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JOHNS HOPKINS MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

Transitional Government of National Unity in South Sudan
(TGoNU)

Chair: Reily Gibson

JHUMUNC 2018

Transitional Government of National Unity in South Sudan 2016 (TGoNU)

Topic A: The Issues of Security and Nationhood

Topic B: Economic Prosperity and the Future of Oil Production in South Sudan

Committee Overview

The Second Sudanese Civil War, Africa's longest civil war, came to an end in 2005 with the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, which gave South Sudan autonomy and promised a referendum for southern independence in 2011. After 99% of the population voted for independence in 2011, South Sudan became the newest African nation composed of a diverse, largely rural population.¹ While the South Sudanese may have gained independence, the country has been embroiled in conflict since its establishment. Diversity, a lack of good governance, and poor economic growth has plunged South Sudan into seemingly perpetual conflict.

In an attempt to resolve civil conflict, the Transitional Government of National Unity in South Sudan (TGoNU) was formed by the formerly warring parties in South Sudan on April 28th, 2016. After years of conflict in Africa's newest nation, President Salva Kiir, First Vice-President Riek Machar, and Vice-President James Wani Igga set aside their tensions to appoint new cabinet ministers. As President Salva Kiir stated, "the responsibility imposed on us by the agreement needs each and every one of us to contribute to the stabilization of our country."² As ministers of the Transitional Government of National Unity in South Sudan in 2016, it is the responsibility of this committee to

¹ "South Sudan Referendum: 99% Vote for Independence." *BBC News*, BBC, 30 Jan. 2011.

² Muktar, Anwar. "The Formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity in South Sudan." *Permanent Mission of Ethiopia*, United Nations Office at Geneva, May 2016.

establish stability. It is our responsibility to rewrite the recent history of South Sudan.

Parliamentary Procedure

Crisis committees, in many respects, compose the upper stratum of Model United Nations simulations. Unlike the structure and context of a GA or larger standing UN body, specialized committees at JHUMUNC present a small group of delegates with a dynamic, multifaceted topic of discussion and frequent crisis updates. Delegates will be called upon to respond to these updates in several ways; through negotiation within the committee, collaborative directives (voted on by the committee), and personal action in the form of a crisis note. All forms of response should be used to engage issues raised by the committee topics and the ongoing crisis announcements. Directives can be written in three forms: committee, joint, and personal. Delegates are encouraged to utilize their portfolio powers in order to help solve crises, regain momentum of debate, and even to create crises for the committee!

The Transitional Government of National Unity in South Sudan is a small dynamic committee composed of diverse members, each with their own portfolio powers. As representatives of the ministers of President Salva Kiir Mayardit's cabinet, delegates are encouraged to think creatively about their role in the committee. An innovative outlook and liberal use of crisis notes is encouraged, though delegates will find their endeavors most successful if they receive support from fellow delegates. Please remember to be active both in and outside our committee room.

In a crisis committee, such as the Transitional Government of National Unity in South Sudan 2016 at JHUMUNC 2018, it is vital to the committee's flow that each delegate participate as much as he or she is able. Parliamentary procedure will be moderately relaxed and the mode of debate will be flexible—without impeding flow—as to simulate a more realistic scenario and respond to crisis updates.

Note that this committee is considered a *historical crisis committee*. Thus, our first committee sessions will kick off in the spring of 2016 as ministers of TGoNU begin their first days in office. Please keep this historical timing in mind while preparing for the conference.

Delegate Biographies

Deng Alor Kuol (Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation)

Deng Alor Kuol, born in the heavily contested Abyei region, was appointed to his first term as Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in October 2007, having previously served as the minister of Cabinet Affairs during Kartoum's National Unity government. In December of 2013, Deng Alor was arrested on charges of plotting internal revolution within the SPLM.³ In 2016, Deng Alor was once again nominated and appointed as the Minister of Foreign Affairs; only time can tell whether his second term will end in success or infamy.⁴

Kuol Manyang Juuk (Minister of Defense and Veterans Affairs)

Kuol Manyang Juuk, born in Dinka Bor, started his career in politics after joining the SPLM in 1983. Known as a just and progressive governor of Jonglei, Kuol Manyang has been applauded by the public as being heavily anti-corruption and anti-arms. Since 1983, Kuol Manyang has served as the Minister of Roads and Transport during the National Unity government of South Sudan and is currently the Minister of

³ Deng, Luka Biong. "Are Ngok Dinka of Abyei South Sudanese?" *Are Ngok Dinka of Abyei South Sudanese? - Sudan Tribune: Plural News and Views on Sudan*.

⁴ "Sudanese President Omar El-Bashir Demoted His Foreign Minister and Reshuffled the Cabinet." *Spa.gov.sa*, 10ADAD, www.spa.gov.sa/491040.

Defense and Veterans Affairs.⁵

Dak Duop Bichiok (Minister of Petroleum)

Dak Duop Bichiok, former Governor of the former Upper Nile state, has played a crucial role in the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement by uniting the SPLM and NCP together within the UNS region. As the current Minister of Petroleum, Dak Duop has a difficult task of determining the economic future of South Sudan.⁶ Seeing that South Sudan depends on oil for 97% of national income generation, Dak Duop has pushed for an increase in petroleum refining facilities; only time will tell if he continues on this unsustainable economic path.⁷

Mary Alphone Lodira (Minister of Land, Housing and Urban Development)

As one of the few woman ministers, Mary Alphone Lodira is South Sudan's champion for gender equality. She has strongly advocated for women to involve themselves in the implementation of the CPA and has called for women to further integrate into the government. Seeing that almost half of the nation's population are women, Mary Alphone's role is undeniably crucial for the future of South Sudan.⁸

⁵ Alier, Malith. "Achievements and Failures of Kuol Manyang Juuk, the Former Governor of Jonglei State." *PaanLuel Wël: South Sudanese Bloggers.*, 4 Dec. 2013.

