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THE JEBEL BOMA DECLARATION

March, 28 to April, 2nd, 2013  
Jebel Boma, Jonglei State  
Republic of South Sudan, SSN;

Preamble

Guided by the democratic quest of the people of South Sudan and their desire to live in freedom;

Convinced that the people of South Sudan must be set free from oppression, persecution and hatred;

Affirming our deep belief that the South Sudan needs to have a true identity that reflects all the components of the its population;

Living up to the values of freedom, justice, democracy and peace;

Resolved to build a decentralized, federal, liberal and democratic nation;

Mindful of the failures of the SPLM regime that have ruled South Sudan since the conclusion of the CPA in January, 2005;

Determined to preserve the dignity of South Sudanese citizens and to fight corruption;

Aiming to lay fair criteria for the sharing of resources and power;

Endeavoring to put an end to human rights violations such as genocides, ethnic cleansing and other similar atrocities;

Seeking to arrest perpetrators of human rights abuses and bring them to justice before national judicial institutions;

Striving towards equal citizenship for all the segments of the South Sudan population, as the only criteria for the enjoyment of rights and the fulfillment of duties;  
Urging the South Sudanese people to embark rapidly on joining the South Sudan Democratic Movement/Army and mobilize the masses in rural and urban areas as well as abroad;

We, the undersigned members of the leadership council of SSDM/A, announce to the world the reasons we took up arms to liberate our country from the ruling clique of the SPLM Party.

I. Reasons for taking up arms

1- The signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in 2005 marked a turning point in the history of South Sudan as it promised the South Sudanese people sustainable peace and democratic transformation.  
2- The IGAD countries, the friendly countries and international community and international institutions, particularly the United Nations, accepted the contents and output of the Naivasha Peace Agreement and became its sponsors.  
3- On the basis of this agreement, a referendum on the self-Determination of Southern Sudan was conducted in January 2011 and the result was declared in February 2011, with the people of southern Sudan voting by an overwhelming majority in favor of session. The result of the referendum was recognized by all those involved in achieving the peace agreement such was the birth of the state of South Sudan under leadership of SPLM.  
4. In spite of this local, regional and global support, the SPLM’s regime in South Sudan, after the conclusion of the CPA, established a political system based on tribal domination, corruption, dictatorship and one party system.  
5. These practices have led to overall instability and destabilized security in all aspects of life in South Sudan.  
6. The confidence and positive support that was earned by South Sudan state from the international community got eroded.  
7. The international community lost confidence in the government of South Sudan and the SPLM leadership, despite some support they still enjoy from certain countries in America and Europe.  
8. The South Sudan citizens lost confidence in their state and the SPLM has been leading them to self isolation in anger and despair with disastrous results in the growth of the feeling that there can never be security except through defending themselves by themselves.  
9. This feeling was manifested in bursts of rebellion, and resorting to recriminations among tribal groups in South Sudan. These manifestations were seized by the SPLM and used them to consolidate its authority through the divide and rule policy.  
10. The SPLM employed the energies, resources and blood of the citizens of the nascent state in seeking to realize a corrupt and undemocratic system in the country.  
11. The SPLM devoted its time to corruption and the accounts of its leaders fattened in few years from zero to millions of dollars in personal accounts in foreign countries.  
12. More than 20 billion US dollars, which formed the share of South Sudan in oil revenues during the interim period, were pocked by SPLM leaders and its corrupt supporters rather than being used to provide basic services to the citizens.  
13. Absence of rendering basic services to the citizens, such as health and education, while the SPLM leaders enjoy good education and excellent medical facilities for their families and their children in foreign countries in convertible currencies. And if any one of them falls ill, he/she gets evacuated by air to specialized hospitals abroad. Electricity is available only in the form of exorbitant cost and high consumption electric generators that light up the houses and weekend camps of the SPLM leaders, whereas all the capitals of the states of South Sudan live in darkness.  
14. The Auditor General reports for 2005 and 2006 have exposed horrendous embezzlement of public funds. MPs and citizens wept in disbelief, but they could say and do nothing as there is no accountability under the rule of the SPLM.  
15. The officers, NCOs and men of the SPLA are allocated more than 40 percent of the budget of the government of South Sudan for their pay and training. Yet they are underpaid and often do not receive salaries. Some had not received their salaries for years causing them to abandon work. All of these happened because the SPLA commanders eat up these huge sums of money.  
16. The SPLA has lost discipline. The promotion and training systems are discriminatory. Many officers are still holding the same rank for more than 10 years. The families of the martyrs and the wounded heroes are forgotten and there are no regulations to take care of their welfare.  
17. The judicial system is compromised and politicized. Hence, the judiciary lost its prestige and the citizens lost their rights in equal and impartial adjudication.  
18. The economy collapsed, unemployment is on the increase and there is no vision for employing graduates and qualified persons. Agriculture came to a standstill due to the policies of the SPLM. Renk is no longer cultivating, rice growing in Aweil came to a halt and there are no rehabilitation programs for fruits and vegetable canning factories, textile, tea, etc.  
19. The SPLM reneged on the resolutions of the South Sudan dialogue in the October 2010, turned its back on the political parties in South Sudan and prevented them from political activity as registered parties.  
20. The security system which was to protect the citizens has collapsed, and some unconstitutional organs such as the special Branch appeared on the scene and others nobody knows from whom do not they receive orders nor as to why they arrest and terrorize the citizens.  
21. The rate of imported crimes has increased because of the breakdown of laws and order due to the poor training and low qualification of police forces and usurpation of its powers as the competence of the police is now exercised by private armies.  
22. The SPLM stripped the traditional leaders of their authority leading to widespread conflict and tribal feuds which are fanned by the SPLM leaders in Juba.  
23. The central Government under the leadership of the SPLM has encroached on the powers of states. For example, 90 percent of the budget of South Sudan is spent in Juba, leaving the 10 states with only 10 percent to run their affairs, develop agriculture and livestock and render services to the people. This state of affairs brought down the state of South Sudan with fertile agricultural land to import food from neighboring countries.  
24. The state building elements of justice and equality in rights and duties have collapsed and the criteria for participation in the government of South Sudan, state government or any constitutional institution are nepotism, cronyism and tribalism.

