

Declaration of the Stakeholders' Consultation on the Juba Peace Process, Munyonyo, Kampala on 5th November 2008

The Stakeholders' meeting convened by the Chief Mediator, supported by the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General, and attended by a delegation of Southern Sudanese officials, the African and International Observers, the delegations of the Lord's Resistance Army/Movement (LRA/M) and the Government of Uganda, political, cultural and religious leaders and civil society representatives and Uganda's development partners, has considered the status of the Juba Peace Process and makes the following observations:

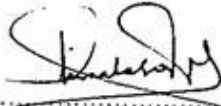
- That the participation of the LRA delegation led by Dr David Nyekorach Matsanga and deputised by Mr Justine Labeja (who have made this visit to Uganda after 22 years), in these deliberations in Uganda is appreciated.
- That the leader of the LRA delegation has raised certain issues which are said to prevent signature of the agreement but that these concerns are addressed in the provisions of the Final Peace Agreement.
- Difficulties have been encountered in securing final signature and ratification of the Final Peace Agreement and the process has therefore lost credibility as a result of the delay.
- Nevertheless, significant gains have been made as a result of the Juba Process and stability has returned to northern Uganda and Eastern Equatoria.
- The Lord's Resistance Army has not assembled in the designated Assembly Areas in accordance with the agreement.
- Reports have emerged of military attacks and atrocities by the LRA in Southern Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic, causing great suffering, destruction and disruption in those areas and undermining the peace process.
- Non-implementation of the peace agreement is putting at risk the stability of the affected areas and the Great Lakes region, generally.
- That the mandate of President Chissano in relation to the LRA issue is coming to an end.



Accordingly, the Stakeholders:

1. Strongly urge the LRA to desist from carrying out any further attacks, and to unconditionally sign the Final Peace Agreement before the end of November 2008, and further, urge that the LRA should assemble in accordance with the provisions of the agreement and thereafter ensure the earliest release of children in accordance with Clause 2.11 of the Agreement on Disarmament Demobilisation and Reintegration.
2. Call upon all the Parties, the Chief Mediator and the Special Envoy of the Secretary General to make the necessary arrangements for Joseph Kony to sign the agreement, in order that its implementation can commence.
3. Strongly recommend the continuation of President Chissano's role in resolving the LRA conflict.
4. Thank the international community for its support to the process thus far, and urge continuation of support for the process and for implementation of the agreement.

Received this 5th Day of November 2008 by:



5/11/2008

H.E. Dr Riek Machar Teny-Dburgon
Vice President of the Government of Southern Sudan
Chief Mediator of the Government of Uganda and LRA Peace Talks



5/11/2008

H.E. Dr Joaquim Alberto Chissano
Special Envoy of the Secretary General for the LRA-affected Areas