



SOUTH SUDAN

Restoring Unity & Dignity of the People

National Salvation Front/ Army

OFFICE OF THE SPOKESPERSON

General Headquarters

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8th August 2022.

STATEMENT ON THE EXTENSION OF THE INTERIM PERIOD

On 4th August 2022, the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (R-TGoNU) under President Salva Kiir and First Vice President Dr. Riek Machar illegally extended the interim period giving themselves another twenty-four (24) months in power after February 2023. This illegal decision of the SPLM political elites in Juba has not come as a surprise to the National Salvation Front (NAS) as NAS has been monitoring and alerted the public of the secret political and diplomatic machinations that culminated into this decision.

NAS from the onset of the conception of the Revitalized Agreement on Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS) and its subsequent signing, rejected this agreement because it does not address the root causes of the conflict in the country. The extension of the life-span of R-ARCSS until 2025 means renewing the same futile agreement that has prolonged the suffering of the people of South Sudan and now taking the country to total collapse and disintegration.

The Leadership of NAS would like to state the following to the people of South Sudan and the International Community:

1. NAS Condemns in the strongest possible terms the illegal action of President Kiir and his peace partner the First Vice President Dr. Riek Macher on extending their period in office under the pretext of implementing the flawed R-ARCSS. Their sole aim is being in power and maintaining the status-quo.
2. NAS maintains its position that R-ARCSS is a flawed agreement and will not bring about sustainable peace and transformation in the country. The R-ARCSS has never addressed the root causes of the conflict in the country; hence, the extension of the interim period for another 24 months is prolonging the suffering of the people of South Sudan and thwarting sustainable peace.

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3. The extension of the life-span of the R-TGoNU until 2025 means the extension of impunity, corruption, insecurity, inter-ethnic and intra-ethnic violence, obstruction of civil space and stifling of freedom of expression.
4. President Salva Kiir is on record on several occasions complaining that the R-ARCSS is designed not to be implemented because it is non-implementable. There is therefore no logic in the extension of something that is unimplementable.
5. NAS reiterates its strong conviction and commitment that durable peace can prevail in South Sudan only if the root causes of the conflict in South Sudan are addressed through all-inclusive and credible political process.
6. The call of President Salva Kiir on NAS Chairman and Commander-in-Chief, Gen. Thomas Cirillo Sawka to go to Juba to participate in peace building is futile attempt by President Kiir to distract the people of South Sudan from holding him to account for illegally clinging on to power and avoiding the root causes of the conflict that must be addressed to bring about sustainable peace. NAS calls on President Kiir to make a patriotic gesture to immediately step down and allow the people of South Sudan to chart their destiny towards sustainable peace and prosperity.
7. NAS urges IGAD, AU, TROIKA and the International Community to stand with the people of South Sudan in the rejection of the extension of the interim period of the R-ARCSS and support the people of South Sudan to chart a new way forward to end the war and achieve sustainable peace.
8. NAS calls on the people of South Sudan, political parties, civil society groups, faith-based groups, professionals, Women and Youth to reject and resist this illegal decision by Salva Kiir and Riek Machar and chart a way forward for the country.

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