⁶ Vickers, Emma. "Three Years in, Is South Sudan's Oil Driving Its Crisis?" *Global Witness*, 9 July 2014.

⁷ Malek, Gordon Buay. "Hon. Dak Duop Bichiok Is More Wiser and Politically Mature than Ezekiel Lol to Be in the Cabinet." *PaanLuel Wël: South Sudanese Bloggers.*, 1 May 2016.

⁸ "S. Sudanese Rebel Leader Appoints Deputy Chairs of National Committees." *S. Sudanese Rebel Leader Appoints Deputy Chairs of National Committees - Sudan Tribune: Plural News and Views on Sudan*, 2 July 2014.

Obote Mamur Mete (Minister in the Office of the President for National Security Service)

Obote Mamur Mete, native to the Equatoria region of South Sudan, was heavily involved in the SPLA, being one of its commanding generals. Following the signing of the CPA in 2005, the SPLA was restructured with Obote Mamur serving as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Political and Moral Orientation. Ironically, Obote Mamur was later arrested in 2007 for administrative misconduct but was released after several talks with Salva Kiir Mayardit.⁹ Currently, he is serving as the Minister for National Security Service along the many others appointed for the new Cabinet.¹⁰

Stephen Dhieu Dau (Minister of Trade and Industry)

Stephen Dhieu Dau is one of the cabinet's most experienced members, having served multiple terms as the Ministry of Commerce, Trade, and Investment, the Ministry of Petroleum and Mining, and currently the Ministry of Trade and Industry. At his reception ceremony for his new term in cabinet, Dhieu has emphasized the importance of international investment in the country. However, he warns against the dependence of both South Sudan and the international community on Sudanese oil, and instead advocates for the development of small factories. Through small business startups, Dhieu Dau believes that South Sudan can leave behind an impoverished history towards a prosperous future.¹¹

Dhieu Mathok Diing (Minister of Energy and Dams)

Dhieu Mathok Diing, hailing from the Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, has procured a rich history of experience as a civil servant, parliamentarian, academic, and minister in

⁹ Vuni, Isaac. "Detained SPLA General Released in Juba." *Detained SPLA General Released in Juba - Sudan Tribune: Plural News and Views on Sudan*, 1 Jan. 2009

¹⁰ Olingo, Allan. "South Sudan: Former Rebels, Ex-Detainees in President Salva Kiir's Cabinet." *AllAfrica.com*, 2 May 2016.

¹¹ "South Sudan Will Resume Oil Production Soon - Minister." *Sudan Tribune: Plural News and Views on Sudan*, 4 Oct. 2012.

South Sudan. Having received a Doctorate in Peace and Development from Juba and being the Chairperson of Southern Sudan Employees Justice, Dhieu Mathok heavily advocates for the political stability in Sudan. In his opinion, the corruption of the government and the warring political factions have severely curbed the growth of South Sudan. As the current Minister of Energy and Dams, Dhieu Mathok aims to restructure and increase energy production through a regional integration policy.¹²

Paulino Wanawilla (Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs)

Paulino Wanawilla, serving as the current Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, harbors strong opinions about the future of South Sudanese leadership, particularly the clauses listed in the interim Constitution. Possibly as a way to increase the executive power of the President, Paulino Wanawilla has attempted to amend the constitution by allowing President Salva Kiir the power to appoint all state governors and legislators; this has been received with heavy opposition. Regardless, Wanawilla has voiced his strong desire to alter the balance of the government and the fate of South Sudan's Constitution.^{13,14}

Peter Bashir Gbandi (Minister of Parliamentary Affairs)

Peter Bashir Gbandi, having been described as a "fighter for peace", holds a position of power many call the "whip" of Juba's parliament. As the Minister of Parliamentary affairs, Gbandi strongly believes that ministers ought to focus on critical discourse and problem solving in their ministries. He criticizes that too many ministers care only about money and not enough about developing South Sudan's future. In his words, "If we can do our job we can impeach the minister who is not doing his work,

¹² "Exclusive Interview with Dhieu Mathok Diing Wol (PhD), Minister, Ministry of Energy and Dams." *ESI-Africa.com*, 2 Sept. 2016.

¹³ "S. Sudan Gets New Chief Whip, Deputy Ministers Reshuffled." *S. Sudan Gets New Chief Whip, Deputy Ministers Reshuffled - Sudan Tribune: Plural News and Views on Sudan*, 15 Nov. 2013.

¹⁴ News, VOA. "UN Official Insists on Swift Action to End Abuses in South Sudan." *VOA*, 14 Mar. 2017.

the minister who is corrupt.”¹⁵ With this mindset, Gbandi will undoubtedly fight for transparency and accountability within the Cabinet.¹⁶

Martin Elia Lomoro (Minister of Cabinet Affairs)

Martin Elia Lomoro brings optimism and energy to this new cabinet. As the Minister of Cabinet Affairs, Lomoro will work within the cabinet to improve relations among the diverse ministers. Externally, Lomoro is a strong voice for TGoNU and he will work to promote a supportive public image of the cabinet’s work. In addition to creating positivity for the new government in South Sudan, Lomoro will be tasked with speaking to the UN Security Council. Whether TGoNU is succeeding or failing, it is the job of Lomoro to ensure that public opinion is always positive.¹⁷

Michael Makuei Lueth (Minister of Information, Communication, Technology and Postal Service)

