

**Abyei Area
Ngok Dinka People's General Conference**

Declaration of the Ngok Dinka Community of Abyei Area

To hold

**Abyei Area Community Referendum
on**

October, 18th, 2013

We, the Ngok Dinka of Abyei, having passed through a long history of suffering and political marginalization since the wrongful annexation of our Area to Kordofan in 1905 and while We:

1. Believe that the United Nations represents a vision for humanity where national and sovereign interests align with a higher respect for the fundamental rights of peoples;
2. Recognize that the world, despite the wars and hardships endured by far too many of its nations and peoples, is nonetheless moving in the direction of both human rights and the rule of international law;
3. Consider that the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), 2005, will forever represent a triumph of the Government of Sudan (GOS) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), IGAD and Partners in upholding and strengthening the international rule of law;
4. Appreciate the fact that the CPA, 2005, provides for the right of self determination in form of Referendum for the members of the nine Ngok Dinka Chiefdoms and other residents in Abyei Area; while guaranteeing to the Misseriya and other nomadic neighbouring tribes their traditional seasonal grazing rights and passage through Abyei Area;
5. Recognize the historic ruling of the Permanent Court of Arbitration in July 2009 which redefined Abyei Area as the land of the nine Ngok Dinka Chiefdoms;
6. Recognize the efforts of African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) to put Sudan and South Sudan on the track of peace and stability by adopting a comprehensive roadmap in April, 2012 that was endorsed by the United Nations Security Council in form of its resolution 2046 in May, 2012;

7. Stand by the African Union High Implementation Panel (AUHIP) 21st September 2012, Proposal on the final status of Abyei that has been accepted by the AUPSC in various meetings as a fair, equitable and workable African solution to the issue of Abyei;
8. Note the various summits between President Salva Kiir Mayaridit of the Republic of South Sudan and President Omer Ahmed Hassan El-Bashir of the Republic of Sudan to resolve their differences on the AUHIP September Proposal on the final status of Abyei and that they did not yield any result;
9. Appreciate the continued commitment by the AUPSC to the AUHIP Proposal and its repeated acceptance of that proposal despite the lack of agreement of the two countries on the same;
10. Applaud the AUHIP July, 29th, 2013, Report to the AUPSC and its observation that the people of Abyei are running out of patience in the face of delayed implementation of the final status of their area and the recommendation for the full implementation of its September Proposal in accordance with the proposed timetable there-in, unless the two countries present agreed amendments to the said Proposal;
11. Consider that the last summit in Khartoum on September, 3rd, 2013, between President Salva Kiir Mayaridit of the Republic of South Sudan and President Omer Ahmed Hassan El-Bashir of the Republic of Sudan did not present any agreed amendments to the AUHIP Proposal on the final status of Abyei;
12. Condemn in the strongest term possible, the heinous assassination of the Ngok Dinka Paramount Chief, Kuol Deng Kuol, in May 2013, by the Misseriya militia supported by the Government of Sudan, in a UN convoy and in the presence of the UN Interim Security Force in Abyei (UNISFA);
13. Further, condemn the persistent intransigence of the Government of Sudan and its continuous defiance of the African Union (AU), IGAD and UN organizations manifested in its rejection of:
 - a. the Abyei Boundary Commission (ABC) Report, 2005 and instead invaded and destroyed Abyei in 2008 ;
 - b. the international ruling of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), 2009, though it initially accepted it;

- c. Abyei Area Referendum slated for January, 9th, 2011 and instead once more invaded and destroyed Abyei, killing many and displacing majority of the Ngok Dinka people;
 - d. the AUHIP 21st September 2012 Proposal on the final status of Abyei Area, though agreed in the June, 20th, 2011 to consider it; and
 - e. sharing the Abyei oil revenues as provided in the CPA, 2005, and in particular, denial of Abyei oil revenues to the Ngok Dinka since the signing of the CPA, which could have been used to restore livelihoods, assist voluntary return of the displaced population and provide health services, education and build roads.
14. Finally, regrettably note the AUPSC's last Communiqué after its 397th meeting at the level of the Heads of State and Government, September, 23rd, 2013:
- a. Offers nothing to Ngok Dinka community.
 - b. No date for Abyei Referendum.
 - c. No mechanisms for achieving referendum without the willing consent of the Government of Sudan.
 - d. No urging of Sudan to accept the AUHIP Proposal since South Sudan had accepted it on September, 25th, 2012 and AUPSC accepted the same five times.
 - e. SAF withdrawal from Kec/Diffra is conditioned on forming Abyei Police service. Sudan is allowed to continue its illegal exploitation of Abyei oil, and
 - f. Not even a promise of a special AUPSC session on Abyei soon.

Do hereby, in light of the above and the fact that Abyei Area remains a serious challenge to the ideals agreed upon in the CPA, specifically to the principle of self-determination for the Ngok Dinka of Abyei and the respect for the rule of international law in general, and seeing no light at the end of the tunnel, declare, in Ngok Dinka People's General Conference held in Abyei town today October, 18th, 2013, our intent to conduct as a community, the Abyei Area Community Referendum in a fair and transparent manner and call upon the international community, media houses and relevant organizations to monitor and observe the Abyei Area Community Referendum.