Malakal. The purpose of this rally, as stipulated in the Committee's terms of reference, was to restore public confidence and inter-communal co-existence in the area. The Committee concludes that this unfortunate incident was instigated by political interests and the failure of the UNMISS to arrest the situation as required by their mandate stipulated in paragraph 8 (a) (i) and (iv) of the UNSC resolution 2252 (2015), which is *"to protect civilians under threat of physical violence, irrespective of the source of such violence, within its capacity and areas of deployment, with specific protection for women and children, including through the continued use of the Mission's child protection and women's protection advisers"* and; *"to maintain public safety and security within and of UNMISS protection of civilians sites"*. "UNMISS failed to arrest the situation from occurring", people at the rally said.

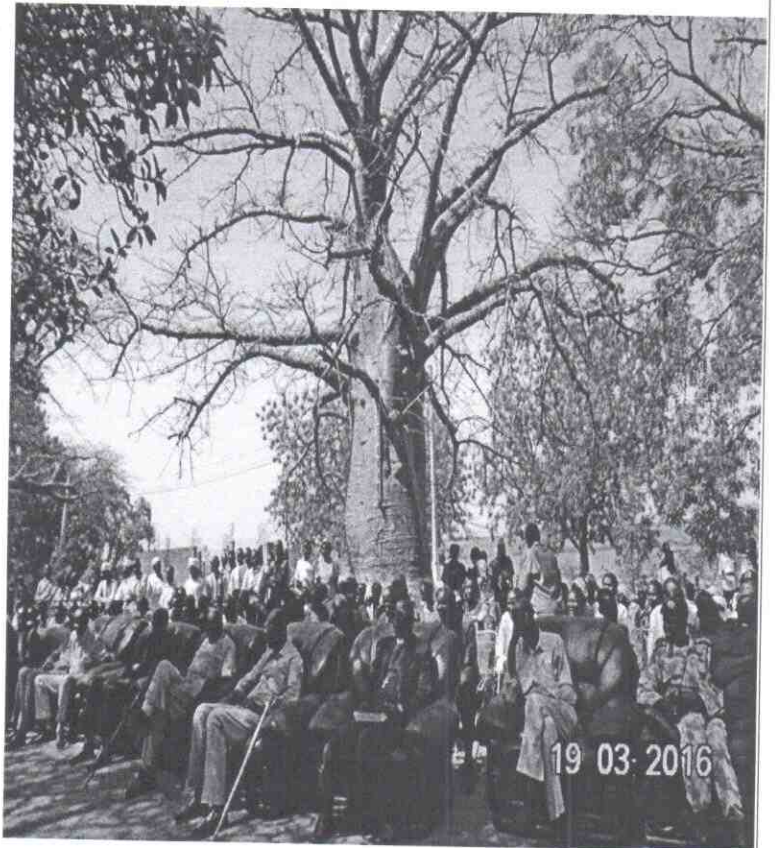


Figure 2: Community Members at the rally

OBSERVATIONS

11. During the course of conducting its investigation, the Committee made general observations. It was seen that people are freely moving and that women carrying food items on their way back to the UNMISS Camp. This is an indication that people are freely moving in and out of the camp. While on their way back from the Malakal airport, the Committee also saw a civilian carrying a rifle (gun) and food items walking towards the UNMISS camp. People could be seen busy in Malakal market buying food items and doing their daily business. Malakal town is massively destroyed, but people were beginning to return back to their homes.
12. From the account of those who were in the UNMISS camp before the fighting erupted on the 17th February, 2016, the Committee was made to understand that the POC site is organized on ethnic line and that each camp has a supervisor who is also chosen based on ethnicity. Each respective supervisor is in charge of a particular camp and the people living within it. These were therefore the people the Committee intended to interview, but the Committee was prevented by the UNMISS to meet them either in the camp or outside the camp and highlighted above.

FINDINGS

13. The Committee established that on Wednesday 17th February 2016, at about 5:30 pm an intertribal violence broke out inside the UNMISS POC site in Malakal. It was reported that Nuer and Shilluk IDPs ganged up against Dinka Atar community. Some nationalities like Darfurians and Ethiopians were also became victims of the episode. The fighting continued until the morning of Thursday 18th February 2016.
14. The crisis was fueled by political influence with people who were living outside UNMISS POC site as well as those who lived inside the camp. It was discovered that UNMISS did not respond promptly to the information related to the rising tension in the camp. Therefore, the Committee concluded that this unfortunate incident was instigated by political interests and the failure of the UNMISS to arrest the situation as required by its mandate to protect civilians.
15. The Committee also learnt that guns were being smuggled into the UNMISS camp by some elements from the rebels, who fled into the camp and were recruited as security guards by a security company known as WARRIORS. It became clear to the Committee that rebels were within the camp and those convicts who run away from Malakal main prison were also identified to be involved in the killing of IDPs inside the UNMISS camp.
16. From the intelligence briefing, findings and reports indicate that 40 AK 47, 3 PKM Machine guns, and 2 RPG 7 were smuggled into the camp and used in the fighting. Intelligence report