Michael Makuei Lueth, known for his efforts during the 2012 negotiations on post-partition, wields a heavy list of accomplishments. In addition to his current post as the Minister of Information, Communication, Technology, and Postal service, Lueth has experience in law as both a legal counsel and a judge before joining forces with the SPLM. As one of the top commanders of the group, Lueth has also served as the SPLM’s Secretary and Commissioner for Legal Affairs.¹⁸ In 2012, Lueth helped negotiate post-partition deals between Sudan and South Sudan where he also played a huge role in educating the populace on the impacts of the

aforementioned negotiation.¹⁹

David Deng Athorbei (Minister of Finance and Economic Planning)

David Deng Athorbei currently holds one of the most powerful positions within the South Sudanese government. Being only a few years old, South Sudan requires deft planning for the growth and sustainability of its economic sector; Athorbei must exercise great wisdom in his position of influence and power in order to build a prosperous nation. His experience as a finance minister for a regional semi-autonomous faction of South Sudan will undoubtedly help as he introduces the South Sudanese Pound and many other economic reforms during his term.²⁰

Taban Deng Gai (Minister of Mining)

Taban Deng Gai, having served as governor of the Unity State of Sudan since 2005, is no stranger to the game of politics. As the Minister of Mining, Taban Deng Gai wields considerable power in determining South Sudan’s resource extraction policies, which will define the future of the nation as it develops. Taban Deng Gai is known for his harsh but often necessary approach to political gridlock, having condemned his own government for failing to help those in need by negligence in development and service to the people. He will, without a doubt, reform the governance of South Sudan to one that is both efficient and responsible to the people.^{21,22}

Peter Marcello Nasir (Minister of Labour, Public Service and Human Resource Development)

Peter Marcello Nasir was appointed to TGoNU by Vice President Machar. Nasir has been a loyal supporter to Machar throughout the civil war and he voiced his opposition to President Kiir’s removal of Machar from office.

¹⁵ T., S. “S. Sudan Vows to Strengthen Ties with Neighbouring Countries.” *S. Sudan Vows to Strengthen Ties with Neighbouring Countries - Sudan Tribune: Plural News and Views on Sudan*, 22 Jan. 2014.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ “Statement by the Hon. Martin Elia Lomoro, Minister of Cabinet Affairs, Republic of South Sudan, Following a Meeting Held between the United Nations Security Council Delegation and President Kiir.” *UNMISS*, 30 Jan. 2017.

¹⁸ Manyon, Peter Gai. “Michael Makuei Lueth: A Propagandist of the Year in South Sudan!” *South Sudan News Agency*, 19 Nov. 2014.

¹⁹ “Michael Makuei Lueth.” *Sudan Tribune: Plural News and Views on Sudan*.

²⁰ Wel, Paanleul. “President Kiir Fires His Finance Minister; Re-Appoints David Deng Athorbei.” *Paanluelwel.com*, 12 Jan. 2015.

²¹ “Taban Deng Gai: South Sudan Must Move Forward.” *Al Jazeera*, Al Jazeera, 23 July 2016.

²² “Taban Deng Gai Says Current Government Is a ‘Hand-to Mouth’ System That Is Not Providing Any Services.” *Nyamilepedia*, 22 Oct. 2016.

As the Minister of Labour, Public Service and Human Resource Development, Nasir will work to craft policies to improve the job market in South Sudan and get the economy going.²³

John Luk Jok (Minister of Transport)

John Luk Jok has had his fair share in the restructuring of South Sudan. As a former Minister of Legal Affairs and Constitutional Development, Jok has helped draft and chair the transitional constitution of South Sudan, especially focusing on the allocation of executive power and the balancing of the cabinet. Having been arrested for collaborating on an alleged coup in 2014, it is no surprise that Jok has called out multiple high officials for their misconduct in office. His role is indispensable for the restructuring of South Sudan's government.²⁴

Rebecca Joshua Okwaci (Minister of Roads and Bridges)

Rebecca Joshua Okwaci, another female member of the cabinet, has a strong background in humanitarian and advocacy efforts. Starting as a journalist, Okwaci has promoted the message of peace not only through her writings but through her peace organizations and radio programs. Specifically, Okwaci focuses on the role of women in South Sudan's transition towards peace, having been the Secretary General of the Woman Action for Development organization. Like Mary Alphone Lodira, Okwaci is working hard to promote women inclusion in every sector of South Sudanese society – government especially.²⁵

Mabior Garang de Mabior (Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation)

Mabior Garang de Mabior, Son of Dr. John Garang de Mabior, belongs to a very powerful family of South Sudan. His father is

widely credited as the founder of South Sudan liberation; the legacy, however, has not passed on to Mabior Garang de Mabior himself. After his father's death, Mabior has often been cited condemning President Kiir for neglecting his mother and family.²⁶ Nevertheless, President Kiir has appointed Mabior as the new Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation. Only time can tell if the young politician can live up to his father's reputation.²⁷

Deng Deng Hoch (Minister of General Education and Instruction)

As the current Minister of General Education and Instruction and former undersecretary, Deng Deng Hoch is well aware that "Illiteracy is the mother of communal fighting that is rife in most states of South Sudan." He believes that the solution to political and social instability starts with the proper education of the country's youth. When the youth are educated, they take up pens and microphones instead of guns and grenades. Minister Deng Deng also calls upon South Sudan to abandon its reliance on oil and to prioritize education for the development of more advanced economic sectors.²⁸

Lam Akol Ajawin (Minister of Agriculture and Food Security)

Lam Akol Ajawin, founder and former leader of Sudan People's Liberation Movement – Democratic Change (SPLM-DC), was an avid member of the SPLA during the early years of Sudan's civil war. Between 2005 and 2007, Ajawin served as the Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Republic of Sudan. However, the recent peace agreements have disappointed Ajawin, who states that "the peace agreement is dead and there is no time to waste." This change in mindset offers both blessings and headaches to the South Sudanese government as Lam Akol Ajawin continues on his journey to reform the

²³ "South Sudan Rebel Leader Further Reshuffles Officials of National Committees." *South Sudan Rebel Leader Further Reshuffles Officials of National Committees - Sudan Tribune: Plural News and Views on Sudan*, 13 Aug. 2015,

²⁴ Kedok, Paulino D. "Dr. John Luk Jok Is a Real Voice in the Wilderness!" *South Sudan News Agency*, 11 May 2011.

