

May 14, 2016

H.E. President Salva Kiir  
H.E. First Vice President Riek Machar  
H.E. Vice President James Wani Igga  
Republic of South Sudan  
Juba, South Sudan

**RE: The Immediate Delivery of Humanitarian Aid to Address the Effects of Famine**

Your Excellencies,

We, the undersigned \_\_\_ organizations, scholars and prominent individuals, are alarmed by the drastic humanitarian situation in South Sudan, with the Famine Early Warning Systems Network reporting increasing death rates and a deepening humanitarian catastrophe. The World Food Program just issued a report estimating that 5.3 million South Sudanese face severe food insecurity, a 15 percent increase from last year, and is also reaching into non-conflict zone areas. While the formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity is an important step, its first actions must be to end the fighting that continues and to provide immediate unimpeded humanitarian access throughout the country to alleviate the suffering of the South Sudanese people.

We urge the Transitional Government of National Unity to ensure immediate authorization for humanitarian agencies to move throughout the country, including:

- Coordinating checkpoints with humanitarian actors and removing unauthorized checkpoints,
- Providing pre-clearance of all barge traffic by UN and humanitarian actors,
- Ending the practice of imposing illegal payments and arbitrary request for material support,
- Allowing civilians to move unimpeded to areas where they can access humanitarian assistance,
- Ceasing restrictions on international and local staff from carrying out humanitarian activities,
- Imposing a zero tolerance policy for those who impede humanitarian access,
- Coordinating between humanitarian actors, members of government, and civil society actors to ensure conflict sensitivity, thereby avoiding exacerbating tensions surrounding distribution and access to resources, and
- Requiring all commanders throughout the chain of command to immediately enforce the ceasefire and permit ceasefire monitors freedom of movement to accurately report progress.

The international community must do its part, but you must also take serious and sustained action to address these issues. Otherwise, the people of South Sudan will continue to suffer

We appreciate your attention to this critical matter and look forward to ways in which we can work together to help the people of South Sudan through this dangerous time. We would like to invite you to join us on a conference call to get your feedback on the above

recommendations and to hear from you any additional steps you are taking to alleviate hunger and to provide basic services to those in need.

Sincerely,

**21st Century Wilberforce Initiative**, Elijah M. Brown, Ph.D., Executive Vice President

**African Freedom Coalition**, Al Sutton M.D., President, New York, NY, USA

**African Soul, American Heart**, Debra Dawson, President, Fargo, ND, USA

**American Friends of the Episcopal Church of the Sudans (AFRECS)**, Richard Parkins, Executive Director, Alexandria, VA, USA

**Blue Nile Association for Peace and Development**, Omer Abdelsawi Omer, Mulberry, FL, USA

**Brooklyn Coalition for Darfur & Marginalized Sudan**, Laura Limuli, Coordinator, