

## REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

### The First Vice President

RSS/FVP/J/1/8/UN/2025/1

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025

**H.E. António Guterres**  
Secretary General  
United Nations

**H.E. Bankole Adeoye**  
Commissioner  
Africa Union Peace and Security Council

**H.E. Ismail Omar Guelleh, Chair of Summit of  
Chair of Summit of IGAD Assembly of Heads of State and Government, and  
President of the Republic of Djibouti**

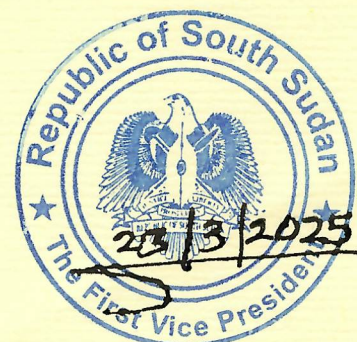
**Subject: The Ugandan Military Intervention in South Sudan**

I am writing to express concerns on the presence, deployment and intervention of Ugandan Military in South Sudan. This intervention constitutes a grave violation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) Articles 2.1.5 and 2.1.7, and the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities, Protection of civilian and Humanitarian Access (COHA), Article 7(4).

The Ugandan Military entered South Sudan fully equipped with armored and air-force units in violation of the UN Security Council resolution 2428 of July 13, 2018, extended on May 30<sup>th</sup> 2024 resolution 2731 for one year. The resolution imposes arms embargo on the Republic of South Sudan. The Ugandan forces are currently taking part in air strikes against civilians in counties of Nasir, Longechuk and Ulang in Upper Nile State, and Akobo County in Jonglei State.

The Agreement that invited the Ugandan military to South Sudan known as the Status of Forces Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Uganda and the then Government of the Republic of South Sudan was signed on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2014. The Agreement was not signed by the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGONU) and as such, the Revitalized Agreement takes precedence over the Status of Forces Agreement between Uganda and South Sudan (Article 8.3 of R-ARCSS). The R-ARCSS Articles 2.1.5 and 2.1.7 require that all none South Sudanese armed groups leave the country within the Pre-Transitional Period and Article 7 (1), (4) of the Agreement of Cessation of Hostilities (COHA).

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The Nasir incident can be managed peacefully through the Transitional Security Arrangement Mechanisms particularly the Joint Defence Board (JDB) that is responsible for command and control of all forces and does not warrant an external intervention.

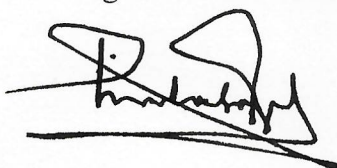
Uganda as a member of IGAD participated in the mediation of both ARCSS and R-ARCSS and became a guarantor of the Agreement. H.E. President Museveni, the President of the Republic of Uganda was instrumental in achieving both ARCSS and R-ARCSS and was also key in the creation of the Security Supervision Mechanism (SSM) as an important mechanism to oversee the implementation of the Security Arrangements. Our expectation is that Uganda and H.E. President Museveni to continue to play the instrumental role of ensuring the implementation of the Agreement that would lead to sustainable peace, stability and democratic elections in South Sudan.

The R-ARCSS is faced with serious challenges. There is fear from our part that these challenges, including the Ugandan intervention, may lead to the collapse of the Agreement. In addition, the presence of the Ugandan Military shall impede the process of the transition to democracy. The country cannot afford any kind of violence, our people suffered for too long. The conviction of SPLM/SPLA(IO) is that all violations to the Agreement and challenges in the implementation can only be addressed through dialogue among the parties with the support of the guarantors, regional and international partners. It is on these bases that we have been seeking an opportunity for dialogue with H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit so that the parties to the Agreement can strategize on the de-escalation of the current crisis.

We therefore impress upon the AUPSC, IGAD and the UNSC to intervene and ask the government of the Republic of Uganda to withdraw her military forces from the Republic of South Sudan.

I once more seize this opportunity to unequivocally reiterate our commitment to peace and peaceful resolution of all challenges that are facing the country including the implementation of the Agreement.

Yours truly,



**Riek Machar Teny-Dhurgon, PhD**  
**The First Vice President of the Republic and**  
**Chairman and Commander-in-Chief of SPLM/SPLA(IO)**



Cc:

1. H.E. Jean Pierre Lacroix, Undersecretary General for Peace Operations
2. H.E. Martha Ama Akyaa Pobe, Assistant Secretary General for Africa in the department of Political and Peace building Affairs
3. H.E. Graham Maitland, Office of the Assistant Secretary General for Africa – Eastern Africa Division
4. H.E. Nicholas Haysom, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for South Sudan
5. File.