indicated that UNMISS earlier collected 32 AK 47, 2 PKM machine guns and 2 RPG 7 during their search for guns. However, they reported to the State Government only 17 AK 47.

17. It was ascertained that the fighting initially broke out when children from both the Nuer and Shilluk started attacking the Dinka IDPs quarters with stones, which apparently instigated the crisis. According to the information collected on the ground a total of 21 people from the Dinka IDPs were reported killed and 4 of them also went missing. From the Nuer and Shilluk side 8 IDPs were reported killed. 5 Sudanese nationals were also reported killed. This brings the total of people killed in UNMISS POC site in Malakal to 34. Those wounded were reported to be 51 people. It was reported that 6 of the wounded Shilluk were transported to Kodok, by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Other wounded IDPs were airlifted to Juba.
18. One other intriguing finding by the Committee is the way the recruitment of the private guards has been done in the UNMISS POC site in Malakal. Committee analysis of the persons selected and trained leaves a lot to be desired. It was found out that recruitment of the security guards was done as follows: Dinka, 30 guards; Nuer, 30 guards; Shilluk, 42; Wau Shilluk, 18 guards. If the recruitment was meant to be done on a tribal basis as it appears, it is not clear as to why the Shilluk were divided into Wau Shilluk and Shilluk.
19. Information gathered by the Committee from those interviewed, in particular, those who left the POC site before the crisis and those who left after and/or during the crisis (from 17th-18th February 2016) indicates that out of 120 security guards 60 of them were Shilluks (see breakdown above). This is a clear indication that UNMISS favoured one group from the others.
20. During the fighting, the IDPs reported that UNMISS forces stood by watching the citizens killing themselves. There was nowhere for the IDPs to escape. According to an eye witness account of one IDP, UNMISS refused to open the main gate to allow those who wanted to escape the fighting. However, IDPs managed to cut the fence at the rear to allow those running for safety to leave the POC site.
21. It was also found out that the recruitment of local staff in the UNMISS camp was done without the knowledge of the National Government in Juba. It was reported that most of the guards recruited are rebels belonging to Gen. Johnson Olony. The rules of engagement for any UN agency operating in a Sovereign State require that such local recruitment should have been cleared by the respective Line Ministries (Foreign Affairs and Labour, Public Service and Human Resources Development). These Line Ministries should have been the ones to screen these individuals and pass them for employment as security guards by UNMISS.

22. The recruitment of the local personnel (Security guards) without the knowledge of the Government contravenes with the provisions of the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), Chapter V, Article 24, which says: *“Upon the request of the Special Representative, the Government undertakes to facilitate the recruitment of qualified local staff by UNMISS and to accelerate the process of such recruitment.”*
23. UNMISS failed to take any action when they learn of the smuggling of weapons into the POC site. An eye witness interviewed said that they saw a group of 20 men dressed in “*lawa*³ and behaving like women,” entering the POC site. One young boy had his “*Lawa* blown out by the wind and a gun was revealed”. When UNMISS was informed, their reply was: “*we take note of that*”.
24. UNMISS refusal for the Committee to enter the POC site on the basis of the grave nature of the events inside POC site, and failure to make alternative arrangement for the Committee to meet the leadership of the IDPs contravene the provisions of (SOFA: Chapter VI, Article 47, page 23), which states, *“UNMISS and the Government shall assist each other in carrying out all necessary investigations into offences in respect of which either or both have an interest in the production of witnesses and in the collection and production of evidence, including the seizure of, if appropriate, the handing over of items connected with an offence.”* The Committee finds it appalling that UNMISS could refuse to cooperate in a matter of grave concern despite the fact that the National Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperated in a letter dated 15th March 2016, transmitted a Note Verbal to the Special Representative of the United Nation’s Secretary General to accord the Committee all necessary assistance and cooperation to conduct its investigation.
25. It is to be underscored that UNMISS leadership at Malakal POC sit bears full responsibility for failing to act on information provided to them in order to arrest the situation before it happened. Further, UNMISS in the POC site in Malakal failed to fulfill its mandate for protecting civilian as evidenced by the weak respond during the incident.
26. There is an overwhelming evidence garnered from relevant documents, interviews of persons who witnessed the start and end of the crisis in the Malakal PoC site that the UNMISS State Coordinator and her team failed to carry out their task of protecting the IDPS. The Coordinator and her staff failed to live up to the UN principles of **impartiality and neutrality**. Since its establishment, Malakal POC site has been a scene of tribal fights, horrendous crimes, murder and rape committed with impunity.

