

11<sup>th</sup> February, 2014

**SPEECH BY HON. NHIAL DENG NHIAL THE CHIEF  
NEGOTIATOR OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
SOUTH SUDAN DELEGATION TO THE SECOND PHASE OF  
NEGOTIATIONS IN ADDIS ABABA - ETHIOPIA**

H.E. Hailemariam Desalegn, the Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia,

H.E. Tedros Adhanom, the Minister for Foreign Affairs

H.E. Amb. Seyoum Mesfin, the Chairperson of the IGAD Special Envoys for South Sudan,

Gen. Lazarus Sumbeiywo, IGAD Special Envoy for South Sudan

Amb. Gen. Mohamed Ahmed Mustafa El Dabi IGAD Special Envoy for South Sudan,

Amb. Engineer Mahboub Maalim, Executive Secretary of IGAD, Excellencies Special Envoys and Ambassadors,

Gen. Taban Deng Gai, the Chief Negotiator of the SPLM/A in Opposition,

Hon. Delegates of the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and the SPLM/A in Opposition to the negotiations.

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and the Delegation to this second phase of the negotiations, I would like to extend my appreciation and gratitude to IGAD and particularly to the Chairperson of the Mediation Team and the Special Envoys for their tireless efforts for making possible the resumption of the second phase of the negotiations, and to the people and the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for hosting once again this second round of negotiations.

The Government of the Republic of South Sudan reiterates its commitment to the negotiations without preconditions. We have come here with an open mind in search of a lasting solution to the crisis in our country. It is our sincere hope that the other Party has the same resolve too so that together we can bring a speedy end to the suffering of our people and establish lasting peace in our country.

Your Excellencies,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

11<sup>th</sup> February, 2014

We may recall that the main objective of the last round of talks which culminated in the signing of the Cessation of Hostilities (CoH) on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2014 was to stop killings, destruction of property and massive displacement for the protection of civil population so as to open corridors for humanitarian access to the needy populations and to create a conducive atmosphere for negotiations.

The Government of the Republic of South Sudan has delivered on its commitment to honour the CoH Agreement. However, we are deeply disappointed and dismayed by the flagrant and repeated violations of the CoH Agreement by the other Party. We had expressed our concern during the signing ceremony on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2014 about the inability of the other Party on its own to control its forces and make them abide by the CoH Agreement.

In order to reap the benefits of the first round of negotiations, the situation on the ground demands urgent formation of the Joint Technical Committee (JTC) with its other important bodies such as the Monitoring and Verification Teams (MVTs) as provided for in the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (CoH).

Excellencies,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Government of the Republic of South Sudan once more wishes to register its appreciation and gratitude for the solidarity and tremendous support shown by the friends of the people of South Sudan at the time of their need. In this regard, we express our thanks and gratitude to IGAD, AU, IPF, Troika, EU, China and all those not mentioned by name for their assistance in seeking a solution to the crisis in our country.

In conclusion, we are confident with the commitment of all of us, this round of talks will go a long way in bringing lasting and durable peace to our dear country.

Thank you!

**GOD BLESS SOUTH SUDAN**