



PAGERI PEACE FORUM

ORGANISED BY
PAGERI LOCAL GOVERNMENT
&
INTER CHURCH COMMITTEE, NIMULE

MARCH 4-6, 2020

SUPPORTED BY
SOUTH SUDAN PEACE BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES FUND

Summary

The Pageri Peace Forum is the initiative of the former Torit State government, namely the Peace Commission in support to local government and the Inter Church Committee in the former Pageri County. With support from UKAID's Peacebuilding Opportunity Fund (POF), the Forum took place in Nimule, Eastern Equatoria State, from March 4-6, 2020.

Chaired by Mr. John Ohure Teeks, Pageri Administration Executive Director, the Forum explored what needs to be done to support the return of refugees from the camps in Uganda and of IDPs within the State.

Seventy-five participants (19 women; 56 men) actively engaged in the Forum which included representatives from local government, the organised forces (Tiger Division, SSPDF Artillery Unit at Moli , Wildlife, Police, Prison Services), from refugee camps and IDP settlements, religious and traditional leaders, civil society, women's and youth organisations, people with disability, the business community, and representatives from other communities residing in Nimule town.

Cattle herder leadership, Tiger division commanders, and SSPDF Commanders from Pageri, Nimule, Opari, Kerepi, and Moli, expressed appreciation for the Forum that enabled them to come together with the Madi community to strengthen their broken relationship, explore possible solutions and a way forward from the hurt and devastation caused following the 2016 conflict. The organised forces expressed their deep regret, apologised for the destruction caused by their soldiers, and asked that the community report cases of destruction, harassment, looting and rape by soldiers under their command, so they face the law and be accountable for crimes committed.

Forum Objectives

- To explore what needs to be done to allow the return of refugees and IDPs to their home areas of Pageri, Moli, Opari, Kerepi, and other locations
- To create a platform under the leadership of local government that provides a space to strengthen peace and security initiatives in dialogue with all relevant actors
- To identify issues that require local government and local communities to come together with cattle herders, organised forces, and other relevant actors to require resolution

PAGERI PEACE FORUM RESOLUTIONS

1. Return/Repatriation of the IDPs and Refugees

- a) There should be sensitization of IDPs and refugees in their respective camps on progress of implementation of R-ARCSS and community level peace processes intended to prepare their return home
- b) Government and peace partners should support return of IDPs and refugees to their original settlements
- c) Government and peace partners should initiate peace processes to address Uganda-South Sudan border encroachment dispute into South Sudan territory
- d) Government should speed up withdrawal of military barracks from civilian areas to allow the return of the displaced and refugees
- e) Government should speed up resettlement of IDPs living in disputed settlement areas to allow the return of those displaced elsewhere and of refugees
- f) Government and partners should install better maternity and paediatric health facilities, furnish them with modern medical equipment to protect women and children.

2. Building Trust and Confidence

- a) Noting the extent to which trust and confidence between the military and civilians has been broken, there should be periodical civil-military relations forums and community policing forums to restore trust and confidence, and establish partnership in the delivery of security, justice and crime prevention
- b) Movement of soldiers (with or without uniform) carry weapons in the urban areas is hereby stopped. County authority or Town Council shall work with the military to establish or activate military police to regulate movement of soldiers in civilians' residential areas
- c) Within their jurisdiction, County Authorities and Town Council should issue resident identification cards while process National identification cards.

3. Management of Cattle Related Conflicts

- a) An urgent Peace Forum to be convened between cattle keepers and farmers in Pageri before cultivation starts, to minimise or prevent possible conflict
- b) All cattle shall be registered with the appropriate County authority and Town Councils
- c) All cattle keepers should report their presence to local chiefs, and farmers should report their issues to local chiefs
- d) All cattle keepers should move their cattle far from farmlands.
- e) Seasonal movement of cattle shall be regulated by Local Authorities and Committees constituted to implement these resolutions, and shall not contradict these resolutions.
- f) When cows/goats/pigs destroy crops, animal owners will pay the following fines to crop owners:
 - each cow will be charged SSP 35,000
 - each goat will be charged SSP 20,000
 - each pig will be charged SSP 25,000
 - If the animal owner does not have money, 30% of the animals that destroyed the crops will be used as compensation
- a) Those taking cattle for grazing and water should do so without carrying guns to allow individual or group accountability when crops are destroyed
- b) Cattle keepers should respect farmers or host communities
- c) County authority and Town Council, with support from security organs, shall regulate the number of guns used by cattle keepers, who should be disarmed, if possible.

