



The Republic of the Sudan
Southern Sudan War Disabled, Widows and Orphans
Commission (SSWDWOC)
Government of Southern Sudan

REVISED POLICY

2010-2014

PREAMBLE

There is no one definition of disability. Historically, disability was seen as a medical condition with the problem located within the individual. Public opinion has changed the medical or individual model of disability. It is now seen as a social phenomenon.

The *social model of disability* contrasts impairments and disability. Society disables people with impairments by its failure to recognize and accommodate differences through attitudinal, environmental and institutional barriers it creates to people with impairments.

Disability arises from an interaction between health condition and the context in which they exist. Disability is therefore a relative term with certain impairments becoming disability in different situations.

This policy provides a framework to address the needs and rights of people with war disabilities, war widows and war orphans. It has been developed in consultation with a wide range of individuals, government agencies, non-governmental organizations and individuals in the states and Committees and payams. In line with the government of Southern Sudan support of the *Millennium Development Goals*, *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women* and *Convention on the Rights of the Child*, the implementation of this policy will bring about the full inclusion of people with war disabilities widows and orphans in the day-to-day activities and decision making of communities throughout Southern Sudan.

The Constitution of Southern Sudan and the Interim Strategic Plan for Sudan (2004-2006) provide a framework and direction for addressing disability. There has been considerable development of disability concerns and delivery of services particularly by GoSS Commissions, NGOs and church-based agencies. The policy provides the framework which will bring all War Disabled Widows and Orphans stakeholders together to protect and promote human rights and develop a barrier-free and inclusive society.

Those involved in the policy consultation process identified a vision, twelve strategic areas where intervention is necessary and agreed on, a range of objectives and Policy Statements in order to achieve each of the objectives for this policy and work toward its *vision*. The policy strategic areas, prioritized objectives, Policy Statements and Key Result Indicators and the means of measuring these indicators plus the various risks associated with each element of the policy is outlined in the *Strategic Plan*.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This policy is to provide protection, care and development of persons with war-related disabilities, widows and orphans and to advise the government on the most effective modalities for the implementation- of such policies.

The impact and consequences of civil war have been distressing in general in Southern Sudan and other war- affected areas in particular.

Southern Sudan is undergoing a complete process of reconstruction and rebuilding of its social and economic resources. The long years of war had resulted in total destruction of infrastructure of the country as well as the destruction of people's self confidence for peaceful living in this region. Further, nature has been harsh to this already deprived region and years of drought and resulting poverty have been major causes of impairment in southern Sudan, especially those relating to malnutrition.

The continued political conflict in the country resulted in limited services available for war veterans and other disabled people. This conflict has always prevented healthy development of civil life including law and order. Laws have often come to answer for specific war and emergency situation including but not limited to the families of martyrs, war disabled and disabled people in general. Disability therefore was depicted and regarded as a war issue and accommodation was made within an emergency context until recently.

Since inception of the War Disabled Widows and Orphans Commission, it has not been able to formulate Legislation to address the welfare of its beneficiaries due to severe short- falls in budget as a result of unexpectedly low remittance of oil share revenues that the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS) is dependent upon from the Central Government in Khartoum.

The Commission focuses on policies around Access, Representation and Protection; the need for inclusive and specific definitions of the target populations; the critical need for accurate data and efficacy of demobilization.

This policy sets to achieve significant peace dividends by addressing the needs of War Disabled Widows and Orphans across Southern Sudan.

POLICY OVERVIEW

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for addressing issues for war disabled widows and orphans in Southern Sudan, to develop a more 'inclusive' society, create greater awareness of their needs and identify priority areas for action to dismantle barriers hindering the full participation of people war disabled widows and orphans in the social and economic life of the Southern Sudanese.

Implementation

The policy will be implemented by SSWDWOC and the Ministry Social Welfare and Housing in collaboration with key stakeholders, particularly organizations of War disabled (PWDs) and key Government Ministries, the private sector, and churches.

Definition

War Disabled are persons with long term physical, mental, learning, intellectual and sensory impairments and whose participation in everyday life as well as enjoyment of human rights are limited, due to socio-economic, environmental and attitudinal barriers.

War Widows shall only refer to a woman whose husband was killed as a martyr in conflict in Sudan

War Orphan' shall refer to a child whose parent was killed in the period of armed conflict in Sudan.

VISION

A Society in which war disabled, war widows and war orphans have equal opportunities and rights to participate in development for improved quality of life.

MISSION

“To maximize the full potential of the war disabled, war widows and war orphans through empowerment, rehabilitation, integration and participatory engagements that serve their needs and aspirations in national development”.

CHAPTER ONE

BACKGROUND

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The Government of Southern-Sudan's **War Disabled, Widows and Orphans** Commission (SSWDWOC) was established in accordance with the principles of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement under the Government of Southern Sudan's (GOSS) Presidential Decree No. 113/2006, 114/2006 of November 6, 2006 and in accordance to the powers vested upon him by the Interim Constitution of Southern Sudan (ICSS) article 146. (2) as an independent institution mandated to perform its functions in accordance with its Act.

It shall formulate, promote policies and legislations for the protection, care and welfare of persons with war related disabilities, war widows and war orphans.

Advise the government of southern Sudan on the most effective modalities for the implementation of such policies and programs.

From 2006 SSWDWOC programs have been developed for collection of data for the three groups of martyrs' survivors (widows and orphans), disabled as the basis for strategic planning process. Structural issues necessitated the establishment of State Coordination Offices and staffing for ease of service delivery at grass-root levels where most of these war victims live.

The greatest challenge SSWDWOC has been facing is meeting the high expectations of the war survivors and disabled on the eve of signing the CPA as their share of the Peace dividend versus the meager resources of Southern Sudan in its recovery stage.

Thus, SSWDWOC's has visited Malaysia, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Uganda and Rwanda to acquire appropriate modalities of post war live experiences of their war survivors. This has shown that, such expectations can't be met comprehensively in a short run, but rather calls for collective intervention from States, National and International stakeholders. Thus, the SSWDWOC shall ensure that definite programs are designed, supported and implemented to motivate the livelihoods of these war survivors and disabled in Southern Sudan.

1.2 THE PROBLEM

- 1.2.1 Globally there are no precise figures on war disabled widows and orphans. Nevertheless, UN and other agencies have collected a wide range of data over the years. From the data, 70% of disabled people in the world are said to live in the developing countries of Africa and Asia. 87% of the world's disabled children are also in the developing countries. The impact of disability on the family is immense. It is said that in a country with an average family of 6 people, even if only 5% of the population is disabled, then over 25% of that community will be directly affected by disability. Given the role of extended families, then it could mean that half the population will have a disabled person within their extended family.
- 1.2.2 In Southern Sudan, some statistics on the population of War disabled are available. According to the population Census of Sudan (1993), there were about 406,600 disabled persons (1.6% of the population) in 1993. It is generally agreed that these figures do not give an accurate picture of the actual prevalence rate, which is said to be much higher especially for the war disabled.
- 1.2.3 Historically, society has tended to isolate and segregate individuals with disabilities. Discrimination against individuals with disabilities persists in such critical areas as employment, housing, public accommodations, education, transportation, communication, recreation, institutionalization, health services, voting, and access to public services.
- 1.2.4 Individuals with disabilities often have no legal recourse to redress discrimination directed at them. They continue to be faced with restrictions and limitations, including outright intentional exclusion, the discrimination of architectural, transportation and communication barriers, failure to make modifications to existing facilities and practices, relegation to lesser services, programs, activities, benefits, jobs or other opportunities.
- 1.2.5 The lack of proper education remains one of the key reasons for poverty and exclusion of all children from wider community affairs especially those orphans with disabilities and the non-disabled.

- 1.2.6 Lack of education and marketable vocational training for children and youth with disabilities especially orphans results in an absolute lack of opportunities for further personal development. It diminishes their access to employment, other income generating activities and business development, and thus reduces them to perpetually dependents and non-productive citizens.

1.3 POLICY RATIONALE

The UN Standard Rules provides a workable definition of disability as '***A great number of different functional limitations occurring in any population in any country of the world. People may be disabled by physical, intellectual or sensory impairment, medical condition or mental illness. Such impairments, conditions of illnesses may be permanent or transitory in nature***'.