³ Lawa is a Shilluk traditional attire worn by both men and women

RECOMMENDATIONS

27. To avoid future inter-tribal conflicts and prevent the reoccurrence of such violence in the UNMISS protection of Civilians (POC) site in Malakal from happening, the Committee makes the following recommendations:
- a) The UNMISS State Coordinator and the Commander of the Forces serving at the time of the incident in Malakal (POC) site should be held accountable for failing to act quickly to prevent the incident from occurring and for the weak response to the incident as well as for not upholding to the UN principle of neutrality and impartiality.
 - b) There is an overwhelming desire from many IDPs to leave the POC sites due to unbearable situation in the camp, hence the UNMISS should be asked to transport the IDPs to their states of origin as there is now relative calm and specially as the Government is embark on the implementation of the peace agreement.
 - c) The Government should consider a critical review of the necessity of maintaining the current POC sites in the country since attainment of peace is now a reality. If POC Sites are to be maintained, then the Government and UNMISS should agree for ajoint Police force to protect the civilians.
 - d) SOFA should be reviewed and revised. The areas of concern include, but not limited to recruitment, travel, transport and ports of entry. For example, the UNMISS has a private port on the River Nile through which people enter and leave the POC site without the knowledge of the State or the National Government. The Committee witnessed the passing of a river barge, carrying a UN Flag along the River Nile for which the State Authorities were told just 15 minutes before it appeared in Malakal, sailing northward towards the private UNMISS port. *Normally, movements of UN, by any means, boat, vehicle, etc. are accompanied by a manifesto indicating destinations and what is being carried.*
 - e) There should be a peace and reconciliation strategy developed to enable the communities coexist and live in harmony in their respective states.
 - f) UNMISS and the Western Nile State Government should encourage people to return to, and rebuild their homes in Malakal town and services should be jointly provided both by the Government and UN to help them settle.
 - g) The Government should embark on reconstruction of Malakal town, especially the Government's institutions, such as the Airport, Hospital, University, Electricity power station, e.t.c., which were destroyed by the conflict.
 - h) National government should develop strategy to combat tribalism in the country and to foster peace, love and unity of all the citizens.

ANNEXES:

Interview with Eastern Nile State Government Officials

1. During the interaction with the with the State Governor, Hon. Chol Thano Balok expressed readiness of his government to cooperate with the Committee in order to achieve their mission of getting to the bottom of what really happened on the night of 17th February 2016 at the UNMISS POC site in Malakal and some prior indicators that would have avoided the incident from happening had UNMISS acted promptly.
2. The Governor expressed readiness and commitment to cooperate with the Committee to conduct its investigation independently and without any interference from the State Government.
3. *"At that moment", the Governor said, "tensions intensified between the Dinka on one side and the Nuer and Shilluk on the other side. Amidst such tension, the Dinka area in the POC site was searched by the UNMISS for guns. "On 17th February 2016 at night, the fighting started in UNMISS POC site and continued up to the following day", the Governor narrated. He added that "the Head of UNMISS reported the events to the government in Malakal and requested a hand of support".*
4. A separate report by the Deputy Governor stated that *"the State authorities learned about the incident on 18th February 2016"*. The Deputy Governor went to say and said that the news was broken to them by the IDPs who fled from the POC site. He added that the UNMISS forces Commander later on informed the State authorities about the incidence, assuring that guns were used in the fight.
5. Governor Chon Thon went on to say that his government immediately took action on 19th February 2016 by forming a State Investigation Committee headed by the Deputy Governor. The Committee comprised of seven members and was tasked to: **a)** Investigate and find the root causes of the crisis; **b)** Assess the number of people who were affected; **c)** Receive and find temporary settlement for the IDPs who fled the POC site; **d)** Coordinate with the UNMISS in Malakal to settle the IDPs and compile a report on the incident; and **e)** Present the report to the office of the Governor within 48 hours from the time of constituting the Committee.
6. The Governor concluded that the tribal conflicts in Malakal could only end if the IDPs were repatriated to their original places. "Then those who remain in Malakal will be fully under the responsibility of Eastern Nile State", he said.