²⁵ Matthias, Jess. "Why Rebecca Okwaci Should Be the Role Model for Girls around the World." *The Guardian*, Guardian News and Media, 6 Dec. 2013.

²⁶ Akok, Deng Kiir. "Mabior Garang: A Mama's Boy Politician of South Sudan." *PaanLuel Wël: South Sudanese Bloggers.*, 12 Aug. 2016.

²⁷ Alan Boswell - McClatchy Newspapers. "Mabior Garang, Son of South Sudan's Founder, Blasts Country's Leadership." *Mcclatchydc*, 31 Aug. 2012.

²⁸ "Latest: Eme | ILLITERACY CAUSES CLASHES." *Catholic Radio Network*, 13 Apr. 2013.

nation.²⁹

Nadia Arop Dudi (Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports)

Nadia Arop Dudi is a firm believer in the power of sports as a method of unity for the South Sudanese people. With a national population that is 62% youth, Dudi's role is critical for the development of pride and cohesion in a war-torn nation. Having served as the Minister of Sports since 2013, Nadia Arop Dudi believes that "Sport is one of the tools in our culture ... Despite the conflict, through sport we are getting ourselves together." Her efforts have resulted in the official recognition of South Sudan in the Summer Olympics (Rio 2016).³⁰

Riek Gai Kok (Minister of Health)

Riek Gai Kok, the current Minister of Health, has primarily dedicated his life efforts to the humanitarian aid section of the SPLA, having served as a leader for the Relief Association of South Sudan and a spokesman for the South Sudan Independence Movement. While balancing his roles in the SPLA and the SSIM, Riek Gai Kok has also governed the Jonglei state for several years before being appointed into cabinet.³¹

Topic A: The Issues of Security and Nationhood

History and Background

Sudanese have experienced much conflict and hardship over the years. Particularly, the South Sudanese suffered from neglect and a serious lack of infrastructure while being a part of Sudan. The devastation that resulted from decades of civil war in Sudan displaced citizens and left many feeling as though they have no real home.³² In hopes to finally establish a nation for themselves, the world's youngest country gained independence from Sudan in July 2011, concluding a brutal civil war.³³ South Sudan's independence was seen as an international success for many nations around the world. South Sudan became the 193rd member of the United Nations and later admitted to the African Union.³⁴

The new nation contains what were 10 of the southern-most states of Sudan characterized by grasslands and tropical rainforests along the White Nile. Home to over 60 different ethnic groups, the country is highly diverse and most people follow traditional religions.³⁵ Of its many ethnic groups, the Dinka are the largest. Nuer is the second largest with Azande and Bari also prominent in the county.³⁶

Salva Kiir Mayardit is the president of South Sudan and the head of the Sudan's People's Liberation Movement (SPLM-IG). He initially succeeded rebel leader John Garang who died in a helicopter crash in 2005, while South Sudan was still a part of Sudan. In April 2010, Kiir was re-elected and once South Sudan gained independence, he became the new nation's first

²⁹ Lam Akol (2001). *SPLM/SPLA: Inside an African Revolution (1st ed.)*. Khartoum University Press..

³⁰ "Youth and Policy Engagement in the Horn of Africa." *Chatham House*.

³¹ Deng, James Gai Tot. "Dr Riek Gai Kok's Dangerous Political Ambition." *South Sudan News Agency*, 21 Nov. 2014.

³² "South Sudan." *Wikipedia*. Wikimedia Foundation, n.d. Web. 09 July 2017.

³³ "South Sudan Forms Transitional Government of National Unity." *Sudan Tribune* [Juba] 19 Apr. 2016: n. pag. Print.

³⁴ "South Sudan Fast Facts." *CNN*. Cable News Network, 13 June 2017. Web. 09 July 2017.

³⁵ "South Sudan Country Profile." *BBC News*. BBC, 08 June 2017. Web. 09 July 2017.

³⁶ "South Sudan." *Wikipedia*. Wikimedia Foundation, n.d. Web. 09 July 2017. Vickers, Emma. "Three Years in, Is South Sudan's Oil Driving Its Crisis?" *Global Witness*, 9 July 2014.

leader.³⁷ Since independence, Kiir has become central to the conflict in South Sudan and remains the head of the new Transitional Government of National Unity.

Civil War in South Sudan

Just as ethnic conflict had been an issue prior to independence, the newly drawn borders of South Sudan were unable to erase long-standing disputes among the many diverse groups whom inhabit the southern states of South Sudan. Tensions reared their head in 2013 when VP Riek Machar of the Nuer tribe threatened the power of President Salva Kiir, an ethnic Dinka. Kiir removed Machar from power and sacked his entire cabinet, an unpopular move which left the country in disarray. The power struggle between the president and his deputy escalated into fighting among government troops and several rebel factions. Violence then spread across South Sudan killing thousands and uprooting over 2.1 million people from their homes.³⁸ The brutal civil war has exposed the South Sudanese, an already impoverished population, to some of the worse living conditions on earth.