Understanding the way war disadvantaged group are conceptualized is essential for explanation of their disadvantaged situation in relation to meeting their needs, especially their economic needs. Hence the need for policies which focus on restructuring society; especially with an emphasis on the economy, through policies of affirmative action, including legal measures to re-shape the labour market. It should be noted here that war disadvantaged may affect a person's some or all areas of life, not through choices people make, but through the imposition of physical limitations on their situation resulting from the characteristics a disabling society (discrimination and prejudice) which make it difficult for them to meet their needs.

Various measures may be considered as constituting affirmative action for reducing discrimination against war disadvantaged people and enhancing equal opportunities for them in the labour market. A common response to dealing with war disadvantaged people's needs is to integrate them into the workforce through various employment schemes, including open employment (or what is known as the quota scheme, which sometimes includes financial support for employers to compensate the loss of productivity resulting from employing war disadvantaged person), sheltered employment and self employment.

- 1.3.1 Southern Sudan Context Definition: 'War Disabled'** refers to an *individual who sustained injury during the armed conflict in the Sudan or war disabled will refer to a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or major life activities and whose disability is directly traceable to the*

South Sudan liberation struggles of Anyanya I, Anyanya II and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement.

1.4 POLICY ALIGNMENT

Interim Constitution of Southern Sudan protects the basic Human Rights of Persons with Special Needs;

War Disabled would fall under, Article 34 (1 and 2) of the Interim Constitution of Southern Sudan, 2005: Rights of Persons with Special needs; which articulates;

- 1) 'All levels of government in Southern Sudan shall guarantee to persons with special needs participation in society and the enjoyment of rights and freedoms set out in this constitution, especially access to public utilities, sustainable education and employment'.

- 2) 'Persons with special needs shall have the right to respect and dignity. They shall be provided with the necessary care and medical services as shall be in conformity with the law'.

1.5 VISION

A Society in which war disabled, war widows and war orphans have equal opportunities and rights to participate in development for improved quality of life.

1.6 MISSION

"To maximize the full potential of the war disabled, war widows and war orphans through empowerment, rehabilitation, integration and participatory engagements that serve their needs and aspirations in national development".

1.7 OBJECTIVES

The Policy development process grouped the objectives of the policy into 12 Strategic Policy areas:

- Advocacy, awareness, empowerment and statistics;
- Prevention, Early Detection, Identification, Intervention, rehabilitation and Health;
- Effective Education services and programmes;
- Training and employment including self employment;
- Promoting the Rights of Women and children with disabilities;
- Access to built environment and transport systems;
- Provision of Housing and community care;
- Access to information and communications technology;
- Poverty alleviation, social security and livelihood programmes;
- Disability Sports and recreation;
- National Institutional coordination, networking as well as regional and international cooperation and participation.
- Policy monitoring, review and implementation;

1.8 CORE VALUES

- a. Equality before the law and application of the Rule of Law;
- b. Sanctity of life;
- c. Integrity, honesty and accountable leadership;
- d. Adherence to democratic principles;
- e. Equitable distribution of wealth;
- f. the right to economic and social development;
- g. Inviolability of international borders;
- h. Peaceful change in the international environment.

1.9 PRINCIPLES

The Policy embraces the following principles of an inclusive society;

- War disadvantaged persons are full and valued members of the community
- War victims will have access to services provided to the general community
- In the provision of services to war victims the focus will be on the whole of life needs of individuals in their own communities
- Services will support and be sensitive to the diversity of people with war disadvantages
- The legal rights of people with war disabilities widows and orphans be recognized and protected

CHAPTER TWO

THE POLICY CONTEXT

2.1 THE GENERAL CONTEXT

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for addressing war disabled widows and orphans in Southern Sudan, to develop a more ‘inclusive’ society, create greater awareness of the needs of people with war disabilities and identify priority areas for action to dismantle barriers hindering the full participation of people with war disabilities, widows and orphans in the social and economic life of the Southern Sudan. . Most importantly it has given a voice to the war disabled, war widows and war orphans.

2.2 National Context

Sudan is the largest country in Africa, encompassing one million square miles and twenty-seven million people. Sudan's farthest boundaries straddle Africa's two cultural

regions: the Islamic north and the Christian south .Within Sudan's borders are Africa's vast geographic regions: rain forest, savannah and desert. More than 400 different languages and dialects are spoken among Sudan's 597 ethnic groups. Within each of the two major religious groupings, Islam and Christianity, the Sudanese people practice a variety of traditional indigenous African religions.

The rise in the 1940s of the nationalist movement and of Sudan's two major northern political parties further excluded any voice the southern people might have in determining their future. Both parties played into the power struggle between Egyptian and British interests. One of the two parties, the Umma Party representing the Mahdi sect, demanded independence from Egypt. The other party, the National Unionist Party, had the support of al-Mirghani, head of another powerful Muslim sect, and called for a union between Egypt and Sudan. It was clear that the Arab north had no intention of sharing power with the African south.

Civil war between the north and south broke out in 1955 and continued after Sudan became an independent nation in 1956.

2.3 The Social –Political Context

The 2005 CPA established a new Government of National Unity and the Interim Government of Southern Sudan and called for wealth-sharing, power-sharing, and security arrangements between the two parties. The historic agreement provides for a ceasefire, withdrawal of troops from Southern Sudan, and the repatriation and resettlement of refugees. It also stipulates that by the end of the six-year interim period, during which the various provisions of the CPA are implemented, there will be elections at all levels, including for President, State Governors, and national and state legislatures.

On July 9, 2005, the Presidency was inaugurated with al-Bashir sworn in as President and John Garang, SPLM/A leader, installed as First Vice President of Sudan. Ratification of the Interim National Constitution followed. The Constitution declares Sudan to be a “democratic, decentralized, multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, multi-religious, and multi-lingual State.”

On July 30, 2005, the charismatic and revered SPLM leader John Garang died in a helicopter crash. The SPLM/A immediately named Salva Kiir, Garang’s deputy, as First Vice President. As stipulated in the CPA, Kiir now also holds the posts of President of the Government of Southern Sudan and Commander-in-Chief of the SPLA.

Implemented provisions of the CPA include the formation of the National Legislature, appointment of Cabinet members, establishment of the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS) and the signing of the Southern Sudan Constitution, and the appointment of State Governors and adoption of state constitutions. The electoral law paving the way for national elections that were expected in 2009 was passed in July 2008.

New CPA-mandated commissions have also been created. Thus far, those formed include the War Disabled, War Widows and War Orphans Commission (SSWDWOC) among others.

2.4 Legal Context

(a) *War Disabled*

The Constitution of Southern Sudan protects fundamental human rights, guarantees equality before the law, and prohibits unfair discrimination on a number of grounds, including disability. The Constitution further recognizes that every person has the right to basic education and equal access to educational institutions, including War disabled who cannot be discriminated against on the basis of their disability and refused access or admission to a place of education.

Legal Provisions protecting War Disabled, Widows and Orphans

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inclusive, barrier free and rights based society; 2. Access to education; 3. Accessible built environment; 4. Housing; 5. Accessible places of worship; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Access to information and communications technologies; 7. Social security; 8. Health care; 9. Employment and vocational training; 10. Opportunities for sport and recreation; 11. Support services.
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(b) *War Widows*

1.0 War Widows shall only refer to a woman whose husband was killed as a martyr in conflict in Sudan. Interim Constitution of Southern Sudan protects the basic

Human Rights of Women; *War Widows would as well fall under*, Article 20 (1, 2, 3, 4 (a, b, c) and 5: under the Rights of Women, which articulates;

- ‘Women shall have the right to equal pay for equal work and other related benefits with men’.

- ‘Women shall have the right to participate equally with men in public life’.

- All levels of government in southern Sudan shall:
 - i. promote women participation in public life and their representation in the legislation and executive organs by at least twenty-five percent as an affirmative action to redress imbalances created by customs and traditions’,

 - ii. ‘enact laws to combat harmful customs and traditions which undermine the dignity and status of women; and

 - iii. ‘Provide maternity and child care and medical care for pregnant women and lactating women’.

