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## **EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN NAIROBI - KENYA**

### **PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

This press release is intended for the information of those who support, sympathize and finance the so called the SPLM in Opposition, led by the former Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan, Dr. Riek Machar Teny Dhurghon.

After his failed coup attempt of December, 15<sup>th</sup> 2013, the former Vice President turned rebel now conducting military rebellion against the legitimate, democratically and constitutionally elected government of the people and by the people of the Republic of South Sudan under the leadership of H.E. Gen. Salva Kiir Mayardit. It has to be recalled that, despite all the peaceful attempts by the leadership of the region, under the auspicious of IGAD Secretariat currently sitting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the rebellion led by Riek Machar has refused to heed to the voices of reason.

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the President of the Republic Gen. Salva Kiir Mayardit, committed himself on behalf of the people of South Sudan and signed a cessation of hostility (COH) agreement between the Government and the rebel movement of Riek Machar.

It is in context of this press release that this agreement has never been honoured by Riek Machar's rebellion, since the time it was supposed to have come to force until the time of this writing. The rebels are consistently and

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persistently attacking our positions in Bentiu, Renk and Nassir. Last Friday, June, 20<sup>th</sup> 2014, the rebels in the above mentioned towns, carried out their usual barbaric attacks, resulting into loss of lives and destruction of properties. The SPLA forces in the area are under strict orders of the President of the Republic and Commander in Chief General Salva Kiir Mayardit not to retaliate to the rebel's hooliganism, as the Government has committed itself to the peace process and cessation of hostility (COH) agreement signed last month in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.

The Embassy of the Republic of South Sudan in Nairobi takes this opportunity to inform the friends of the people of South Sudan in general and those who have taken sides in supporting , financing and propagating for the rebel movement, led by Dr Riek Machar in particular that, the government and the people of South Sudan are for peace. This has been several times echoed by Gen. Salva Kiir, the legitimate and democratically elected president of the Republic.

The Embassy is dismayed by the stand taken by some members of the International Community who often times throw a deliberate blanket blame to both sides, whenever the rebels violate the Cessation of Hostility (COH) as they have always done.

The Embassy seizes this opportunity to appeal to the international community in general and the countries in the region in particular to rise to the occasion to fulfill their responsibility as members of the community of the nations to help inform the rebel movement led by Riek Machar to do the right thing other than acts of terrorism. , killing, destruction and kidnaping. Last months, the rebel movement kidnapped a Kenyan pilot, who delivered food to the starving people in the rebel held areas. After the food delivery, the rebels turned against the innocent pilot and took him hostage, detained him and his plane.

It was later on learnt that the rebels wanted ransom of US\$1.5million in return for the release of the pilot and the plane.

This is an act of terror, the international community should fight it to finish whether it is practiced by Dr. Riek Machar in South Sudan, the Boko Haram in Nigeria or al Shabaab in Somalia.

Terrorism is the same in Tora-Bora, as it is now the case in South Sudan practiced by the so called, the White Army of Riek Machar.

*-End-*

