

Preamble

Having met at the Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly (SSLA) in Juba from 16-18 July 2009 in a joint workshop organized by the Economic Affairs (and Energy & Mining) Committees of the National Assembly, in collaboration with the SSLA Standing Committees on Development, Economy & Finance (and Energy, Mining & Industry), with the attendance of Honourable Ministers, Honourable Members from the National Assembly and SSLA, officials from the Government of National Unity (GoNU) and Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS) Ministries of Finance & Economic Planning and Energy & Mining and from the Bank of Southern Sudan (BoSS), as well as representatives of the Southern Sudan Business Chamber, the World Bank and others;

Recognizing and appreciative of the support received from the Parliamentary Centre and financial support from the Canadian International Development Agency for this workshop;

After elaborative discussions on papers presented and comments made by the participants from both levels on the workshop theme, *Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis on National & Southern Sudan Economies*;

Acknowledging the importance and reality that this workshop played a greater role of coordinating and sharing information and concerns of both levels of the legislative and executive branches of GoNU and GoSS in order to address national concerns, especially those which affect the whole nation in the context of the global financial crisis;

Believing that ideas shared during the workshop will be useful for both Assemblies' specialized committees;

The participants, therefore, concluded the workshop with the following remarks and recommendations.

1. Agreed that both GoNU and GoSS have been affected by the global financial crisis due to the decline of oil prices and dependency on oil as the main source of national revenue; duly put much emphasis on investing in the food security sector (agriculture/ animal resources), industrial sector and other mineral sectors in both the South and North; and agreed that Governments have to change policies of focusing on oil only;

2. Agreed on promotion of the relationship between the two legislatures to address issues of common concern, e.g., the issue of the type of currency in which the Central Bank of Sudan (CBoS) now transfers to GoSS its 50% share of oil revenue, as stipulated in the Wealth Sharing Protocol of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA);
3. Agreed to initiate legislation governing commerce and revenue-generation, especially at the GoSS level;
4. Called upon GoNU and GoSS to expedite physical infrastructure projects (power, roads/ transport) that link the two parts of the Sudan;
5. Called upon GoNU and GoSS to promote private, public or public-private partnership investments in Southern Sudan;
6. Agreed that issues of food security be addressed holistically by GoNU and GoSS, through such projects as the *National Agricultural Revitalization (Nahada al-Zirayiya)*;
7. Emphasized the need for rehabilitation of national industries in Southern Sudan, such as: Mongalla Sugar Factory, Wau Fruit Canning Factory, Melut Sugar, Nzara Agro-Industrial Complex, Tonj Kennaf, Yirrol Oil Mills, Aweil Rice, Mongalla Weaving Factory, Malakal Tannery, etc.;
8. Called upon the GoNU and GoSS Ministries of Finance & Economic Planning to consult regularly on the impacts of the global financial crisis on the Sudanese economy;

9. Called upon the CBoS/ BoSS and GoSS to engage in regular consultations and make timely decisions on banking and financial cases that may arise;

10. Called upon the GoNU and Goss Ministries of Energy & Mining to organize a joint symposium on *The Future of the Petroleum Sector in the Sudan*;

11. Agreed to support the initiative of the National Assembly Committee on Energy & Mining to conduct a study of the environment in the oil-producing areas;

12. Agreed to continue to conduct seminars and meetings between the two levels on issues of national concern;

13. Agreed to encourage other parliamentary committees at the two levels to meet and exchange information regularly; and

14. Agreed that capacity-building projects be supported and strengthened in various areas, including the private sector, in order to revitalize the national and Southern Sudan economies. National training institutions should play a greater role in capacity-building in Southern Sudan.