 - iv. ‘Women shall have the right to own property and share in the estate of their deceased husbands together with any surviving legal heirs of the deceased’.

(c) War Orphans

1.0 ‘War Orphan’ shall refer to a child whose parent was killed in the period of armed conflict in Sudan.

Sudan has ratified the convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The UNCRC lays out specific terms and legal duties of governments to children. By ratifying the UNCRC,

Sudan pledged to safe-guard children from harm, abuse exploitation, violence and neglect. Yet, for millions of children, particularly vulnerable ones like war orphans, the violation of this right to protection is their main cause of exclusion.

Education is among the first casualties for an orphan. Children may drop-out because of domestic burdens or because new caregivers or relatives are unable to meet the costs. They therefore become exposed to exclusion from other services including vital information about health, nutrition and life skills.

War Orphans would as well fall under, Article 21 (1 (a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h), 2, 3 and 4): Rights of the Child, which articulates;

(1) 'every child has the right:

- to life, survival and development;
- to know and be care for by his or her parents or legal guardian;
- not to be subjected to exploitation practices or abuse, nor to be required to serve in the army nor permitted to perform work which might be hazardous or harmful to his or her education, health or well being;
- to be free from any form of discrimination;
- To be protected from abduction and trafficking.

(2) In all Policy Statements concerning children undertaken by public and private welfare institutions, courts of law, administration authorities or legislative bodies, the primary consideration shall be the best interest of the child especially war orphans.

- *All levels of the government in southern Sudan shall accord special protection to orphans and other vulnerable children; child adoption shall be regulated by law.*

- For the purposes of this Constitution, a child is any person under the age of eighteen years.

2.5 Economic Context

In 2004, the cessation of major north-south hostilities and expanding crude oil exports resulted in 6.4% GDP growth and a near doubling of GDP per capita since 2003. The aftereffects of the 21-year civil war and very limited infrastructure, however, present obstacles to stronger growth and a broader distribution of income. The country continued taking some steps toward transitioning from a socialist to a market-based economy, although the government and governing party supporters remained heavily involved in the economy.

Sudan's primary resources are agricultural, but oil production and export have taken on greater importance since October 2000. Although the country is trying to diversify its cash crops, cotton, and gum Arabic remain its major agricultural exports. Grain sorghum (dura) is the principal food crop, and millet and wheat are grown for domestic consumption. Sesame seeds and peanuts are cultivated for domestic consumption and increasingly for export. Livestock production has vast potential, and many animals, particularly camels and sheep, are exported to Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and other Arab countries. However, Sudan remains a net importer of food. Problems of irrigation and transportation remain the greatest constraints to a more dynamic agricultural economy.

Sudan produces about 401,000 barrels per day (b/d) (2005 est.) of oil, which brought in about \$1.9 billion in 2005 and provides 70% of the country's total export earnings. Although final figures are not yet available, these earnings may have risen to an estimated \$2 billion as of the end of 2004. Oil production in Sudan as of 2007 was at 466,100 barrels of oil a day. With a resolution of its 21-year civil war (CPA, 2006) between the North and South, Sudan and its people can now begin to reap the benefit from its natural resources, rebuild its infrastructure, increase oil production and exports, and be able to attain its export and development potential.

CHAPTER THREE

POLICY INTERVENTIONS

3.1 The Policy Conceptual Framework

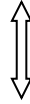
Principles

- The SSWDWOC has adopted the following principles of an inclusive society:
 - War disabled, war widows and war orphans are full and valued members of the community
 - War disabled, war widows and war orphans will have access to services provided to the general community
 - In the provision of services to war disabled, war widows and war orphans the focus will be on the whole of life needs of individuals in their own communities
 - Better outcomes for war disabled, war widows and war orphans will result from cooperation among service providers, with the active participation of War disabled, widows and orphans
 - Services will support and be sensitive to the diversity of war disabled, war widows and war orphans
 - The unique needs of war disabled, war widows and war orphans will be recognized
 - The legal rights of war disabled, war widows and war orphans will be recognized and protected



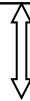
Vision

A society in which individuals with war disabilities, war widows, war orphans and their carers live as full citizens with optimum quality of life, independence and participation



Objectives

1. The achievement of a planned, coordinated and flexible approach to policy and service provision in Southern Sudan for war disabled, war widows and orphans.
2. The creation and promotion of opportunities, services and facilities which war disabled, war widows and war orphans participate in the wider Community and to attain a better quality of life.
3. Provision of ways for National and State Government service providers to measure and report on their progress in increasing access for War disabled, war widows and war orphans.



Strategies

Priority Areas for Action by SSWDWOC and State Government agencies and participating county Councils

3.2 The policy Development process :

1. Advocacy, awareness, empowerment and statistics;	7. Provision of Housing and community care;
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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Prevention, Early Detection, Identification, Intervention, rehabilitation and Health; 3. Effective Education services and programmes; 4. Training and employment including self employment; 5. Promoting the Rights of Women and children with disabilities; 6. Access to built environment and transport systems; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Access to information and communications technology; 9. Poverty alleviation, social security and livelihood programmes; 10. Disability Sports and recreation; 11. National Institutional coordination, networking as well as regional and international cooperation and participation. 12. Research and Development 13. Policy monitoring, review and implementation;
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Policy areas:

The strategic policy areas are outlined in order of priority as discussed at the District Consultation meetings. Each strategic policy area has one or more objectives and each objective has a number of Policy Statements outlined in order to ensure that the objectives can be achieved.

1. Advocacy, awareness, empowerment and statistics

Survey and other data should be utilized to inform the wider community, create more awareness of disability prevalence and related issues and inform policy debate within government. More and accurate information needs to be available to SSWDWOC and its collaborators. Access to accurate and regularly updated information is vital for advocacy and for the purposes of planning and implementation of services for War disabled, widows and orphans. During the workshop consultations for this policy many made the point that accurate information was lacking.

The policy recognizes that there are a number of welfare, health and education professionals at the community, local and state levels who are already gathering information on health and other social indicators. Where possible this information and data gathering should include war disabled, widows and orphans. This may require additional support and capacity building to ensure that accurate and relevant information

is gathered, that it is coordinated and consolidated, and able to be used for awareness programmes, policy and programme development.

Information empowers people and a better informed society will also lead to greater understanding, reduce discrimination and enhance tolerance and support for the full participation of War disabled within all aspects of community life. Communities need information on disability as well as information on prevalence in order to increase public awareness and understanding of disability concerns and issues. There needs to be collaboration between public libraries, information centers and organizations of War disabled to increase the availability of information in different forms, and mechanisms need to be explored to make new technology more available to War disabled, widows and orphans so that they can access information and communicate locally and globally.

Objectives:

- **Strengthen and empower organizations of War Disadvantaged Groups (WDGs) to advocate for and create greater awareness of war related disability issues at the national, district and community levels.**

Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC establish and map a network of WD groups to empower organizations to share information on their strengths, weaknesses opportunities, and threats;
- ii. SSWDWOC to assist in the production of resources (e.g. information pamphlets, and awareness programmes) to assist WD groups in the production of information, advocacy and awareness and outreach programmes;
- iii. SSWDWOC to promote inclusion of disability issues with relevant community, national, regional and international organizations;
- iv. SSWDWOC to assist in the formation of parents associations (People First Groups, care giver groups and other support groups);
- v. SSWDWOC and the Ministry of Gender, Social Welfare and Religious Affairs develop a budget to fund selected WD initiated projects;
- vi. SSWDWOC to expand representation in its board by DPOs;
- vii. WDWOC with MGSWRA promote war disability inclusive policies in existing government programmes;

- viii. WDWOC in collaboration with stakeholders develop greater awareness of war disability issues through the use of TV and radio programmes;

- **Compile national data of all persons with war disabilities.**

Policy Statements

- ix. SSWDWOC in consultation with MGSWRA, the Bureau of Statistics and other relevant Government Ministries collect available data on war disability;
- x. Establish a central data base on war disability and publish and disseminate all relevant information to government agencies and community stakeholders;
- xi. SSWDWOC consult with the Southern Sudan Centre for Census, Statistics and Evaluation to include relevant war disability questions in the National Population Census (by centre of Statistics, by a breakdown on types of disabilities as required; there is a need to build capacity of enumerators on war disability related questions);
- xii. SSWDWOC to share information with all stakeholders.