II. VISION  
In order to bring to an end to the suffering of our people, arrest the collapse of our nascent nation, and to rid it of the dictatorship gripping it now, a popular revolution must take place so as to achieve the following:  
1. The dissolution of the current Government of South Sudan to be replaced by Transitional Revolutionary Government.  
2. The Transitional Revolutionary Government shall, within two years, hold general elections for the election of a constituent Assembly whose main function is to enact the permanent constitution of Republic of South Sudan.  
3. The army of South Sudan shall be taken care of and transformation into a truly professional national army that includes within its ranks all qualified citizens regardless of tribe, region or religion.  
4. Give special priority to the delivery of services to our people, including the provision of infrastructure.  
5. Restructuring the civil service so that it is based only on qualification and experience.  
6- Radical economic reform in policies and institutions and paying special attention to agriculture in order to provide food security and to serve as the launching pad to industrialization.  
7- Make rapid legal and security reform to ensure good governance in the country.  
8- The new government shall take swift action to resolve the tribal disputes by peaceful means.  
9- Take legal means to prosecute all those involved in corruption and request the repatriation of the money embezzled from the countries where the accounts are kept.  
10- Establish good relations with all the countries neighboring South Sudan for the interest of our people.  
11- Establish good relations with countries of the world for mutual benefit and to maintain global peace and security.  
12. Negotiate in good faith with the Government of Sudan on the outstanding issues between the two countries in the context of the sovereignty over its territories.

III. POLITICAL PROGRAM  
In our struggle to foster a strong and vibrant multiparty democracy and national development in South Sudan, the undersigned leadership council hereby agreed to uphold the following key principles and values:

1. To pursue and promote the fundamental principles of democracy, good governance and non-discrimination on the grounds of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, language, region or political affiliation;

2. To foster confidence, trust and have initiatives as a means of enhancing co operation and harmony among South Sudan political parties;

3. To promote and establish national reconciliation, consensus and build national unity;

4. To promote and uphold the tolerance of different political views and values;

5. To manage and mitigate political differences through constructive dialogue without resorting to undemocratic and unconstitutional means;

6. To undertake to promote and protect the observance of fundamental human rights;

7. To promote and strengthen political parties as the building blocks of democracy;

8. To promote and uphold the rule of law and constitutionalism;

9. To promote the strengthening of state institutions in order to enhance good governance;

10. To promote and uphold the establishment of fair electoral laws, effective and independent autonomy electoral management bodies and a level playing field in elections;

11. To ensure free competition among political parties and the participation in free, fair and periodical elections by all the registered political parties as the legitimate way of gaining and ceding political power;

12. To promote and uphold a strong independent parliament with effective oversight over the Executive with the power to set its own legislative agenda;