Ethnic Tensions

South Sudan is one of the most ethnically diverse places on earth. For many decades, deeply rooted ethnic tensions have been characterized through physical violence. There was hope that with the split of South Sudan from Sudan, tranquility would result. Unfortunately, the civil war shows that this is not the case. The ongoing conflict today, is fueled by ethnically and politically motivated clashes that have been unresolved by South Sudan's independence. In some places around the country, government soldiers go door to door killing those who do not speak Dinka.



"Salva Kiir and Riek Machar: South Sudan's Shaky Peace." *Al Jazeera English*, 9 July 2016.

³⁷ "South Sudan Country Profile." *BBC News*. BBC, 08 June 2017. Web. 09 July 2017.

³⁸ "South Sudan Country Profile." *BBC News*. BBC, 08 June 2017. Web. 09 July 2017.

The power struggle between President Kiir and newly reinstated Vice President Machar has an underlying ethnic clash. The return of Machar to his position as Vice President has provided some hope that ethnic tensions have been resolved. Together, Kiir and Machar will oversee TGoNU, in which they both had a role in appointing. In a recent interview, the two leaders addressed each other as "brothers," however, time will tell if they are able to set aside their built-up bitterness.³⁹

Refugees

Many South Sudanese chose to flee the country as refugees – their hopes for a national identity ripped away from them just a few short years after gaining independence from Sudan. Approximately 2.1 million people have been displaced within South Sudan while many people have also fled to neighboring countries since the violence erupted in 2013.⁴⁰ Six out of ten refugees from South Sudan are children.⁴¹

Following independence in 2011, the South Sudanese looked forward to a bright future – a future in which they finally could reside in a nation where they felt they belonged. The civil war has crushed that dream.⁴²

Most displaced peoples have left their livelihood and loved ones behind in order to escape the conflict. Leaving South Sudan is not easy, though. One overloaded boat of refugees capsized while other groups of displaced people have been attacked and looted.⁴³ Most refugees live outside formal refugee camps in small villages. Due to the spread of violence, the

³⁹ Jok, Jok Madut. "South Sudan's Transitional Government of National Unity: A Solution to the Country's Instability or Mere Elite Pact of Self-Preservation?" *Weekly Review* (2016): n. pag. Web.

⁴⁰ "Displacement in South Sudan: Beyond the Crisis in Juba." *Refugees International*. N.p., 13 Sept. 2016. Web. 09 July 2017.

⁴¹ Copywriter, Filed By: Kelly Montgomery Fundraising. "Quick Facts: What You Need to Know about the South Sudan Crisis." *Mercy Corps*. N.p., 23 Feb. 2017. Web. 12 July 2017.

⁴² Copywriter, Filed By: Kelly Montgomery Fundraising. "Quick Facts: What You Need to Know about the South Sudan Crisis." *Mercy Corps*. N.p., 23 Feb. 2017. Web. 12 July 2017.

⁴³ "South Sudan Fast Facts." *CNN*. Cable News Network, 13 June 2017. Web. 09 July 2017.

displaced peoples have often been forced to move multiple times.⁴⁴ Without a home or a sense of national identity, the displaced people of South Sudan face an uncertain future.

Humanitarian Crisis

Over the course of violence, a humanitarian crisis has unfolded. Citizens have experienced several clashes across the young country, the military is split and there are reports of mass killings.⁴⁵ Most people do not know a life without war. For the past 4 decades, Sudanese and South Sudanese have lived in a state of constant tension. The country is full of guns, ethnic tensions run high, and fighting has failed to cease. Eighty-nine children were abducted from a South Sudanese school and the African Union reported forced cannibalism, gang rape and burning as some of the atrocities occurring in South Sudan.⁴⁶

There is dire need for humanitarian assistance in this ongoing crisis. Approximately 47% of the South Sudanese population has access to safe drinking water and only 40% of the country's nutritional needs are being met.⁴⁷ In response, the UN Security Council authorized troops to protect civilians, yet their forces have struggled to reach the vast majority of citizens. Many countries around the world have sent aid to South Sudan, however, relief packages are often blocked by the government, or misallocated.⁴⁸

The violence and constant tension in South Sudan has left little time for the government on international organizations to provide for civilians. In reality, the majority of South Sudanese deaths during the past two years

of war have been the result of starvation or disease rather than direct physical violence.⁴⁹ In working to resolve the conflict, it is of the utmost importance that the new ministers of the TGoNU also take time to set policies that will provide food security, sanitation, proper healthcare and modern infrastructure to their people.

Establishment of TGoNU

After more than two years of violence and tension, four factions came together to form a transitional government to promote peace and stability in South Sudan. While an internationally mediated peace agreement to end the devastating civil war was signed months earlier (in August 2015), it took until April for the power sharing deal outlined in the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (ARCISS) to be implemented. Each rival party nominated officials to be appointed to ministerial positions within the new TGoNU. The new cabinet splits power between President Kiir and First Deputy, Machar which could present a point of confrontation in the months that follow.⁵⁰

Sudanese have experienced some of the worst humanitarian crises in the world and have been witness to extreme devastation. The Transitional Government of National Unity has a responsibility to the South Sudanese to establish nationhood and prosperity.

Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan

The Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (ARCISS) was signed by the four heads of the main South Sudanese political parties in August of 2015 in Ethiopia. This process was overseen by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), composed of eight Eastern African countries which are closely tied in trade. The Agreement established the TGoNU and laid out the entire executive structure and balance of power of this new government for South Sudan. Under the agreement, TGoNU's role is to

⁴⁴ Copywriter, Filed By: Kelly Montgomery Fundraising. "Quick Facts: What You Need to Know about the South Sudan Crisis." *Mercy Corps*. N.p., 23 Feb. 2017. Web. 12 July 2017.