2. Prevention, Identification, Intervention, Rehabilitation, and Health

Greater awareness needs to be created, particularly in rural and remote areas of how war disabilities can be approached through improved community health practices, and improved work place safety as the costs of delivering rehabilitation and other services are high.

Objectives:

- **Develop and strengthen an integrated approach between the WDWOC, Government, NGOs and other stakeholders, in the area of early detection, identification and intervention of war disabilities**

Policy Statements

- xiii. SSWDWOC to consult with MOH and SSWDWOC and review the current Early Detection, assessment and Early Intervention practices and programmes in Southern Sudan;
 - xiv. SSWDWOC in consultation with MGSWRA and MOH develop a strategy for strengthening early detection, intervention, assessment, and related policies and action plans; on war related disabilities.
 - xv. SSWDWOC in consultation with MGSWRA and MOH review resource utilization (including an audit of information and skills); related to war disabilities
 - xvi. SSWDWOC in consultation with MGSWRA and MOH establish a memorandum of understanding (develop a register of war orphaned children at risk for the purpose of early intervention and rehabilitation) concerning early intervention and early prevention measures;
 - xvii. SSWDWOC in consultation with MOH and MGSWRA formulate multi disciplinary assessment teams (MDATs) to identify war related disabilities.
 - xviii. SSWDWOC identify areas where MOH and MGSWRA can strongly facilitate the needs for development in early intervention and rehabilitation.
- **Develop and provide skills, teaching and training in the areas of early detection and intervention for war related disabilities by selected resource personnel.**

Policy Statements

- xix. SSWDWOC in consultation with MOH, MGSWRA and donor agencies develop specialized degree and training options for relevant staff in the MOH, MGSWRA and NGOs;
- xx. SSWDWOC in consultation with relevant stakeholder develop training programmes for parents and care givers for war orphans.

- **Strengthen the capacity of CBR officers, and other professionals (e.g. speech therapists, sign language interpreters, occupational therapists, Project Heaven etc).**

Policy Statements

- xxi. SSWDWOC/MOH and relevant NGOs and community organizations to increase the number of CBR officers and field workers at the Country level;
- xxii. SSWDWOC to ensure that CBR have clear job descriptions and responsibilities and well defined minimum qualification requirements for these positions;
- xxiii. SSWDWOC in consultation with MOH and relevant stakeholders to review training for CBR and other field workers in counseling, sign language and patient needs assessment and make provision for ongoing training and skills development of CBR workers and field workers;

3. Effective Education services and programmes

“Exclusion from education and training prevents the achievement of economic and social independence for War disabled and increases their vulnerability to poverty. The Constitution of Southern Sudan upholds the right of every child including war orphans to basic education including those requiring special education.

Special Education should emphasize inclusiveness and mainstreaming of war-related disability activities.

Objectives:

- **To provide, strengthen implement and review special and inclusive education services and programmes for orphaned children with special needs in schools, homes, communities, and hospitals:**

Policy Statements

- xxiv. SSWDWOC continue to monitor and fast track the implementation of the *Education Blue Print* and make recommendations on improvements to Special Education and regularly review progress for war orphans.
- xxv. SSWDWOC to encourage and promote the inclusion of children with disabilities and orphans in primary, secondary and tertiary institutions and other training institutions;
- xxvi. SSWDWOC provide interpreters, assistants and assistive devices for war orphaned children with disabilities in schools;
- xxvii. SSWDWOC in consultation with other stakeholders support the implementation of the special education policy;
- xxviii. SSWDWOC assess links between education, training and employment of war orphans;
- xxix. SSWDWOC to consult with MOE to review the curriculum framework for special education in relation to war orphans.

4. Training, employment and social needs

Persons with war related disabilities have a right to decent work. As a signatory to ILO's Convention 159 on the employment of persons with war related disabilities, Government of Southern Sudan has taken steps to ensure more war disabled are able to have access to decent work. This policy aims to reinforce and support the steps already taken by government, the private sector and civil society generally. The *Employment Relations Bill (No. 8) of 2006* calls for equal employment opportunities and prohibiting discrimination on the grounds of personal characteristics or circumstances.

People with war disabilities require the same educational, vocational training, employment and business development opportunities available to all. Some may require specialized support services, assistive devices or job modifications, but these are small investments compared to lifetimes of productivity and contribution.

Vocational training and employment issues must be considered within the context of the full participation of War disabled in community life. War disabled must also be regularly and actively involved in initiatives related to employment and training, not just as consumers but also as advocates, designers and providers of services.

Objectives:

- **Develop and strengthen skills in people with war disabilities and war widows to enable higher levels of participation in the workforce and other livelihood opportunities.**

Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC in collaboration with training institutions and other relevant stakeholders to develop a programme to promote quality and inclusive participation of orphan students in partnership with guardians (where necessary) in vocational technical and employment training programmes as well as micro finance schemes;
- ii. Vocational training institutions ensure that specialized training is available to staff;
- iii. SSWDWOC to consult with MOE and Special Schools to facilitate the transition of war orphaned students from special schools to vocational and technical training centers (VTTCs);
- iv. SSWDWOC conduct regular consultations with employers, training institutions and civil society organizations, national and state administration system (including county councils) and encourage research to identify employment needs and markets for War disabled;
- v. Provide educational and training institutions at the secondary or tertiary levels and including distance learning programmes (i.e. sign language interpreters, support teachers, assistive devices etc) that are user friendly to War disabled;
- vi. SSWDWOC in consultation with MGWSRA to provide support staff for follow-up War disabled in employment;
- vii. For severe cases of people with disability, SSWDWOC provide sheltered workshops;
- viii. State Governments, religious organizations, county councils and business community provide on the job work and training opportunities for war disabled and widows.
- ix. Ministry of Labour in collaboration with the SSWDWOC ensures the provisions contained in ILO Convention 159 and relevant Employment Relations legislation are effectively implemented and monitored in respect to war disabled and widows.

5. Promoting the Rights of War Widows and War Orphans with disabilities

Widows and war orphans with disabilities are often exposed to poverty more than men with disabilities and face discrimination within the family. Women and girls need to have equal access to health care, education, vocational training, employment and income generation opportunities, and to be included in social and community activities.

Widows and orphans with disabilities encounter discrimination as they are exposed to greater risk of physical and sexual abuse and women with disabilities are often not given adequate sexual health and reproductive rights advice. These issues need to be addressed not only through this policy, but also through the broader context of *Gender and Development* policies, through the National Council of Women and the Children's Welfare Association which should actively involve and include war widows, orphan girls and children with disabilities and empower them, at the grassroots level. GoSS Youth Policy specifically refers to "youth at risk," including youth with disability. The Ministry of Youth, culture and Sports, should be proactive in ensuring that children and youth with disabilities, particularly young war widows with disabilities are included in their programmes.

Objectives:

- **Empower War Widows and War Orphans with disabilities to understand and exercise their human rights.**

Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC in collaboration with key stakeholders (e.g. WDPs, Widows organizations, National Coordinating Committee on Children (NCCC), as well as UN organizations such as UNDP/RRRT, PIFS, UNICEF, UNESCO) provide legal literacy training to women and children with disabilities to know their rights and implement where necessary with legal aids;
 - ii. SSWDWOC with relevant stakeholders develop an awareness campaign on (sexual physical, emotional, economic and domestic violence) abuse against war widows and orphans with disabilities;
 - iii. SSWDWOC to consult with special school to educate widows and orphans concerning HIV/AIDS and STIs;
 - iv. SSWDWOC in consultation with relevant stakeholders, international donors and multilateral organizations develop a “disability rights awareness campaign” (rights to work, housing, health, education etc) drawing on the key international conventions.
- Issues, including human rights development concerns, relating to war widows and orphans with disabilities are included in existing programmes of government Ministries, NGOs and community organizations.

Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC in consultation with the Ministry of Gender, Social Welfare ,Religious Affairs and relevant Ministries to ensure that where possible policies, legislation, programmes and projects incorporate and address human rights and related issues faced by war widows and orphans with disabilities;
- ii. WDPs in consultation with SSWDWOC and relevant stakeholders promote the inclusion of issues faced by women and children with disabilities in plans;
- iii. SSWDWOC promote equal representation of widows with disabilities on governing boards and related NGOs, DPOs and other appropriate organizations.

