



Dr. Riek Machar Teny-Dhurgon

Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan

Statement to the UN Security Council

New York, 13 July 2011

Mr. President,

I am very grateful for the opportunity to address the Security Council on this important and most auspicious occasion.

At the outset, I wish to convey to the members of the Council the profound gratitude of the people and Government of the Republic of South Sudan for having just recommended to the General Assembly that the Republic of South Sudan be admitted as the newest Member of the United Nations.

I am particularly grateful to you, Mr. President, and to the German Government, for having championed this process and for presiding over this historic vote. I would like to recognize Germany's efforts as Chair of the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, and in particular its advocacy with regards to the demobilization of child soldiers, which we also fully support. I also wish to thank the many Council members that have already recognized the Republic of South Sudan, and to acknowledge the role of the United States and the United Kingdom in having provided stewardship for the Council's consideration of the situation in Sudan over a number of years.

Mr. President,

By virtue of my President's letter to the Secretary-General on 9 July 2011, the Republic of South Sudan has accepted the obligations under the Charter of the United Nations, and has undertaken to fulfill them. The Republic of South Sudan will be a responsible member of the international community, and will respect its obligations under international law. We are

working to accede as quickly as possible to all relevant international conventions and treaties, not least those related to human rights.

My Government remains completely committed to the full and final implementation of the CPA particularly in respect to Abyei and the borders. At this important juncture, I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to all those who contributed to the negotiation and signing of the CPA, including the United States, Kenya, Ethiopia, the United Kingdom, Norway, and many others, including, of course, the United Nations itself.

The CPA implementation process has involved many challenges, and we are grateful to President Thabo Mbeki, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, and Special Representative of the Secretary-General Haile Menkerios amongst others for their dedicated work in support of the process. We thank Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for his unwavering focus on the full implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. We express our appreciation to the members of the Security Council for establishing the UN Interim Security Force in Abyei, and to the Government of Ethiopia for committing forces to this mission. We call for their rapid deployment. The temporary agreement between the parties on Abyei needs to be implemented. We also call on the Council to ensure that the Political and Security Roadmap for the Two Areas, signed in Addis Ababa by the Republic of Sudan and the SPLM-North, is fully implemented. We also thank the Council for passing a resolution mandating a new peace consolidation mission in South Sudan. We look forward to working closely with the Special Representative of the Secretary General, Ms. Hilde Johnson, on the modalities of the UN presence in our country.

Mr. President,

It is our deepest and most sincere wish to resolve all outstanding matters between North and South swiftly and peacefully. We remain committed to working out our differences through dialogue and in a spirit of cooperation, and welcome the support of the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel in this regard. In particular, we must agree on mechanisms for continued cooperation, agreement on the remaining disputed areas of the borders, demarcation and mutually beneficial management of the common border, and the final status of Abyei. We will also continue to work together with the Republic of Sudan to ensure that there is justice for the people of Darfur, Southern Kordofan, and Blue Nile. There can be no stability in either Sudan or South Sudan without a new political dispensation in the Two Areas and Darfur, as well as the full implementation of the Abyei Protocol.

Our fundamental hope and desire is to see peaceful coexistence between the two neighboring states of Sudan and South Sudan. We will strive to build a future in which our two countries can work cooperatively, live in peace with one another and be mutually supportive.

At home, we must first and foremost fulfill our responsibility to provide security and extend the rule of law, and we welcome the support of the new UN mission in this regard. We have made a solemn commitment to democracy, pluralism, inclusiveness, the rule of law, and the freedom

of thought, belief and expression. We will embrace tolerance and unity. Our new permanent constitution will fulfill the aspirations of all of our people.

Mr. President,

We now dedicate ourselves completely to the task of building our nation. We thank the members of the Security Council for their continued focus and interest in our country, their concern for our citizens, and for their dedication to peace and security in our region. We look forward to continuing to work closely with all of the members of the Council in the years to come.

Thank you, Mr. President.