

**STATEMENT OF H.E. GEN. SALVA KIIR MAYARDIT  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN  
TO THE SOUTH SUDANESE PEOPLE ON ACCOUNTABILITY AND  
TRANSPARENCY.**

Dear Citizens, friends and Donors,

This is a critical moment in our history, a moment of high expectations from our people for services and high standards of good governance and stewardship from our friends, partners and donors.

Since our independence, I have reiterated on several occasions my commitment to ensure that South Sudan enters a new era of good governance, democracy, accountability and transparency. In my speeches on the occasion of our independence and during the opening of the national legislature I outlined several areas of priority.

I am committed to setting a new standard for transparency and accountability in our public finances and in setting a new standard for public officials. Beyond the 100 days actions already launched, I will take five critical steps as a visible sign of the new government's commitment:

1. Cases of diversion of funds will be investigated including those on the Dura saga. Those involved will be prosecuted. The results of this investigation will be made public. Other government contracts particularly those on large infrastructure will be investigated too.
2. There are concerns about sales of Land during the transitional period. These will be reviewed and Law will regulate any future Land sales.
3. As I instructed through my speech at the opening of the National Legislature for the five bills to be presented to the Assembly on accountability, all government contracts as of now on wards will follow the new procurement legislation.
4. We will enforce the obligation of all public official to publish their income and financial assets. We will provide an opportunity of an anonymous 'return account' for civil servants and public officials to return any diverted funds, obligating them to publish their assets from the date of independence. The government will seek the assistance of the governments of Switzerland, the US, the UK, and Australia to recover and repatriate any diverted funds.

5. We will make use of external expertise to establish solid financial management and anti-corruption systems. I am appointing high level senior advisors from the African Region with strong executive competence to the Governor of the Central Bank, the Auditor General and the Minister of Finance and Economic Planning. We will also strengthen the Anti-corruption Commission.

Dear Fellow citizens, friends and donors, these are my first five steps that will be undertaken as a way of strengthening our accountability and transparency system. I ask for cooperation and patience as we implement them.

God bless you all.