6. Access to the built environment and transport systems

Inaccessibility to the built environment is still a major barrier which prevents persons with disabilities from actively participating in social and economic activities. Design approaches which provide for greater accessibility have proven to benefit not only persons with disabilities but also many other sectors within the society, such as older persons, pregnant women and parents with young children. Physical barriers are known to prevent full participation and reduce the economic and social output of persons with disabilities. Investments in the removal and prevention of architectural and design barriers are increasingly being justified on economic grounds, particularly in areas most critical to social and economic participation (e.g. transport, housing, education, employment, health care, government, cultural and religious activities, leisure and recreation). It is important to note that not only facilities but also services, especially transport services, should be accessible.

The Constitution of Southern Sudan recognizes that War disabled have a basic right to access public places such as shops, hotels, lodging-houses, public restaurants, entertainment venues, public transport services, taxis and public spaces. The Constitution requires that the proprietors of these places or services must facilitate reasonable access for War disabled. GoSS has a *Building Code* which makes some provision for accessibility. The *Building Code* should be reviewed to ensure that it meets international standards and is enforced.

Objectives:

- **Improve and strengthen the provision of access for persons with disabilities.**

Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC in consultation with the Public Works Department and Ministry of Local Government, DPOs and relevant stakeholders to review the Southern Sudan Building Code, Town and Country Planning Act and Public Health Act in respect of access provisions for War disabled (by City Councils, Town Councils and State Development Ministry and State Assembly) and monitor enforcement and penalties for non-compliance;
- ii. Strengthen networking between stakeholders who are responsible for the built environment to follow similar access guidelines;
- iii. SSWDWOC in consultation with the Public Works Department, DPOs, Town Councils and relevant professional associations provide training and awareness raising for designers and builders and other relevant stakeholders on accessibility requirements to ensure implementation of the building code.

- **Develop a strategy to improve transport for War disabled in urban and rural areas.**

Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC in consultation with appropriate Government agency review and monitor relevant regulations including:
 - Public transport accessibility;
 - Requirements placed on drivers with disabilities and related vehicle modification inspection requirements;
 - Options for improving public transport;
 - Bus subsidy system for War disabled and explore options for the extension of the system to include taxis and minibuses.
- ii. City, and Town Councils and rural local authorities make provision for car parks for War disabled as well as wheelchair access on public pathways (particularly near public buildings including places of worship, banks, libraries, shopping malls, sporting facilities and entertainment centers etc).
- iii. LTA in consultation with SSWDWOC to investigate options for improving access to sea and air transportation.

7. Provision of Housing and Community Care

The Southern Sudan Human Rights Commission has stated that, “housing is a basic requirement for every member of the community including War disabled. The provision of adequate housing is integral to the economic and social inclusion of War disabled in the community. Therefore housing needs to be available and housing design needs to take into account the capacity for homes to be adapted and to meet the needs of War disabled.”¹

Objectives:

- **Strengthen assistance for War disabled and their families.**

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Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC and MGSWRA in consultation with relevant stakeholders to research and review existing government policies on housing and land provision, including:
 - Housing Authority and Public Rental Board to ensure that Agreed percent of properties with appropriate access are reserved for War disabled;
 - SSWDWOC to liaise with, Public Works Department and relevant government agencies to ensure that housing schemes within government departments, statutory bodies, include provisions for people with war disabilities and war widows.
 - Provision of financial assistance to upgrade existing housing with special reference to villages and settlements;
 - SSWDWOC in consultation with social welfare and other stakeholders to review use of the Poverty Alleviation Fund for people with war disabilities and war widows requiring housing assistance.
 - ii. SSWDWOC in collaboration with the Housing Authority and national and international donors encouraged to identify housing assistance needs of people with war disabilities as well as war widows and develop a programme of assistance.
- Strategies developed to address residential and community care for people with war disabilities and war widows.

Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC and MGSWRA in consultation with relevant stakeholders develop policy on community and residential care;
- ii. SSWDWOC develop a strategy to strengthen existing partnerships with civil society organizations on the provision of community and residential care for persons with war disabilities and war widows and orphans.

8. Access to information and communications technology

There needs to be collaboration between public libraries, information centers and organizations of War disabled to address the information barriers for people with disability and increase the availability of information in different forms. Measures need to be explored to make new technology more available to War disabled, especially to war orphans with disabilities at school so that they can access information and communicate locally and globally.

Objectives:

- **Greater opportunity given to War disabled in terms of access to and funding of information and communications technology.**

Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC in collaboration with MOE and relevant stakeholders provide training with adaptive technology, (e.g. Braille, and computer based technology for the sight impaired with learning disabilities and intellectual impairment) in all schools and institutions that provide services for War disabled;
- ii. SSWDWOC in collaboration with stakeholders introduce sign language training to key service providers including police, courts, medical personnel, welfare officers;
- iii. Government to recognize and promote the use of Southern Sudan national language in sign language as a language used by deaf and hearing impaired people;
- iv. SSWDWOC in collaboration with secondary and tertiary training institutions provide training courses for people with war disabilities on accessing technologies and information;
- v. SSWDWOC to consult with media personnel on access needs for different disabilities and provide training workshops on disability awareness issues in the media (e.g. using sign language and greater use of narration in programming, closed captioning in all major language groups in Southern Sudan).

9. Poverty alleviation and social security

People with war disabilities have a right to participate in family and community decision making and community affairs at all levels including within the village, payam councils and country administrations and national government. War disabled also have a right to participate in the private sector and wider civil society, including churches and other non-governmental organizations and members of these organizations, agencies and societies need to address how they can include War disabled. Research has shown that including War disabled in development strategies has both economic and social benefits whether at the village, payam, county, state or national levels. However, War disabled tend not to be included in planning and decision-making. In order to achieve full participation and equality, War disabled must play a key role in the formulation of local, state and national policy on all issues that affect their lives directly.

To strengthen awareness of disability and the delivery of programmes for people with disability, there was considerable debate regarding needing recognition within government and mainstreaming responses throughout government. The overall view was that although a Commission on War Disabled, Widows and Orphans would achieve some things, it was more important for the purposes of this policy to emphasize the need to mainstream disability activities within existing programmes and policies of all government departments and agencies, NGOs and the private sector and wider civil society where possible.

Objectives:

- ***Social security programmes for people with war disabilities strengthened and strategies developed for effective service delivery.***

Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC in collaboration with DPOs, consult with the Micro-finance institutions, Southern Sudan Development Bank, Commercial banks and other relevant stakeholders on developing financial assistance and income generating programmes for people with war disabilities and widows.
- ii. SSWDWOC in consultation with war MGWSRA allow for greater provision of assistance in accessing income generating projects and programmes for War disabled and their families;

- iii. SSWDWOC shall liaise with and monitor agencies (agriculture, fisheries, women, tourism, youth and sports etc) regarding the provision of resources, skilled training, technology, equipment and financial grants to its affiliates.
- iv. SSWDWOC through its various ministries consult with Government to integrate the social security needs of people with war disabilities;

10. Adapted Physical Education, Sports and recreation

Sports and recreation are an important part of everyday life throughout Southern Sudan. War disabled have a right to participate without discrimination in sport and recreation. Such participation is an important part of being fully included in society, for social integration and for the psychological and physical well being of War disabled. It is also important to ensure that war orphans with disabilities are able to participate in sport and recreational activities in schools, and that their participation is not limited.

Objectives:

- **MOE in collaboration with WDWOC and other relevant stakeholders develop physical education and health curriculum for special schools where war orphans are enrolled**

Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC consult with MOE and relevant stakeholders on a curriculum framework;
- ii. SSWDWOC in consultation with relevant stakeholders, Commission, the development of a model curriculum document.

