



PRESS RELEASE: Status of the Tumaini Initiative

The High-Level Mediation for South Sudan (Tumaini Initiative), facilitated by the Government of the Republic of Kenya at the request of His Excellency President Salva Kiir of South Sudan, has been ongoing in Nairobi for the past seven months. These talks are an important step toward building inclusive and sustainable peace and laying a strong foundation for development in South Sudan.

The negotiations, involving the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGONU) and South Sudanese Non-Signatory / Opposition groups, have made notable progress thus far. The Parties submitted their positions at the beginning of the negotiations seven months ago, from which the eight protocols were jointly developed.

The current Government position during this phase of the negotiations, which was submitted to the Mediation with detailed presentation, arises in response to the eight protocols. The Mediation reviewed the Government position paper, identified the issues they raised, consulted the Opposition and Stakeholders, and incorporated their position into four agenda items, out of which a bridging proposal was developed.

The Parties and Stakeholders have thus agreed on the key agenda items required to reinvigorate the mediation process:

1. Relationship between the Tumaini Initiative and the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS)
2. Repetition, mechanisms/structures, and contradictions between the Tumaini Initiative Protocols and R-ARCSS
3. Responsibility Sharing
4. Concluding the Tumaini Initiative

Based on these agenda items and the input of all Parties and Stakeholders, the Mediation has prepared a single negotiating text, called the “Draft Framework for the Tumaini Complement to R-ARCSS”. It urges all parties to approach the talks with openness, political goodwill, and a shared commitment to peace for the wellbeing of the people of South Sudan.

While significant progress has been made, the RTGONU delegation has requested a temporary adjournment to return to Juba for further consultations.

The mediation will resume in mid-January 2025, in Nairobi.

The Tumaini Initiative remains committed to fostering an inclusive and lasting peace for the people of South Sudan. We urge all stakeholders to maintain momentum and prioritize the aspirations of South Sudanese citizens for unity, stability, and development.

Issued by:

The Tumaini Initiative Mediation
14 December 2024