**Country: South Sudan**

**Committee: Indigenous Affairs**

**Topic Area: Crisis in South Sudan**

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**South Sudan Position Paper**

The republic of South Sudan is the world’s youngest nation, formally seceded from Sudan on July 9 2011, as the outcome of a 2005 peace deal that ended Africa's longest-running civil war that had lasted a total of 22 years. Almost 99 percent of voters had voted for independence in a referendum. These South Sudanese people had expectations and hopes that after the independence of South Sudan, the issues of corruption, poverty, illiteracy, diseases, mental health , tribal conflicts and ignorance would become things of the past. But instead the nation plunged into civil war, economic collapse, and is slowly creeping international isolation.

The most substantial problem of South Sudan is corruption, the nation has been corrupt even prior to their secede from Sudan. South Sudan ranked fifth on Transparency International's 2014 list of most corrupt nations, and every year after remains to stay in the top 15. A report in 2012 stated that an estimated $4 billion of public money had been stolen by corrupt govern officials. On May 3, 2012, President Salva Kiir Mayardit sent a letter to 75 former and current government officials asking them to return the sum of $4 billion that they are alleged to have stolen. The letter also states that partial payments are also welcome. He also promised amnesty and confidentiality to those who return the stolen funds. The impact of the $4 billion being stolen due to corruption of govern officials, cannot be minimized as the damage has already been done.

The corruption of South Sudan leads to many more problems than just political. The presence of corruption in South Sudan is one of the major causes to poor delivery of services to ordinary citizens of the country, leaving vast majority of the country’s people inaccessible to the natural resources. Inaccessible resources leads to numerous issues within the nation, the people of South Sudan deal with issues such as healthcare, mental health, diseases, poverty, theft, shelter, protection, lack of services, which in return lead to South Sudan having the highest maternal mortality rate in the world. Another immense problem in South Sudan is the illiteracy rate, 83% of women are illiterate and UNICEF estimates that 70% of children aged 6-17 years have never set foot in school. Even for that 30% that have stepped foot in a classroom, the completion rate in primary schools is less than 10 per cent, one of the lowest in the world. Gender equality is another challenge, with only 33 percent of girls in schools.

These are general problems within South Sudan, all the result of the corruption within the country. Corruption benefits few, and leaves vast majority of the people struggling to find simple living necessities and having to fight to live another day of suffering.

The Model United Nations are taking essential steps toward making South Sudan a better place for the people. With the recent dismissal of the commander of the peacekeeping force in South Sudan, Kenyan Lt. Gen. Johnson Mogoa Kimani Ondieki, on Tuesday November 1, 2016. After an independent investigation sharply criticized the military response to deadly attacks in July on a U.N. compound housing 27,000 displaced people. After a report said it had failed to protect civilians in July. The report said peacekeepers did not act when soldiers attacked an aid compound in the capital, Juba. Despite ‘UNMISS’ being located less than a mile from the UN Compound, the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) did not respond to repeated requests for help. Witnesses told CNN they were forced to rely on private security firms or South Sudanese forces for rescue. This was one of the worst attacks on foreigners in the new country's history, between 80 and 100 South Sudanese soldiers attacked a compound that housed mostly foreign staff and carried out repeated rapes, mock executions, looting, and killing. UN chief Ban Ki-moon was outraged by the attack. Ban stated, that the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) "did not respond appropriately to prevent this and other grave cases of sexual violence". UN chief Ban Ki-moon later fired Kenyan Lt. Gen. Johnson Mogoa Kimani Ondieki, the commander of the peacekeeping force in South Sudan.

The Republic of South Sudan faces multiple problems and need aid before they creep into international isolation. The cause of all problem’s in South Sudan are caused by one major problem. That problem is significantly more powerful than any other problem, corruption is that problem, the root to all problems. The solution to South Sudan’s corruption issue is to rely on the help of peacekeepers and the non-corrupt to remain non-corrupt and prevail over the corrupt. South Sudan needs aid in bringing in a new government system to its nation. This government system needs to have more protection within its system to prevent corruption. The system needs to have stricter regulations and penalizing penalties for those that do not follow the regulations and at the same time reward those that do follow by the regulations. Bringing in a new government system would be just as difficult as it sounds but would result in an overall better future for South Sudanese people. The government system needs to be for the people not against the people.

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