- **Disability concerns mainstreamed in government policies, and programmes.**

Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC to consult with relevant stakeholders to develop strategies to mainstream disability in selected government departments, state administrations and town and county councils;
 - ii. SSWDWOC in consultation with relevant stakeholders to raise awareness for the need for government Ministries and state agencies, town and county councils to make budgetary allocations to take account of the needs of people with war disabilities within their programmes;
- **Ensure the provision of appropriate sporting activities, facilities, equipment, sponsorship and participation of War disabled at the elite competition, social and recreational levels.**

Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC and DPOs to advocate for equal opportunities for people with war disabilities to participate in sports (pamphlets, brochures where relevant etc);
- ii. SSWDWOC in collaboration with the Southern Sudan Sports Association for the Disabled identify and train persons including coaches, managers and other sporting personnel to work with people with war disabilities on relevant sports skills and techniques;
- iii. SSWDWOC in consultation with the Southern Sudan Sports Council organize annual sports competitions and recreational activities at all levels;
- iv. Southern Sudan Sports Council and SSWDWOC provide specialized equipment for competitive sporting events;
- v. City and Town Councils and Sports Council upgrade relevant sporting facilities to ensure accessibility for all sports War disabled;
- vi. Rural Local Authorities and Town Councils encouraged to plan for and develop sporting facilities that are accessible to War disabled;
- vii. Improve the awareness of disability sport needs in the Sports Council of Southern Sudan.
- viii. SSWDWOC to encourage corporate sponsors to include in their sporting sponsorship packages, War disabled with sporting bodies; (Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, MGSWRA, MOH, SSWDWOC etc).

11. National Institutional coordination, networking as well as regional and international cooperation and participation

The coordination of services minimizes the likelihood of duplication and is more likely to ensure that services and programmes are more effectively delivered and strategic alliances between agencies are more likely to be developed and synergies achieved. This requires the sharing of information and the establishment of communication channels between government departments and divisions as well as the establishment of alliances and working partnerships with state administrations, town and county councils, churches, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

SSWDWOC will be a central agency in the gathering and dissemination of information and ensuring that Southern Sudan takes a leadership role in the region and actively supports war related initiatives in the wider East Africa region while ensuring that it is kept up-to-date with international good practice.

Objectives:

- **Establish a network of national, regional and international agencies in support of implementation of the policy.**

Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC establish a data base of all agencies working in the war disability war widow and war orphans field in Southern Sudan;
- ii. SSWDWOC and DPOs establish alliances with relevant disability related agencies for information sharing and networking;
- iii. Government and DPOs participate in disability related initiatives at the national, regional and international levels;
- iv. MGSWRA and DPOs ensure effective and full implementation and reporting of disability conventions, declarations and related instruments endorsed or ratified by the Government of Southern Sudan.

12. Research and Development relating to disability issues

A policy paper by published by DFID in 2000 assessed the significance of disability as a development issue. It presented a twin-track approach for realizing equality of rights and opportunities for disabled people in all strategic areas of development.

Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC to mainstream research and development in its programme of work.
- ii. SSWDWOC to highlight research findings relating to disability focused activities.
- iii. SSWDWOC staff to recognize disability research as essential component of poverty reduction and achievement of MDG's.
- iv. SSWDWOC staff to source and gather information on disability, in particular tools and examples of best practices to enable them implement improved methods

13. Policy monitoring, review and implementation

This policy is a 'living' document that should respond to the changing social and physical environment of Southern Sudan and meet the changing needs of people with disability and the wider society. Effective and regular monitoring and review will ensure that the policy is kept up-to-date and remains relevant to all stakeholders.

The SSWDWOC will be responsible for monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the War Disabled Widows and Orphans Policy. The SSWDWOC will report annually to the Governor's Forum on policy achievements and implementation constraints.

Objectives:

- *Regular monitoring of progress and implementation of the war disability, widows and orphans policy and review every two years.*

Policy Statements

- i. SSWDWOC provide annual reports on the implementation of the policy and achievement of the policy Action Plan to the MWSWH and other stakeholders;
- ii. SSWDWOC and Collaborating Ministers and Commissions undertake a review of the policy and implementation action plan every two years;
- iii. SSWDWOC disseminate review results to all relevant stakeholders within three months of each review completion;
- iv. SSWDWOC to seek assistance from donors and other relevant international organizations to implement aspects of the policy.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.1 LINKAGES TO OTHER EXISTING INSTITUTIONS, POLICIES AND LEGISLATION

In considering the issues of linkages, networking, collaboration and cooperation we should take into account such aspects as: the mandate of the Commission, the key policy issues and the kind of services that may be required or should be offered to the war, disabled, war windows and war orphans.

The mandate of the Commission covers such aspects as:

- Complementing the GOSS service provision
- Social and economic lobbying and advocacy
- Institutional and capacity building
- Undertaking development initiatives in such areas as: Education, Agriculture, Microfinance, Peace and advocacy, Water and sanitation.
- Promoting availability and accessibility of community services
- Provision of channels of communication for community education on the needs of war disabled, widows and orphans.
- Undertaking projects and programmes
- Elimination of discrimination
- Promotion of the participatory approach
- Lobbying for remembrance of the fallen heroes.

The key policy areas that should be addressed by the Commission include some of the following:-

- An all - inclusive and embracing approach in all aspects of their lives
- Legislation
- Awareness creation, education and change of attitudes towards the disables
- Accessibility to facilities
- Access to education and vocational training.
- Programmes
- Resource mobilization
- Equal opportunity of employment
- Human resources development and training
- Co-ordination of national programmes
- Collaboration with other agencies

The services that may be required or should be offered to the war disabled, widows and orphans include some of the following:-

Food, Welfare services, land, resettlement, housing, medical services, education, employment, grants/credits/loans; farm inputs, compensation for the wounded-In- Action (WIA) Pensions, training and skills improvement, vocational, rehabilitations, equipment, tools, transport facilities, access to information and communication, life insurance, support for development of groups and associations, recognition, remembrance, reunification, tracing of partners, protection, improved security, freedom of expression and improved infrastructure.

For the Commission to exercise its mandate, address policy areas and render the services that are required by the war disabled, widows and orphans as listed above, it is important and vital that it collaborates, cooperates networks and works in liaison with several parties such as Government Ministries/Departments/Institutions, Commissions Private sector, Civil Societies (NGOs, CBOs, FBOs, INGOs) and Development Partners, sponsors and collaborators.

Some of the institutions that the Commission collaborates with include but not limited to the following:

Institution	Services/Nature of collaboration
1. Ministry of Gender, Social Welfare and Religious Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provision of community services ➤ Execution of policy on gender equity ➤ Development of policies on social welfare and Women affairs and programmes ➤ Promotion of religious literature and co-existence ➤ Promotion of research and studies on community social development ➤ Vocational rehabilitation.
2. Ministry of Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Advice and guidance on budget preparation ➤ Annual GOSS budget preparation ➤ Implementation and management of the budget. ➤ Guidance and development of financial management procedures , internal audit control, management of donor funds, management of assets and preparation of guidelines on development plans and project appraisals.
3. Ministry of Legal Affairs and Constitutional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assisting with drafting of legislation ➤ Assisting in drafting and vetting of agreements and contracts ➤ Ensuring Civil Rights of individuals are respected ➤ Advising on Legal matters ➤ Advising on disputes ➤ Provision of legal counseling ➤ Advising on matters relating to registration of institutions.

