

**Framework Agreement
between
Government of Sudan
and
Sudan People's Liberation Movement (North)
on
Political Partnership between NCP and SPLMN,
and Political and Security Arrangements in
Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan States**

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

28 June 2011

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The Government of Sudan (GoS) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (North) (SPLMN), hereinafter "the Parties",

consequent on the High-Level Meetings between by Dr. Nafie Ali Nafie (GoS), Assistant to the President, GoS, and Deputy Chairman, National Congress Party and Governor Malik Agar Eyre, Governor, Blue Nile State and Chairperson, SPLMN, facilitated by the African Union High Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) in June 2011,

have reached the following Framework Agreement, hereinafter "the Agreement", which shall complement their Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities in Southern Kordofan, and which will guide the Parties in their future negotiations and will pave the way for comprehensive security arrangements in the Two Areas, and for political arrangements in the Two Areas and at the national level.

Part I: Political Partnership between NCP and SPLMN and Political Arrangements in Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan

1. The Parties shall form a Joint Political Committee, which shall be facilitated by the AUHIP, to address all relevant issues related to Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile including those requiring attention to national constitutional questions.
2. The Parties affirm the right of the SPLMN to continue as a legal political party in Sudan.
3. The following principles shall guide the work of the Joint Political Committee:

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- a. A vision inspired and informed by a shared belief in a peaceful and prosperous future for all Sudanese people.
- b. A commitment to democratic governance based on accountability, equality, respect, rule of law and justice for all citizens of Sudan.
- c. Peaceful settlement of disputes through negotiation including direct negotiation.
- d. A commitment to balanced development in all parts of Sudan with special attention to Blue Nile, Southern Kordofan and other less developed areas.
- e. Governance shall be on the basis of inclusivity, partnership and accommodation of the political interests and perspectives of all Sudanese, recognizing their diversity and political, social and cultural rights of the communities.
- f. Negotiations shall be undertaken in the context of broader dialogue and political processes at the national level, recognizing the importance of cooperation between the Parties for stability, development, democracy and constitutional reform in Sudan.
- g. In pursuit of the above, the Parties shall work together towards an inclusive national process in the Republic of Sudan, aimed at constitutional reform.
- h. Acknowledging the contribution of the Machakos Protocol and the CPA to the realization of democratic principles, rule of law, and respect for diversity and human rights in Sudan, the Parties remain guided by these principles, enshrined in Chapter II of the CPA (Power Sharing, including inter alia article 1.6 regarding human rights and fundamental freedoms, article 1.7 on national reconciliation, and article 2.8 on languages), and Chapter III (Wealth Sharing) as well as Chapter V (Resolution of the Conflict in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile States). The Parties shall seek to build upon these principles, which are enshrined in the Interim National Constitution.
- i. The Popular Consultations Process is a democratic right and mechanism to ascertain the views of the people of Southern

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Kordofan and Blue Nile and shall be completed and its outcomes fully implemented and fed into the constitutional reform.

4. The Parties shall convene the Joint Political Committee immediately. The issues of governance in Southern Kordofan shall be discussed and resolved amicably by the Joint Political Committee within thirty days.
5. The Parties commit to the following agenda and programme of work in the Joint Political Committee:
 - a. Implementation of the relevant/remaining provisions of the CPA Protocol for the Resolution of the Conflict in the Two States of Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan.
 - b. Establishment of political partnership and governance arrangements for Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan.
 - c. Without prejudice to the bilateral discussion between the two Parties on issues to be addressed through the process of popular consultation, the Popular Consultation process shall be extended beyond 9 July 2011 through an agreed amendment by the National Assembly.
 - d. Development of appropriate arrangements or mechanisms to ensure that the goals of the Popular Consultation process as per the CPA are achieved.
 - e. Development of mechanisms to ensure that those matters addressed in the political processes referred to above, that are of both national/constitutional concern and of special concern to Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan, are implemented expeditiously and effectively at the national level.
 - f. Political partnership for an inclusive national political process in the Republic of Sudan.
 - g. Development of a matrix and modalities for implementation of the agreed items.

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6. The Parties agree to form a joint committee to discuss issues of national concern. This committee shall include the following in its agenda:
 - a. An inclusive constitutional review process, including mechanism, timeframe, and guiding principles based on citizenship, democracy, and recognition of the diversity of Sudan.
 - b. The relationship between the centre and the states.
 - c. Preservation of relevant articles in CPA Chapter II and Interim National Constitution as the foundation of a new constitution.
 - d. Working to establish good relations with the neighbours and the international community, with a special emphasis on South Sudan.
7. The outcome of this discussion shall form the joint position of the NCP and SPLMN within a broader inclusive national political dialogue, to which all other political parties are invited.

Part II: Security Arrangements in Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan

8. The Parties shall immediately form a Joint Security Committee, facilitated by the AUHIP, to address all relevant security issues related to Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan. The Joint Security Committee shall meet immediately to agree an agenda and programme of work.
9. The Parties agree on the following principles, which shall be the basis for the work of the Joint Security Committee:
 - a. Respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of the Sudan and the inviolability of its national borders.
 - b. Securing sustainable peace and stability and ensuring the safety and security of communities of Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan.

- c. SPLA members from Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile are citizens of the Republic of the Sudan and their future lies in the Republic of Sudan.
- d. The Republic of Sudan will have one national army.
- e. The SPLA forces from Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile shall be integrated, over a time period and with modalities to be agreed, into the Sudan Armed Forces, other security institutions, and the civil service, or DDR.
- f. Any disarmament shall be done in accordance with agreed-upon plans and without resorting to force.

10. The Joint Security Committee will work to agree both immediate and sustainable security arrangements for Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile that reflect the principles outlined in paragraph 9 above, including through supporting implementation of the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities in Southern Kordofan.

11. The Parties commit to the following agenda and programme of work in the Joint Security Committee:

- a. Implementation modalities for the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement for Southern Kordofan including detailed timeline.
- b. Humanitarian access in Southern Kordofan.
- c. Implementation of agenda item 9d.

12. The Parties mandate the AUHIP to be the Third Party with respect to the Two Areas. The Panel may, after consultation with the Parties, request any other body to assist in the implementation of this mandate.

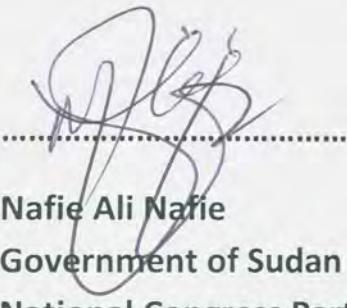
13. The Joint Security Committee will establish a Joint Command Mechanism in line with the AUHIP proposal of 4 April 2011, for Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile which will be responsible for coordination, command and dispute resolution.

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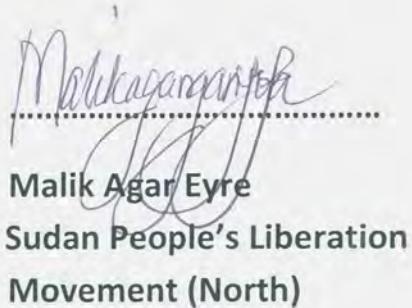
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Signed on 28th June 2011

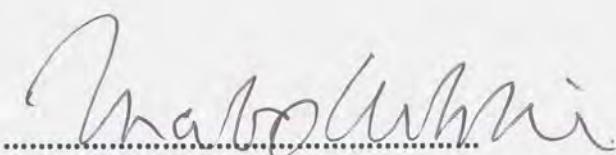


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Witnessed by



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