7. On his part, the Chairperson of the State Investigation Committee (SIC) in Malakal Hon. Wooyi Kuoji Kijana, confirmed that three ethnic groups, namely the Shilluk, Nuer and Diinka Atar, were involved in the incident. *"The key reason for conflicts in the UNMISS POC site is the presence of armed rebel groups"*, Hon. Kijana said. He charged the UNMISS as not being serious in protection of the civilians in the camp. Most of the people interviewed by the Fact Finding Committee also believed that UNMISS failed to protect civilians at their vicinity.
8. The Deputy Governor dismissed any involvement of the State Government in the events, saying that his government was not a party to the crisis, and that they have no full picture of the events in the POC site. He suggested that UNMISS should give full account as to the circumstances surrounding the event. He accused UNMISS of hosting rebels inside the POC site in Malakal. According to him, the rebels included ex-combatants and individuals who were trained as security personnel/guards. He said Maj. Gen. Johnson Olony and other SPLM/A-IO were behind escalation of the events in Malakal POC Site.
9. In his conclusion, the Deputy Governor said the number of IDPs who fled from the POC seeking shelter in Malakal town and other areas was about 4,700. He said those people are in need of urgent humanitarian assistance. Hence, the State Government promptly provided food supplies to them. *"Temporary shelters were also provided, but some IDPs were accommodated in the churches and others were accommodated in school compounds"*, he said. The Deputy Governor went on to say that his Committee found out that the wounded people during the crisis were divided into two; of which one group was transported to Juba and the other group was transported to Kodok for medical attention. When the Committee requested UNMISS to explain why they have done so, though all the wounded are South Sudanese and should have been transported to one location such as Juba, there was no explanation given.
10. Hon. Sahah Elijah, Advisor on Political Affairs has this to say: *I arrived Malakal on the 16th February, 2016 and on the 17th February, 2016 we were informed of the crisis. The same day while at the Airport I saw fire then the wounded were brought to the house of the governor for first aid and then those with serious wounds were taken to Juba. Two of those taken to Juba later died"*.
11. Brig. Thon Mum Kejok, Advisor on security said: *"To my knowledge the crisis took place at UNMISS POC site. The site is divided into three quarters, Shilluk, Nuer and Dinka ethnic groups. Those wounded in the fight were transported by Red Cross plane. Some were taken directly to Wau Shilluk by UNMISS. Two suspects involved in this crisis are Joseph Aban who was a Security officer and someone called Obac, a prisoner who escaped the prison. Obac was sentenced to death for murder"*.

12. Hon. Sadera Moriji: Advisor on Peace and Reconciliation said the following remarks: *The crisis took place when the governor just formed his new government. After the crisis, I called for chiefs meeting. The chiefs told us that the crisis is a UNMISS made crisis. The problems are created by Shilluk. UNMISS is not cooperating, they do not tell us what they are doing? Network is not in Malakal but working in Malakal across the Nile. UNMISS does not help, or cooperate with the Government by allowing them to travel on their base (UNMISS). No health cares for the citizens here because there are no doctors”.*

Meeting with UNMISS POC Residents

13. No information was obtained when the National Committee met the UNMISS. UNMISS were not cooperative. They could not speak with the Committee but demanded that they be furnished with written questions.

Meeting with Community Leaders and traders.

14. The National Committee met and interviewed the group of community leaders, which includes and Youth Leaders, Women Groups Leaders, Chiefs, and Faith Based Organizations Leaders, as hereunder. Their interview scripts are as follows:

a) **Chief Nyuok Maker Monytur:**

“I am a paramount Chief of Fiji. I was a resident of the Malakal not a resident of UNMISS, as a chief, our estimate of people who came out of UNMISS was 4,700 men and women including children, and mostly were Dinka and Darfurians, they came out of the UNMISS because they were looking for a safe place, they were targeted by the rebels group in the camp. The killing started early, on the 17th and 18th, when people smuggled guns into UNMISS by criminals that moved to UNMISS early, by the people who escaped from Malakal Prison. The Dinka decided to die outside not in UNMISS, that is why they move back to the Malakal Town, because every day people are killed using machetes, sticks and spears. Women are being raped during the day light, some Shilluk women are killed because they are seen talking to a Dinka, they are considered enemies. Two Dinka men are under arrest by the UNMISS and still inside till today”.