4. Ministry of Education, Science and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provision of Education ➤ Provision of Vocational Training and Skills improvement
5. Ministry of Labour Public Service and Human Resource Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Labour legislations relating to employees ➤ Work place inspections ➤ Advise on appropriate capacity building strategies ➤ Co-ordination of technical assistance
6. Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Guidance on policy on Livestock and fisheries ➤ Livestock production and management technical advice ➤ Fisheries Development and management technical advice. ➤ Promotion of investment opportunities in livestock and fisheries ➤ Farmers and livestock keepers training ➤ Promotion of the improvement of fishing and processing technologies ➤ Promotion and development of aquaculture fish production ➤ Enforcement of policies and regulations on fishing ➤ Provision of community based extension programmes ➤ Promotion and development of bee keeping.
7. Ministry of Commerce and Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Micro Enterprise Promotion ➤ Regulations, contracts, protocols and agreements. ➤ Issuance of trade Licenses ➤ Provision of technical and commercial information on opportunities for trade ➤ Promotion of export of products ➤ Facilitating access to commercial and marketing research and new technologies
8. Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning, Public Utilities and Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provision of Housing and Land for resettlements ➤ Preparation and approval of development and physical plans ➤ Rehabilitation of war damaged infrastructure ➤ Development of electricity ➤ Provision of water in towns ➤ Overseeing implementation of housing and land policies. ➤ Development, Construction and maintenance of public buildings.
9. Ministry of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provision of medical services and needs ➤ Planning and implementation of medical programmes and projects ➤ Development of health and diseases policy ➤ Development and operation of health information system ➤ Collaborate on health education strategies
10. Southern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Enactment of Legislations

Sudan Legislature Assembly	
11. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Implementation of agricultural development and food production strategies ➤ Agricultural Extension Services ➤ Farmers training ➤ Promotion of forestry development and a forestation ➤ Issuance of licenses for timber trade
12.DDR Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Collaboration on reintegration policy, procedures and reunification and implementation of activities ➤ Collaboration on follow-up on placement and vocational training. ➤ Collaborate on resource mobilization
13. Mine Action Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Collaboration on assistance to mine victims (Victims Assistance Programmes)
14. Ministry of SPLA Affairs and SPLM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reintegration and placement ➤ Pensions ➤ Vocational Training ➤ Assistance to Martyrs e. g Martyrs Fund and Martyrs Day ➤ Remembrance Days ➤ Medical Services
15. Southern Sudan Reinstruction and Development Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Solicitation of funds collaboration ➤ Establishment of systems for Credit and Grant Funds management ➤ The establishment and operationalization of M and E system to track and measure the impact of the effectiveness of the activities to be benefit the war disabled, widows and orphans.
16. Southern Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mitigation and intervention on humanitarian crises eg provision of food ➤ Facilitation of conflict prevention and resolution ➤ Development of guidelines for evaluating humanitarian assistance
17. Land Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assistance on land claims ➤ Arbitration between parties ➤ Land laws enforcement ➤ Land compensation ➤ Advise on land rights ➤ Recording land use records
18. War Veterans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ War Heroes Day Celebrations ➤ Recognitions

Commission	➤ Commemorations
19. Donor Group 20. Southern Sudan Centre for Census, Statistics and Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Resource Mobilization ➤ Capacity Building and Training ➤ Institutional Capacity Development ➤ Logistical support ➤ Generation of socio-economic data ➤ Improving access to official statistics ➤ Timely provision of information ➤ Conducting census of people with war disabilities ➤ Conducting household health and food security surveys

CHAPTER FIVE

PILLARS OF THE POLICY

5.1 INTRODUCTION

The Policy on War Disabled Widows and Orphans has seven key pillars that are critical to the achievement of the overall goal. It underscores the need for careful planning and programming at all levels of national development. These pillars are:

- i. Institutional Framework
- Ii. Capacity Building
- iii. Preparedness
- iv. Timely Interventions
- v. Traditional Conflict Prevention and Mitigation
- vi. Recovery
- vii. Post-Conflict Stabilization

5.2 INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMME

The Institutional Programme for the policy will underpin processes, functions, roles and responsibilities of different actors, and institutional components. The established institutions will be a point of reference wherever there are differences leading to productive and enlightened approaches to integration of War Disadvantaged Persons. The programme will take cognizance of the legal basis, operationalization, roles and responsibilities of the following:

- i The War Disabled Widows and Orphans Commission
- ii The Secretariat
- iii War Disadvantaged Persons (WDPs)
- iv. War Disadvantaged Committees

5.3 CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity building is important for sustainable implementation of this policy. Training of various stakeholders in relevant areas such as business skills, resource mobilization, farming skills, counseling, vocational training and confidence building will be key areas for self reliance.

5.4 PREPAREDNESS

This policy recognizes early identifications and early response through rehabilitations as a critical component of and institutionalized structures that will be a critical part of the War Disabled Widows and Orphans Commission (SSWDWOC). War Disadvantaged Committees will gather and analyze information of local (bomas, payamas and counties) and share it with all stakeholders at local, state, national levels including the GoSS relevant ministries and commissions. These processes will ensure participation of both men and women. They will give recommendations for decision-making and ensure rapid response and services.

For purposes of implementation of this policy, a National War Heroes Fund (WHF) for WDPs has been established by the GoSS upon the recommendation of the Commission. It will provide strategic humanitarian support for victims of War. The administration of the Fund shall be as provided for in the War Heroes Fund Framework.

5.5 TIMELY INTERVENTION

In order for proactive and timely interventions to be undertaken, there is need for:

- (a). Effective early identification and response systems where information flow is timely and accurate.
- (b). Effective dialogue with the affected war victims.
- (c). Contingency resources and capacity for rapid response.
- (d). Monitoring the restoration of self dependency as full citizen.
- (e). Systemic and structured efforts to learn and document from rehabilitation events as they occur, so that each new response builds on what has been learnt already.

5.6 TRADITIONAL INTERVENTION AND MITIGATION

This policy recognizes the critical role of traditional rehabilitation mechanisms such as community responsibility and social contracts. The mechanisms will be strengthened to provide ownership and cultural relevance to the interventions in each rehabilitation context. The Policy will facilitate the harmonization of the traditional rehabilitation procedures with basic international human rights standards and the country Constitution in particular, with respect and protection of human rights. The policy shall promote the tolerance for cultural diversity by judicious rehabilitation management. All interventions will embrace the principles of building self reliance and esteem such as inclusiveness, impartiality, equal opportunity, gender equity, community ownership and sustainability.

5.7 POST-INTEGRATION AND RECOVERY INTERVENTIONS

The policy recognizes the necessity of developing a coordinated and consistent approach to deal with post integration situations. Resettlement and reintegration of the war disadvantaged persons with special consideration to widows and child-headed orphan households is important. Special attention will also be paid to HIV/AIDs in the re-integration process.

Post-integration interventions will include all measures aimed at rebuilding destroyed relationships, livelihoods and infrastructure as well as healing processes to addresses war related trauma, and psycho-social destabilization.

5.8 POST-INTEGRATION STABILIZATION

Communities emerging from war have the tendency to revert to conflict after short periods, unless measures are taken to stabilize the peace process. The SSWDWO Commission will be an active partner with relevant war-related Commissions and relevant GoSS ministries to contribute:

- (a). Ideas and Policy Statements to address root causes of conflicts and consolidating
peace;
- (b) Ideas and Policy Statements to enhance communities' capacities to sustain conflict resolution outcomes;
- (c). Proactive peace building;
- (d). Reinforcing existing effective mechanisms;
- (e). Entrenching a culture of peace and non-violence.

CHAPTER SIX

THE INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

6.1. EXISTING INSTITUTIONS IN INTEGRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF WAR DISABLED WIDOWS AND ORPHANS

6.1.1 The Commission for War Disabled Widows and Orphans

The Commission for War Disabled Widows and Orphans, envisaged as the Parent Ministry, shall in collaboration with other Stakeholders, develop a framework for the implementation of this policy. The envisaged framework will provide for the establishment of a collaborative mechanism to operationalize this policy. In addition, the framework will provide for capacity building and financing mechanisms of this policy.

6.1.2 The Legal State of Commission

The Government shall propose legislation to Parliament for the purposes of establishing a National Peace Commission (NPC). The legislation will provide for the functions, role and mandate of the Commission. It will also spell out the relationship between the Commission and other existing bodies and institutions.

Membership to the Commission

The SSWDWOC will have an executive Chairperson appointed by the President of the Government of Southern Sudan of the Commission. The Commission shall be made up of 5 Commissioners with competence, knowledge, and experience in matters relating to war disability widows and orphans.

Appointment to Commission (SSWDWOC)

Commissioners shall be appointed according to the provisions of the proposed legislation. Their appointment shall be vetted and endorsed by Parliament. The

President shall make the final appointment of commissioners based on the recommendations from Parliament. The Commissioners shall serve for a term to be prescribed.

Mandate of Commission (SSWDWOC)

While the mandate of the Commission shall be to promote sustainable re-integration of war disabled widows and orphans in Southern Sudan, its broad functions will include promoting skill development and building self-reliance and confidence. It shall create spaces for synergy between and amongst national actors, and shall engage in *inter alia* resource mobilization, training, policy development etc

The work of the SSWDWOC shall be guided by non-partisanship and independence. The SSWDWOC can appoint special consultants from within or outside its membership, (including outside the country) to undertake any assignments upon terms that will lead to capacity building, resource mobilization or programme implementation.