4. Managing Natural Resources

- a) Logging of wood is hereby banned, effective from March 6, the day these resolutions were signed.
- b) Logging licences issued by any level of government to individuals and companies have been annulled by the February 2020 Presidential decrees which dissolved national, states and local governments
- c) Whoever is found guilty of illegal logging shall be handled according to the provisions of South Sudan Forestry Act (if any).
- d) In the absence of such an act, a court of law shall compel the accused to plant 50 seedlings of trees (of either same specify species of trees, imprisoned for a term not exceeding 14 years without bail. The logs or timber shall be confiscated by the government concerned.
- e) Government officials should not in any way be involved in illegal logging
- f) Government shall have the right to license logging where it deems fit to finance its budgets

5. Establishment of the Committee

- a) A Committee shall be established to implement these resolutions
- b) The committee is composed of representatives from:
 - Local government
 - Chiefs from Payam/Boma
 - Cattle keepers
 - Farmers/host communities
 - Police
 - Tiger Division, Nimule
 - National Security Service, Nimule
 - Wildlife
 - Civil Defence (Fire Brigade)

N

A. REPRESENTATIVES CHIEFS

SIGN.....
Magret

1. Magret Oliva, PAYAM CHIEF, MOLI

SIGN.....

2. Maku Felix, HEAD CHIEF, PAGERI PAYAM

SIGN.....
S.

3. Isaac Cinya, BOMA CHIEF, MUGALI

SIGN.....

4. John Anzo, HEAD CHIEF, MUGALI

SIGN.....
B.

5. Akim John, CHIEF, BEKANGWA

SIGN.....
B.

6. Bol Kwiir, CHIEF, DINKA COMMUNITY

SIGN.....
M.

7. Martine Bona Akim, CHIEF OPARI

SIGN.....

8. Felix Maku, BOMA CHIEF PAGERI

*Koma James Aliku, chief NIMULE
Central BOMA*

Tobias Nduru, Head chief of Opari

B. REPRESENTATIVE CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOs)

SIGN.....
M.

1. Mary Yar WOMEN ASSOCIATION NETWORK NIMULE

SIGN.....
M.

2. Maneno Rukia, PEACE LINK FOUNDATION

C. REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REFUGEES

SIGN.....
T. Micheal Ben

1. Taban Micheal Ben, PANGIRINYANG REFUGEE CAMP UGANDA

D. REPRESENTATIVE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, NIMULE

SIGN.....
Steward Orule

- Steward Orule, REPRESENTATIVE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, NIMULE

E. REPRESENTATIVE PEACE COMMITTEE, NIMULE

SIGN.....
Awizia Night Orrick

- Awizia Night Orrick, CHAIRLADY

F. REPRESENTATIVE YOUTH, NIMULE

SIGN.....
Koma Bosco, YOUTH LEADER

FADIL Silmax - Youth Leader

G. REPRESENTATIVE OF CATTLE HERDERS

SIGN.....
Abraham Makur Duot, SECRETARY CATTLE HERDERS IN EQUATORIA REGION

H. REPRESENTATIVES ORGANIZE FORCES, COMMANDERS

SIGN.....

1. James Omondi, ADMINISTRATOR, WILD LIFE CONSERVATION, NIMULE

SIGN.....

2. David Lohai, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL CIVIL DEFENCE SERVICE, NIMULE

SIGN.....

3. CAPTAIN Sunday Silvino Akai jamus, ACTING CHIEF INSPECTOR OF POLICE, NIMULE

SIGN.....

4. BRIGADER Angelo Dut Aduol, SSPDF COMMANDER ARTILLARY MOLI

SIGN.....

5. LT COL Majok Deng, TIGER DIVISION, PAGERI BARRACK

SIGN.....

6. MAJ. Akol Amet Major, TIGER DIVISION, NIMULE BARRACK

WITNESSES TO THE AGREEMENT

I. REPRESENTATIVE RELIGIONS LEADERS

SIGN.....
Fr. Lazarus Olla, CHAIRPERSON INTER CHURCH COMMITTEE (ICC), NIMULE

J. COUNTY AUTHORITY

SIGN.....

1. John Ohure Teeks, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2. FORMER COUNTY COMMISSIONER

SIGN.....
Hon. Emilio Igga