b) **One of the Youth Leader:**

“I arrived in November 2015, there was no market inside UNMISS. UNMISS was first a residence to all ethnic groups; Dinka, Nuer, Shilluk and later on people got divided into tribal lines; Nuer, Shilluk, Dinka and Darfur. The fact was that UNMISS is not a safe site; guns are being carried by civilians on UN Vehicles”

c) **Chair youth Western Nile State**

"There are groups in the POC site who are harassing on a daily basis. This group belong to the rebels of Olony. Such groups have registered all those who come out to the market and those who return to the UNMISS are harrassed, sometimes, beaten. The UNMISS protects no one. When they (UNMISS) find two, or three people fighting, they only take pictures and do nothing else. In the schools the local Language allowed is Shilluk. No other Language, e.g., Dinka is allowed and this discouraged child to attend".

d) Women League:

"In 2013, we moved to UNMISS after the first crisis. Water was prevented and there was no food. The three ethnic groups; Nuer, Dinka, Shilluk can live peacefully if left alone. UNMISS presence is the cause of the conflict in the POC Site. Women kept hostage in UNMISS-by youth from Shilluk".

e) Preist

I arrived in November 2015. As Faith based leader I had never met with UNMISS staff in Malakal On 17th February, 2016, got beaten at night. On 18th February, 2016 women from all ethnic groups arrived at my church and I welcomed all of them. UNMISS failed to protect the people at the PoC site. After one week of the incident UNMISS personnel came for as assessment mission, to give the people in the site food items. The people later were moved to the teachers Institute.

f) Women community Leader Statement:

"I arrived in Malakal on the 14th February, 2016, UNMISS is not protecting the people, the government should work hard to remove our people from UNMISS POC site. I recommend bringing together the chiefs of Nuer, Shilluk and the Dinka to resolve the misunderstanding. A conference for peace and reconciliation should be held".

g) Maban Community:

"During the celebration of flag raising, people came out to attend the celebration. After the celebration they went back to UNMISS and were not allowed to come out again. There are people inside the POC site who want to come out, but they are unable to leave the UNMISS because they are not allowed by the UNMISS".

h) Youth Representative:

"People in UNMISS want to get out, but they are not allowed. Johnson Olony forces and UNMISS are responsible for this crisis".

i) Akol Lam: Sub chief:

UNMISS is hosting citizens of three states, we recommend that H.E the President asks the Hon. Governor to speak to the people to go to their states of origin, or if they voluntarily decide to stay in Malakal, then let it be. My recommendation is to be carried to H.E President Salva Kiir.

j) Closing Remarks: Chairperson:

Take my message to our people, who are your people, that President Salva Kiir is concerned about your good living. He wants you to live in peace and be agents of peace and harmony. I advise you to attend the rally at 10.00 am on the 19th March 2016.

k) Darfur Trader

"The 17th - 18th February, 2016 incident is deep rooted. We were residents of Malakal in December 2013. We went to UNMISS looking for safety. In two crises in UNMISS we were robbed but no intervention from UNMISS. We decided to move to Shilluk quarters. When we learnt of the intention of the Shilluk to attack the Darfurians, we informed the authority in the UNMISS POC site, but no action was taken. We were then attacked and 17 of our people were wounded. It was the Shilluks and Nuers who attack Dinka first. Darfurians were given space but UNMISS decided to destroy the market. They surrounded our location, using bulldozers surrounded with tanks. Then the tension started on 16th February, 2016. 17/02/2016 a meeting was called to find solutions, but after four hours of meeting no solutions were reached. 17/2/2016 at 9 pm, shooting started and we made our way out through the back fence. 5 Darfurians and 17 Dinkas were killed. UNMISS is the cause of the crisis and did not help".

l) A member of Peace and Security Committee in Secretary:

"We are happy that the government has come and asked us of the crisis of Malakal. On 16 - 18/2/2016 I have been responsible for guarding 8 gates of the POC site, which extend for almost 3kilos. Crisis started as far back as 20th May, 2016 when a citizen called Kur Sthuai was killed. His genitals were cut. One Ustaz was killed by plucking his eyes out. On 16 Feb. 2016, a Murle man was beaten and on 17th Feb. 2016, a Dinka man with a woman and a child were attacked. The situation became tensed at 5 pm. From 9:30 pm to 10:00 pm guns were used. The UNMISS withdrew when they heard the sounds of guns. The fight continued until 12 noon on 18th February".