⁴⁵ Gladstone, Rick. "South Sudan Leader Appears to Take Major Step to End Conflict." *The New York Times*. The New York Times, 11 Feb. 2016. Web. 12 July 2017.

⁴⁶ "South Sudan Fast Facts." *CNN*. Cable News Network, 13 June 2017. Web. 09 July 2017.

⁴⁷ "Displacement in South Sudan: Beyond the Crisis in Juba." *Refugees International*. N.p., 13 Sept. 2016. Web. 09 July 2017.

⁴⁸ "South Sudan: What Is the Fighting About?" *BBC News*. BBC, 10 May 2014. Web. 09 July 2017.

⁴⁹ "Displacement in South Sudan: Beyond the Crisis in Juba." *Refugees International*. N.p., 13 Sept. 2016. Web. 09 July 2017.

⁵⁰ "South Sudan Forms Transitional Government of National Unity." *Sudan Tribune* [Juba] 19 Apr. 2016: n. pag. Print.

“Implement [ARCISS] and restore peace, security and stability in the country.”⁵¹ In addition to establishing TGoNU, ARCISS mandates a cease-fire, sets rules for the warring parties, and outlines the repatriation of Internally Displaced Persons (IPDs) to their homes.⁵²

Role and Structure of TGoNU

An internationally mediated truce in January 2014 failed to stop the violence. While the ARCISS accord is fragile and the success of the TGoNU is yet to be determined, the ministers of TGoNU have another chance to steer their country towards peace. The TGoNU is committed to “work in a fresh spirit of cooperation to advance the interests of the South Sudanese people, particularly their aspirations for justice, liberty, and prosperity.”⁵³ Each of the four factions that formed TGoNU have nominated ministers based on the power allocated through the ARCISS. The political parties represented are the SPLM-IG, the SPLM-IO, the Former Detainees (FDs), and the Other Political Parties (OPPs). While President Kiir’s party (SPLM-IG) has maintained the most power in the new cabinet, Machar has the support of the majority of opposition ministers in the cabinet and in the national parliament.⁵⁴

During this transitional period, the ministers of TGoNU are tasked with the initiation of a Constitution-Making process as

outlined in ARCISS and based upon the following principles:

1.1 Supremacy of the People of South Sudan;

1.2 Initiate a Federal and democratic system of government that reflects the character of South Sudan in its various institutions taken together, guarantees good governance, constitutionalism, rule of law, human rights, gender equity and affirmative action;

1.3 Guaranteeing peace and stability, national unity and territorial integrity of the Republic of South Sudan;

1.4 Promoting peoples’ participation in the governance of the country through democratic, free and fair Elections and the devolution of powers and resources to the states and counties;

1.5 Respecting ethnic and regional diversity and communal rights, including the right of communities to preserve their history, develop their language, promote their culture and expression of their identities;

1.6 Ensuring the provision of the basic needs of the people through the establishment of a framework for fair and equitable economic growth and access to national resources and services;

1.7 Promoting and facilitating regional and international cooperation with South Sudan;

1.8 Committing the people of South Sudan to peaceful resolution of national issues through dialogue, tolerance, accommodation and respect of others opinions.⁵⁵

The ministers of TGoNU must work quickly to address and draft policies for a diverse set of issues in South Sudan. It is crucial that the ministers set aside ethnic and political tensions in order to rid the young country of conflict. Not only are the citizens of South Sudan impatiently waiting for TGoNU to smooth over tensions, South Sudan has become an international focus. Much pressure will be on the ministers of the

⁵¹ 2.1.1: Intergovernmental Authority on Development, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. “Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan.” *Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan*, 2015.

⁵² 2.1.1: Intergovernmental Authority on Development, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. “Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan.” *Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan*, 2015.

⁵³ "Joint Communiqué by Transitional Government of National Unity of South Sudan and United Nations Security Council Members | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases." *United Nations*. United Nations, 4 Sept. 2016. Web. 12 July 2017.

⁵⁴ "South Sudan Forms Transitional Government of National Unity." *Sudan Tribune* [Juba] 19 Apr. 2016: n. pag. Print.

⁵⁵ Intergovernmental Authority on Development, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. “Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan, Chapter VI: Parameters for a Permanent Constitution.” *Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan*, 2015.

TGoNU to secure a tranquil future for young South Sudan.⁵⁶

Concluding Thoughts

Constant fighting in South Sudan must come to an end. As we begin our debate in the spring of 2016, the newly appointed ministers of TGoNU must collaborate to ensure that we can re-write a better future for South Sudan. In the youngest nation in the world, this new cabinet represents a fresh start for South Sudan. Most South Sudanese only know a life of war, it is time that this violence subsided.

In addition to addressing the ongoing violence in South Sudan, the country's infrastructure is in dire need of improvement, and there is a lack of humanitarian resources. This is the result of years of neglect by the Sudanese government, the obstruction of emergency assistance and major underfunding. One of the first tasks facing the newly appointed TGoNU will be to provide South Sudan with basic infrastructure and proper humanitarian support. TGoNU has emphasized that "the humanitarian and security needs of the people are paramount."⁵⁷ Following decades of war, the people of South Sudan deserve nationhood and stability.