13. To foster and uphold an environment of democratic control, accountability and transparency.

IV. Economic and social policy

1. The SPLM regime’s economic and social policies leave much to be desired. Its economic policies have exacerbated inequality, eviction from ancestral lands of indigenous populations, and environmental degradation. Its social policies have created deterioration in educational standards, health disparities and massive youth unemployment. In addition, its interference in the exercise of political freedom has created unwarranted social tension;

2. The SPLM elite that have dominated South Sudan to date have fused public and private institutions in order to advance and serve their partisan and sectarian interests. This shall come to an end by turning all state institutions into the common servants of all regardless of their political allegiance and national identity:

3. The civil service shall be overhauled in order to end its subordination to the ruling party;

4. The military shall be transformed into a neutral defender of all by enacting a concordance model of civil-military relations;

5. The intelligence services shall not be used for monitoring the political and private activities of citizens;

6. Public media shall come under the supervision of a neutral public authority that oversees their work of providing education, entertainment, and information;

7. The SSDM/A stands to correct these lopsided policies and upholds inclusive, balanced and sustainable development aimed at curbing growing inequality, protecting the environment, and advancing the rights of indigenous peoples, and promoting employment. It would promote a mass education policy coupled with the development of technical knowhow and scientific progress;

8. The SSDM/A would also promote a health policy integrating health education, prevention, cure and care measures. Furthermore, it respects and upholds religious freedoms and equality.  
V. NAME OF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENT

As it was founded by the martyr, Lt. Gen. George Athor Deng, the name of the Movement shall be South Sudan Democratic Movement/Army (SSDM/A).

VI. Strategies for achieving the Vision  
1. We believe that a country-wide movement sharing the preceding vision, principles and policies is indispensable for propelling South Sudan forward and ending the current political paralysis. To this effect, we will exert all efforts in order to pull together as many advocates and promoters of the interests of diverse social sectors as possible in order to popularize and refine the principles and processes that would transform South Sudan into a genuinely democratic multinational federation.  
vii. Structuring South Sudan as a Federation

1. We start from the simple premise that the SSDM/A policy of structuring South Sudan as a federation of its diverse nations is a move in the right direction. The adoption of this policy is attributable neither to the ill-intensions nor generosity of the SSDM/A, but became mandatory as a response to the mounting pressures of the struggle for decentralization by the people of South Sudan.  
2. The South Sudan political parties played an active role in proposing the restructuring of South Sudan into a multinational federation as a means to end the injustices stemming from the tribal character of the SPLM state. Unfortunately, implementing a genuine federal order completely contradicted the present ruling elite’s aspiration of emerging and permanently remaining as a new dominant group by simply stepping into the shoes of the Arabs that it replaced. We now stand for correcting the aberrations resulting from the abuse of the decentralization as a policy of domination by the present ruling elite.  
3. Federations serve the purpose of facilitating the simultaneous exercise of self-rule and shared-rule and become necessary in order to reconcile unity in diversity. In the present political dispensation, however, communities exercise neither self-rule nor shared-rule but have been enduring the SPLM’s tyrannical rule for eight years. The SPLM directly and centrally micro-manages all communities by pre-selecting its surrogates that the people are then coerced to “elect” at elections that are neither free nor fair. Ending this charade by enabling all communities to elect their representatives in fair and free elections is the only way of finally putting South Sudan on a path to democracy, stability, peace, justice, and sustainable development.  
VIIi. Conclusion  
After the proud people of South Sudan have got a free state of their own to crown its long struggle, it deserves now to enjoy the fruits of its efforts and sacrifices in good governance, a peaceful and secure environment and prosperity that does not encroach on others rights. Having expounded its vision and exposed the failure and corruption of the SPLM, SSDM/A appeals to:  
1. The officers, NCOs and men of the SPLA to join the revolution of South Sudan in order to correct the path.  
2. The citizens of South Sudan to abandon SPLM’s corrupt government and join the revolution for a bright future for our nation and our children so as to rest from the difficulties of the long march.  
3. All the peace loving countries that uphold human values must support and work with the South Sudan Revolution to transform South Sudan into a country which respects human values such as democracy, equality, justice and peace.  
Signed by,  
1. Maj. Gen. David Yau Yau  
Chairman and C-in-C of SSDM/A  
2. Maj. Gen. John Wiyual Chuol Tang (aka John Juba)  
Chief-of -Staff of SSDA

3. Dr. Samuel Jada Peter  
The secretary of organizations and political affairs

4. Mr. Galero Modi  
The secretary of foreign affairs

5. Mary James Garang  
The secretary of women and child welfare

6. Maj. Gen. Gatluak Kiir  
The secretary of security and intelligent

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