m) UNIMIS Shift supervisor

"At 9: 00 pm on 17th February, 2016, the Shilluk youth started throwing stones, Meanwhile, in the morning of the same day (17/2/2016), at 8:00 am a Murle man was beaten. And at 9:00 am a Dinka Man and his wife with a baby were beaten, including the child. At 5: 00 pm, the Shilluks and Nuers formed a group. When this combined group started to attack at 9:00 pm the Dinka put up defense with sticks, stones and guns (RBG7 and PKM) shooting, from the Shilluk compound to the Dinka quarter were launched. After mid night UNMISS withdrew. In the morning 18/2/2016 fighting resumed and the people made their way through the back fence and ran out of the camp and walked to town some women were burnt in their tents".

n) IDPs Youth in UNMISS:

“On 15/2/2016, Nuer and Shilluk got reinforcement SPLM/A-IO. 20 people arrived at the camp and they were carrying guns under command of UBAC. Some one called Abraham was a guard and he reported that these people were carrying guns to UNMISS. The answer was, they are coming from the nearby farm. The group made a hole in the fence. While entering we saw guns and report it to Emmanuel Community police leader. On 15/2/2016 Shilluk start beating people, (a worker at UNMISS) was beaten after his visit to MS to see his daughter”.

o) Church Leader

“Our thanks to President Salva Kiir for appointing the Committee and for the Committee coming from Juba. We organized a conference in January 2016. I was asked to pray during the opening. On June 2015, the rebels came to POC and shot 9 people, with one died. These were Shilluk rebels. People have been killed, putting the South Sudan flag in his stomach after opening the tummy. Raping is common at the PoC site”.

p) Community Nuer elder

“An eminent attack in the UNMISS POC site was reported on the 15th of February, the UNMISS Officials only said nothing like that. On 16/2/2016, problems started with the Nuers and Shilluks attack. On 17/2/2016 the attack took place.