Questions to Consider

- 1. Based on the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (ARCISS), what should a new constitution for South Sudan include?**
- 2. What is the role of each party within TGoNU and how will ministers ensure that previous tensions do not get in the way of important policy making?**
- 3. What must be done to ensure South Sudan does not plunge back into another civil war?**
- 4. Can South Sudan provide a national identity to its citizens? How?**
- 5. What policies should be put in place to create stability?**
- 6. How can South Sudan better deal with ethnic tensions?**
- 7. What emergency policies should be written to protect South Sudanese refugees?**
- 8. How can TGoNU ensure that humanitarian aid can reach those in need?**

⁵⁶ "South Sudan: What Is the Fighting About?" *BBC News*. BBC, 10 May 2014. Web. 09 July 2017.

⁵⁷ "Joint Communiqué by Transitional Government of National Unity of South Sudan and United Nations Security Council Members | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases." *United Nations*. United Nations, 4 Sept. 2016. Web. 12 July 2017.

Topic B: Economic Prosperity and the Future of Oil Production in South Sudan

South Sudanese Economy

When South Sudan split from Sudan 2011, it was viewed as the bread basket of the region. The southern-most states are lush, green and wealthy in oil.⁵⁸ Despite the economic promise of the region, South Sudan's economy remains largely underdeveloped and primarily based in subsistence agriculture. 85% of the working population engages in non-wage jobs. This low-productivity work – the majority of which is agricultural – only accounts for 15% of the country's GDP.⁵⁹

Continued civil conflict in South Sudan has had a significant impact on the economy. Over the past year (2015/16), GDP has contracted 6.3% due to decreased agricultural output and disruptions in oil production. Furthermore, the South Sudanese pound has depreciated immensely against the US dollar, fueling inflation.⁶⁰

The effects of economic downturn and inflation have been felt throughout the young country as the extreme poverty rate soars to over 65%. Food prices have risen sharply and many parts of the country have also experienced shortages.⁶¹

Infrastructure

Prior to gaining nationhood in 2011, the southern states of South Sudan were largely neglected by the Sudanese government. Today, underdevelopment and a lack of modern infrastructure in land-locked South Sudan remains a major stumbling block for the young country's economy and its peaceful future. The country has only about 200 kilometers of paved roads, electricity is produced primarily by diesel

generators, and proper sanitation is scarce. Currently, the country relies on many imports from neighboring countries in order to provide basic services to its people.

A 2009 national Baseline Household Survey demonstrates the human development challenges which South Sudan faces in the coming years. Of the people age 15 or older, only 27% are literate. Furthermore, the gender disparity in literacy is great, with literate men almost doubling the number of literate women. Due to neglect and constant conflict, the lack of education throughout South Sudan is widespread, yet little is being done.⁶²

In addition to being the newest country in the world, South Sudan is very young demographically. Two-thirds of the population is under the age of 30.⁶³ This young population has the chance to grow along with South Sudan in the years to come, hopefully creating a better future for the next generation. A good first step in the improvement of South Sudan is the modernization of infrastructure. It is of the utmost importance that the TGoNU is poised to draft policies that will provide updated infrastructure and basic human needs to the people of South Sudan in a timely manner.

Oil Production

In 2011, South Sudan inherited approximately 75% of Sudan's oil reserves.⁶⁴ In its first year as a new country, South Sudan produced nearly a half million barrels per day. The oil is exported through a pipeline to refineries and a port which remain in Sudan. Due to its reliance on Sudan for oil export, the recently split economies are expected to remain closely tied for many years to come.⁶⁵ As outlined in the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement, South Sudan was to receive 50% of Sudan's oil proceeds until they gained independence. Once independence came in 2011, however, South Sudan remained highly dependent on oil

⁵⁸ Peralta, Eyder. "Economic Collapse And Government Paranoia In South Sudan." *NPR*, NPR, 18 June 2017.

⁵⁹ "Overview." *The World Bank Working for a World Free of Poverty*.

⁶⁰ "Overview." *The World Bank Working for a World Free of Poverty*.

⁶¹ "Overview." *The World Bank Working for a World Free of Poverty*.

⁶² "Overview." *The World Bank Working for a World Free of Poverty*.

⁶³ "Overview." *The World Bank Working for a World Free of Poverty*.

⁶⁴ "South Sudan Country Profile." *BBC News*. BBC, 08 June 2017. Web. 09 July 2017.

⁶⁵ "The World Factbook: SOUTH SUDAN." *Central Intelligence Agency*, Central Intelligence Agency, 1 Aug. 2017.

revenues.⁶⁶ Today, South Sudan is the most oil-dependent nation in world. Oil production accounts for almost all exports for the country and approximately 60% of GDP.⁶⁷

Constant fighting and instability has dragged down the countries economy and caused oil to be a point of conflict. Last year, oil production was 40% lower than projected. Furthermore, the international decline in oil prices has led to large drops in oil revenues. Since the South Sudanese government derives more than 95% of its annual revenue from oil, the additional impact of declining oil prices has led to significant stress on the economy.⁶⁸

Heglig Crisis: Leading up to July 2011 independence for South Sudan, as agreed upon in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005, Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir publicly claimed the oil rich Abyei region for the North. Fighting over the disputed region of Abyei (the Heglig Crisis) exacerbated oil tensions between Kiir and al-Bashir.⁶⁹ Disagreement over transshipment fees and tensions in the Abyei region erupted at the beginning of 2012, prompting South Sudan to halt all oil production.⁷⁰ Since the country was highly dependent on the stream of revenues coming from oil, the government was forced to halve public spending once production was discontinued.⁷¹

Without oil revenues, the government cut spending and food shortages became a norm. Halted oil production began to affect international markets and led to uncertainty in the African economy.⁷²

Despite a non-aggression pact signed in February 2012, South Sudanese forces claimed

Heglig's oil fields a month later. To address the issue, al-Bashir and Kiir signed a deal to resolve the Heglig Crisis by establishing a 10-kilometer demilitarized zone and agreeing to resume oil exports.⁷³ Fifteen months later, oil production was resumed, not without significant strain on the South Sudanese economy and great losses to GDP.⁷⁴

