

H.E. Ambassador Seyoum Mesfin
IGAD – Chief Mediator

Date: 25 April 2014

Your Excellency,

We write to you as South Sudanese women who are committed to restoring peace in South Sudan through our various peace building activities and are signatories to the attached Support Statement from the African Women Caucus to the Commission on the status of Women (CSW).

The women of South Sudan would like to thank the continuous efforts of IGAD in the mediation of the South Sudan peace process as our country goes through this turmoil of violence.

We are very concerned with the ongoing crisis in our country and especially the escalation of violence in towns of Bor, Bentiu, Malakal, Renk, Mayom and Mapel. This conflict has taken another different dimension where serious violations of human rights and especially violations against women's rights are occurring. These include physical attacks on women, acts of rape and other forms of extreme violence against women. Both the government of the Republic of South Sudan and the SPLA/M in Opposition are dragging the peace talks which is not in favor of all the citizens of South Sudan and especially women and children.

It is in this context that we; the women of South Sudan are requesting your attention and support on the following;

1. Call on both the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and the Opposition to immediately stop the horrendous killings of innocent civilians
2. IGAD should exert more pressure on the Government of the Republic of South Sudan to commit and take a higher moral ground in the peace process and the Opposition to commit to dialogue
3. Ensure a woman mediator is included in the IGAD mediation team
4. Call on the government of the Republic of South Sudan to ratify CEDAW, the African protocol on women's right and complete the process of the Development of the UNSCR 1325 NAP for South Sudan.

Thank You.

Sincerely,

1. Christian Agenda for Development (CAD), South Sudan
2. Project Education South Sudan (PESS), South Sudan
3. EVE Organization for Women Development, South Sudan
4. Voice for Change, South Sudan
5. Community Empowerment for Progress Organization (CEPO), South Sudan
6. Support the Empowerment of Women and their Rights for Development Organisation (STEWARD), South Sudan
7. The Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa (SIHA), South

8. Sudan and Sudan
9. Baptist Relief Agency (BARA), South Sudan
10. Diar for Rehabilitation and Development Association, Sudan/South Sudan
11. Global Partnership for Peace in South Sudan, USA
12. Community Action Water Program (CAWP), South Sudan
13. Sudanese Women Action Network (SWAN)
14. Women and Youth Empowerment Initiative (WYEI)
15. The South Sudanese Community, USA
16. South Sudan Women United, USA
17. Hearts of Angels for Health South Sudan Initiative, USA
18. Women for Women International, South Sudan
19. National Empowerment Positive Women United (NEPWU), South Sudan
20. Skills for South Sudan - Juba, South Sudan
21. Women aid Africa for Peace and Reconciliation, South Sudan
22. Women and Child Development Project, South Sudan
23. Catholic Youth Association, South Sudan
24. CARITAS, South Sudan
25. Women Selfhelp Development Organization, South Sudan
26. Jonglei State Youth Union, South Sudan
27. Mothers Union Archdiocese of Torit, South Sudan
28. Women Development Group, South Sudan
29. SawaSawa Women Development and Peace Society, South Sudan
30. Vulnerable Children Society, South Sudan
31. Pita Women Organization for Development (PWAD), South Sudan
32. Care for Children and Old Age in South Sudan (CCOSS), South Sudan

P.S. For additional information, please contact Ms. Rita Martin, Executive Director for EVE Organization for Women Development; Juba South Sudan. Email: infor@evesouthsudan.org / eve.sudan@gmail.com Cell: +211912818715