Pictures of the Activities of the Committee



Committee holding public rally in Malakal



Hon. Manasae Lomole addressing Public rally



Community dancing during rally



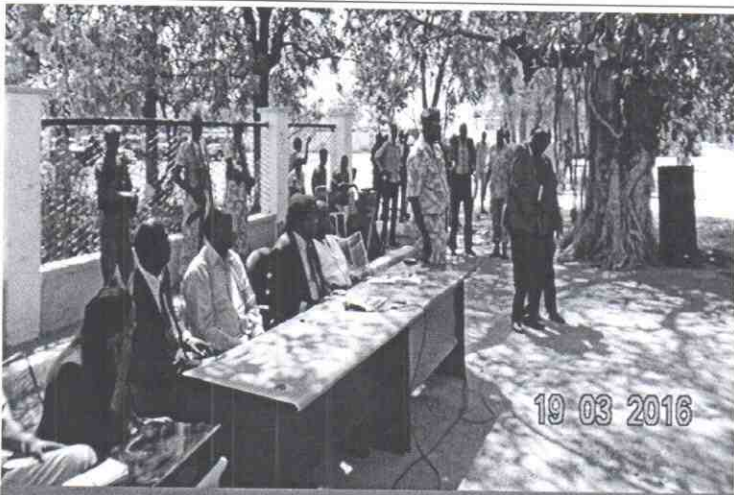
Dancers at rally



Attendees of the rally



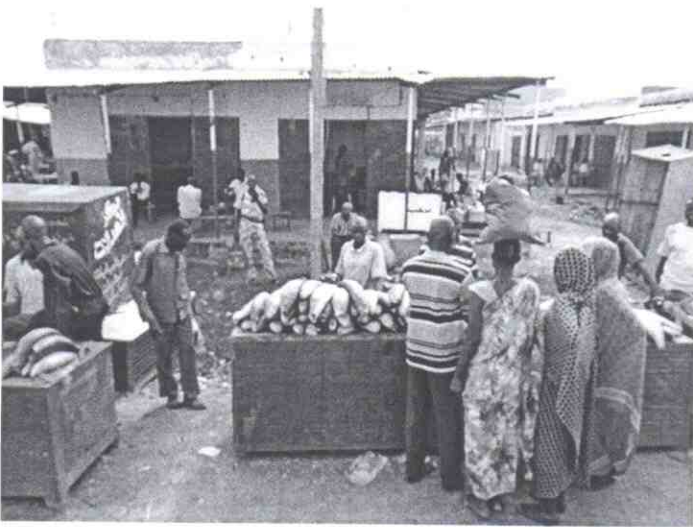
Community leader addressing rally



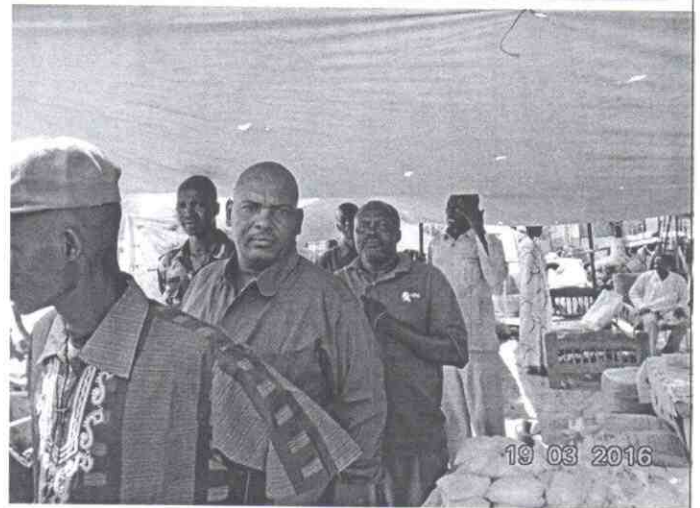
Committee delegation meeting with various community leaders



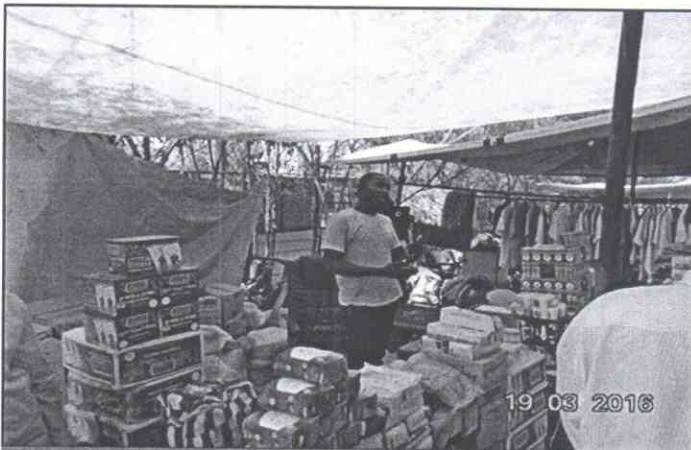
Hon. Munira interviewing women in Malakal Market