The Future of Oil in South Sudan: Rather than providing wealth to South Sudan, oil has become a central element to the ongoing conflict. Oil fields have become battle grounds, the production of oil is used as the government's bargaining chip, and it is not clear if any of the oil revenues are reaching those who need it most.⁷⁵ While the government claims to be on track for full resumption of oil production and even increased output, it is unclear that oil revenues will help the situation in South Sudan. Many reports have revealed that oil revenues are being used up by the government to buy arms for the military while millions of people are left starving on the streets.⁷⁶

In order for South Sudan to establish peace and economic stability, it is necessary that the oil-dependent nation addresses the proper allocation of oil revenues and lays out policies to stabilize the production of oil within South Sudan. It is up to this body to determine the future of oil production and exportation in South Sudan. This will involve important discussions about oil revenues, government budget allocations, ties to Sudan, and further infrastructure development.

Government Debt

Due to disruption in oil production, increased military spending and revenue shortfalls, the South Sudanese government is burdened by considerable debt. Adding to the troubles is rampant inflation which has peaked at an annual rate of 390% leading the South

⁶⁶ "South Sudan Country Profile." *BBC News*. BBC, 08 June 2017. Web. 09 July 2017.

⁶⁷ "Overview." *The World Bank Working for a World Free of Poverty*.

⁶⁸ "South Sudan Economic Outlook." *African Development Bank*.

⁶⁹ "South Sudan Fast Facts." *CNN*. Cable News Network, 13 June 2017. Web. 09 July 2017.

⁷⁰ "The World Factbook: SOUTH SUDAN." *Central Intelligence Agency*, Central Intelligence Agency, 1 Aug. 2017.

⁷¹ "South Sudan Country Profile." *BBC News*. BBC, 08 June 2017. Web. 09 July 2017.

⁷² "South Sudan: What Is the Fighting About?" *BBC News*. BBC, 10 May 2014. Web. 09 July 2017.

⁷³ "South Sudan Fast Facts." *CNN*. Cable News Network, 13 June 2017. Web. 09 July 2017

⁷⁴ "The World Factbook: SOUTH SUDAN." *Central Intelligence Agency*, Central Intelligence Agency, 1 Aug. 2017.

⁷⁵ "Oil & Gas Corruption in South Sudan | Global Witness." *Global Witness*.

⁷⁶ "South Sudan Buying Arms with Oil Money While Millions Face Starvation: Confidential UN Report."

Sudanese Pound towards collapse.⁷⁷ Since 2005 when the Comprehensive Peace Agreement was signed, South Sudan has received financial assistance from the international community. Major countries that have sent support to South Sudan include the United Kingdom, the United States, Norway, and the Netherlands.⁷⁸

In 2015, South Sudan attempted to improve the economy by floating the South Sudanese Pound. To float their currency, the Central Bank removed the fixed exchange rate between the new South Sudanese pound and the US dollar. Rather than helping establish economic stability in South Sudan, this move led the South Sudanese Pound into a death spiral and failed to reduce inflation.⁷⁹

The economy needs something new—it is time for the ministers of TGoNU to come together to lay out fiscal policy in order to establish economic security throughout South Sudan.

Establishing an Economic Future for South Sudan

Economic diversification is necessary in South Sudan. In the current state of the economy, many businesses are struggling to stay afloat amid soaring prices, constant conflict, and imports. Looking forward, South Sudan must diversify its economy and sort out its place in the oil market in order to avoid further contraction. The young country is rich in natural resources including oil, although many resources are left untapped. In the years to come, the South Sudanese must be educated and trained to tap into their diverse resources and provide a livelihood for their country.

Concluding Thoughts

The conflict in South Sudan is deeply woven within the tangles of oil production, economic desperation, and underdevelopment. As the ministers of TGoNU step into their first days in office, their actions will have real effects

on the lives of the entire population. In attempting to establish unity and peace throughout the country, TGoNU will find that economic stability and basic human needs must be addressed.

Since the TGoNU was placed in office in 2016, South Sudan has experienced some of the worst living conditions. This year, famine was declared in parts of the country and millions are considered by the UN to be on the brink of starvation. This committee offers delegates a chance to examine what went wrong in South Sudan over the couple years, take a step back, and attempt to rewrite the recent history of one of the world's worst humanitarian disasters.

Questions to Consider

- 1. How can the TGoNU establish economic prosperity in South Sudan?**
- 2. To what extent should the government's revenues come from oil production?**
- 3. What is the future of economic ties between South Sudan and Sudan?**
- 4. How can South Sudan diversify its economy?**
- 5. How can South Sudan become less dependent on oil?**
- 6. What plans can TGoNU put in place to improve infrastructure throughout South Sudan?**
- 7. How can South Sudan rewrite history to avoid famine?**
- 8. Amidst ethnic tensions and conflict, is it possible for the South Sudanese economy to prosper?**

⁷⁷ Hanke, Steve H. "Is South Sudan Hyperinflating?" *CATO Institute*, Feb. 2017

⁷⁸ "Overview." *The World Bank Working for a World Free of Poverty*.

⁷⁹ "The World Factbook: SOUTH SUDAN." *Central Intelligence Agency*, Central Intelligence Agency.

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https://unmiss.unmissions.org/sites/default/files/final_proposed_compromise_agreement_for_south_sudan_conflict.pdf

BBC South Sudan Country Profile
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-14069082>

NYT: War Consumes South Sudan, a Young Nation Cracking Apart
https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/04/world/africa/war-south-sudan.html?_r=0

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