Committee: Triumvirate
Country: South Sudan
School Name: Cheshire Academy
Delegate Name: Nianci Li

MITMUNC 2012 Position Paper

As the youngest country in the world, the Republic of South Sudan achieved its sovereignty and autonomy on July 9, 2011 after several decades of Sudanese Civil Wars, becoming independent from North Sudan with the support from over 98% of the citizens in a week-long referendum. Although it has extremely poor infrastructure, with only 60km of paved roads and an increasing tension with North Sudan, South Sudan has very favorable climate, vast undeveloped land and water and rich oil fields providing nearly three-fourths of the former Sudan's total oil output of 500,000 barrels per day. Thus, this agro-based nascent country has a huge potential to become a thriving country and also has an abundance of natural resources, such as hydropower, limestone, iron ore, diamonds, as well as investment opportunities that can greatly help in rebuilding the country and alleviating the conflict that remains.

The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment of South Sudan has been working hard to fulfill its vision and goal of pursuing a fair internal and external trade and industrial development. The Investment Promotion Act of 2009 guarantees the rights of the investors under a legal and institutional framework, the establishment of the South Sudan Investment Authority grants the benefits and incentives for investment in strategic or transformational prior sectors, and the set of One-Stop Shop offers a streamlined procedure to ensure investors a sound, effective and prompt investment environment. All of these unremitting efforts clearly demonstrate our commitment to develop and construct South Sudan into a country with a competitive, vibrant and fair market and economy, thus affirming our freedom, peace, and national dignity.

As a leader of a new-born country with 27% literacy, the world's sixth highest infant mortality rate, and 22% urban population, the government of South Sudan is aware of the key roles that infrastructure development and economic prosperity play, and will most definitely prioritize these goals. Furthermore, our stance is clear and nonnegotiable on the two major crises, which are border issues and oil disputes, and South Sudan will support policies that best preserve its peace and pride, and protect its best interests without fueling the situation and infringing the interests of North Sudan. We insist on holding the referendum of the Abyei territory, with the provision of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) signed at the end of the second civil war in 2005. The ministry will accelerate the increase in private and public industries, and economic and technological investment, and provide as much free space as possible for trade expansion and export promotion, therefore reducing borders tension and preventing chaos that remains within border areas. With regards to the oil conflict, South Sudan exports its oil through two pipelines through North Sudan that run to refineries on the Red Sea, and according to CPA Khartoum asked a 50-50 sharing agreement of oil revenues between the two entities. However, the government of South Sudan firmly believes that only by constructing our own pipelines and refineries can we maximize and allow oil export to its vast international market without any restriction from North Sudan. Since the ministry will continue to meet the critical obligations for national independence and development, South Sudan refuses to compromise by paying relentless taxes on imposed oil transportation, and by sharing a half of the oil revenue. Despite reducing three quarters of oil fields and a huge amount of resources from the North due to secession, South Sudan has a legitimate and acknowledged autonomy, and thus does not have a long-term financial obligation to the North and it and we have the right to expand our infrastructure to restore the flow of crude oil. In addition, the government of South Sudan expects a 7.2% economy growth in 2012, and looks forward to easing border tension by giving non-oil revenue in exchange, for efficient control and regulation of our own oil industry.