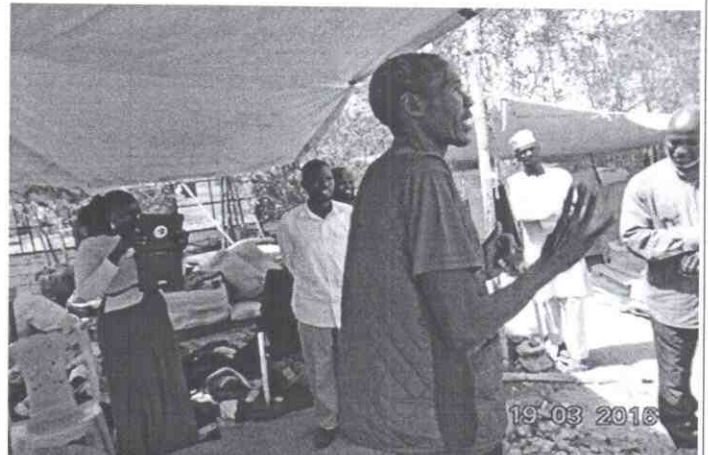
Committee visits Malakal Market



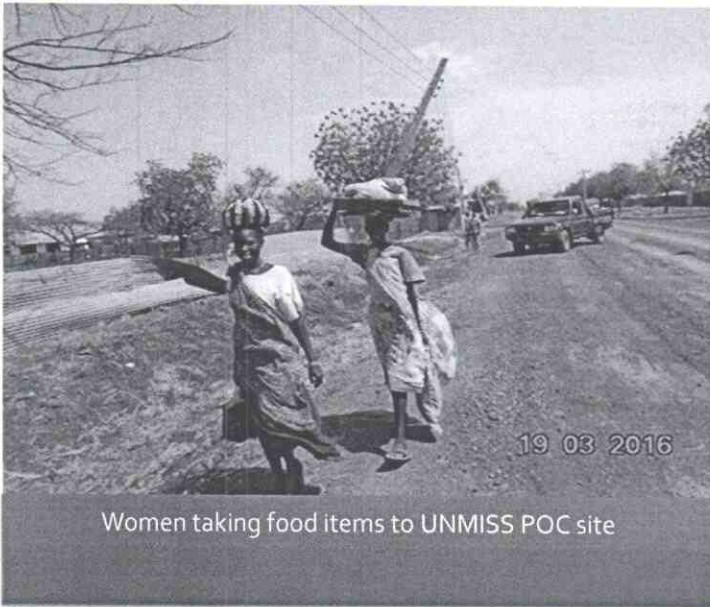
Darfurians in Malakal market



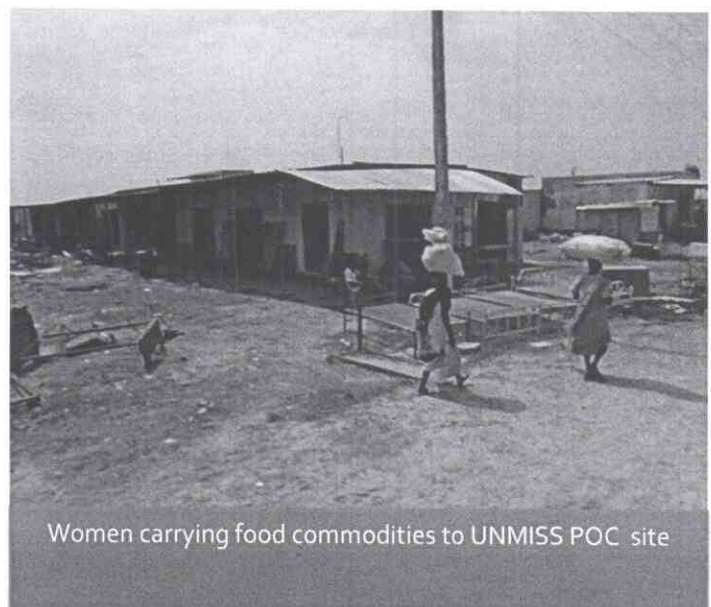
Darfurian traders say Government side is more secure than the POC site.



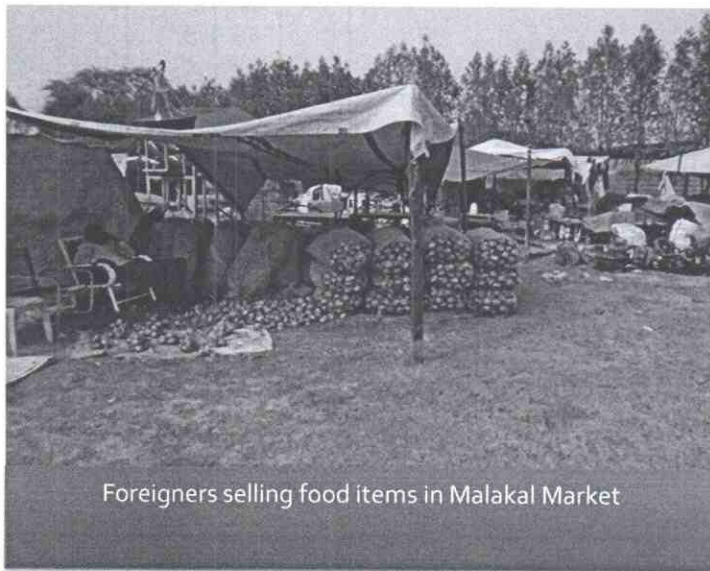
Foreign traders addressing Committee members in Malakal market.



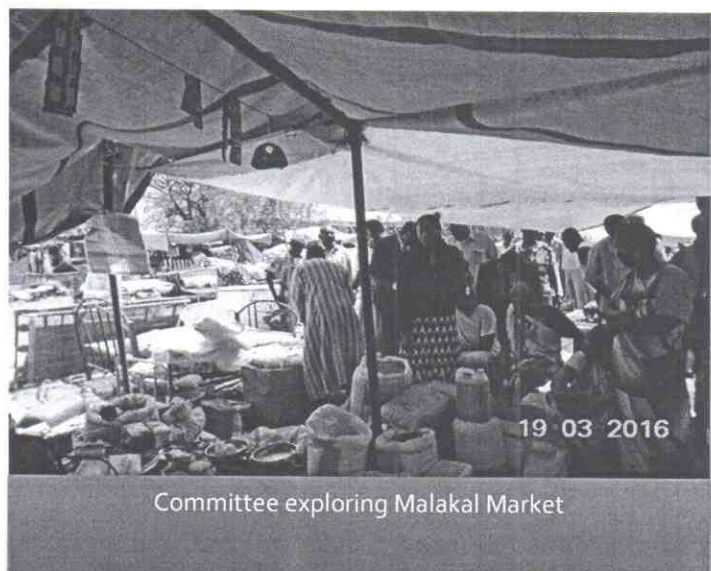
Women taking food items to UNMISS POC site



Women carrying food commodities to UNMISS POC site



Foreigners selling food items in Malakal Market



Committee exploring Malakal Market