The SSWDWOC shall inform government and stakeholders on the following:

- i. Progress in promoting reintegration of war disabled, widows and orphans;
- ii. The implementation of agreements reached in the resolution of any conflicts, especially the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA)
- iii. The monitoring of compliance to such agreements, resolutions and recommendations of resultant commissions;
- iv. Consolidation of programs to reintegrate the War Disabled Widows and Orphans.

Specific Mandate

The following will be the specific mandate of the SSWDWOC:

- i. To formulate and promote policies, programmes and legislation for the protection, care and welfare of persons with related disabilities, war widows and war orphans;
- ii. To advise GoSS on the most effective modalities for implementation of such policies, programs and Legislation;

- iii. To promote a better quality of life, full employment and conditions for economic, social progress and development for the war disabled, widows and orphans;
- iv. To complement GoSS service provision to meet war disabled, widows and orphans expectations following the signing of the CPA;
- v. To review and report upon availability and accessibility of community services to those with war disabilities, war widows and war orphans;
- vi. To educate the general public as to the needs of war disabled, war widows and war orphans and to work towards the elimination of prejudice and discrimination against these groups;
- vii. To encourage the GoSS to promote appropriate education policies for children and adults with war related disabilities.

Functions of Commissioners

The functions of the Commissioners shall include the following:

- i. Providing policy review and direction;
- ii. Recruitment of senior staff within the SSWDWOC Secretariat;
- iii. Approve matters relating to the finance and administration of the Secretariat;
- iv. Mobilizing resources;
- v. Providing oversight in the reintegration of war displaced widows and orphans;
- vi. Convening the annual National War Disabled Widows and Orphans Forum (NWDWOF).

The Secretariat

This will be the administrative structure that will support the operation of the Commission. The secretariat will serve the co-ordination role of the Commission

activities. The secretariat will consist of Commissioners appointed by the Office of the President and officers appointed by SSWDWOC.

The SSWDWOC shall establish a Secretariat with an appropriate number of staff to provide administrative and technical support, to operationalize its strategic intentions.

The SSWDWOC shall set up a Secretariat linked to the Office of the President which will serve as the focal point for facilitating the work of SSWDWOC. Additionally, it shall serve as a think tank to Government on war disabled, widows and orphans issues generally, providing cutting edge perspectives and drawing attention to critical areas of need.

The Secretariat shall liaise with Government from the National, State and County levels to ensure that a structured and coordinated approach to managing operations within the country is adopted. In addition, the Secretariat shall mobilize for necessary support from the relevant national government agencies or institutions for the work of the Commission and its constituent organs. It shall liaise with the different organs of the state administration with a view to avoiding duplication and in appropriate cases providing support to ensure that the operations within their jurisdictions are implemented.

Similarly, the Secretariat shall establish a documentation and analysis section, which shall collate information from diverse sources on war disabled widows and orphans. For this purpose, the Secretariat will analyze the information and timely disseminate the same to relevant actors for necessary response.

Commission Chairperson

The Secretariat will be headed by a Chairperson responsible for the day-to-day management of the Commission. The Chairperson shall be the Accounting and Authorized Officer of the Commission and shall have competence, knowledge and experience in management of reintegration of war disabled, widows and orphans.

The Chairperson of the Commission will be responsible for:

- i. Attending and chairing all meetings of the Commission;

- iii. Accounting for funds of the Commission;
- iv. Deliberate day-to-day administration and management including carrying out policy decisions of the Commission and its staff to the Director General;
- v. Provide linkages with related Commissions, GoSS Ministries as well as National, State and Stakeholder Forum and international organizations;
- vi. Initiate and maintain liaison with Government and non-governmental stakeholders;
- vii. Perform all other functions as may be assigned by the Commission.

Functions of Secretariat

The Secretariat shall be responsible for the implementation of the mandate and functions of the Commission on a day-to-day basis. Specifically, it shall be responsible in the following:

- i. Receive, collate, analyze and disseminate information war disabled widows and orphans;
- ii. Coordinate reintegration management and rehabilitation Interventions of war disabled, widows and orphans;
- iii. Coordinate the technical Sub-Committees of the war disabled widows and orphans;
- iv. Capacity building on reintegration's management matters of war disabled widows and orphans at all levels;
- v. Development of the early identification of disabilities and response mechanism in line with its mandate;
- vi. Monitoring and evaluation of SSWDWOC's programme activities;
- vii. Develop communication strategy, including carrying out the public relations function;
- viii. Maintenance of Resource Centre to act as a point of Information on SSWDWOC;
- ix. Preparation of annual work plans and budgets;
- x. Finance administration and management (disbursement);
- xi. Development and implementation of Annual Work Plans and budgets;

- xii. Development of an M&E system.

6.1.3 **The National WDWOCF**

The National War Disabled Widows and Orphans Forum (NWDWOF) will be a platform for consultation, collaboration, co-operation and co-ordination of war victim issues by representatives from the Government, United Nations agencies, Private sector, Civil Society Organizations and Development partners. Other stakeholders including of representatives from the grassroots shall participate and freely organize themselves in the promotion of reintegrating war victims in Southern Sudan but within the auspices of the War Disabled Widows, and Orphans Commission.

6.1.4 **The State WDWO Forum**

The State WDWO Forum will be a platform for consultation, collaboration, co-operation and co-ordination of war victim issues by representatives from Government, civil society and other stakeholders at the state level. The State WDWO will monitor and support the work of individual WDWO committees within the state.

6.2 **THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

A legal framework will be established through an Act of Parliament with provisions for:

- i. Establishment of War Disabled Widows and Orphans Commission, the Secretariat, the National SSWDWO Forum, State WDWO Fora, WDWO Committees;
- ii. Operational principles under which the WDWOC and related institutions will function are in line with the Constitution, Acts of Parliament and international human rights principles;
- iii. The powers, mandate, functions and funding of the Commission and its constituent organs;
- iv. The co-ordination and mechanisms of collaboration with Government and Non-governmental agencies;

- v. The mechanism that recognizes traditional methods and processes for resolution of conflicts.

6.3 FUNDING FOR SSWDWOC STRUCTURE

Government Financing

The Government will commit financial resources through the Consolidated Fund and budgetary resources to develop basic infrastructure and capacities of the WDWOC and the other institutions under it.

Donor Financing

The Commission will seek to develop partnerships with development partners, NGOs and the private sector in mobilizing funds for the attainment of its mandate and functions.

Systems Development

The Commission will develop financial management and procurement regulations and procedures at the county, state and national level in line with the existing Government guidelines. However, the system will be flexible enough to meet the accounting requirements of various stakeholders involved in reintegration and rehabilitation work. A WDWOC Fund will be established for the rapid response and instances of humanitarian interventions.

6.4 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring and Evaluation shall be an inherent component at all the implementation stages of this policy. The process shall be participatory with the involvement of all stakeholders. Stakeholders shall act jointly in the process for purposes of transparency, ownership, and accountability, embracing the outlined principles of the policy.

This component will function as follows:

- i. Provide a regular feedback for assessing the relevance, sustainability and consequences of SSWDWO reintegration and rehabilitation management initiatives under the policy and its impact on addressing issues of war victims;

- ii. Continuously, systematically and critically review interventions; check progress in terms of achieved objectives and results in sustainable reintegration and rehabilitation of war victims;
- iii. Act as an early identification of war related disability strategy and propose timely Remedial Policy Statements;
- iv. Assess the impact of integration and rehabilitation of war victims programmes, their relevance and effectiveness;
- v. Provide a mechanism for accountability and capacity building for stakeholders in the WDWO programme initiatives and approaches;
- vi. Act as an audit of the policy and other interventions to determine lessons learnt, policy effectiveness, and best practices for reintegration of war disabled widows and orphans.

6.5 POLICY REVIEW

This Policy recognizes the need for its review and update based on the dynamics of progress. The policy shall therefore be reviewed after every five years to provide for new developments. The Commission will hold consultations with other stakeholders from time to time to review and update the policy.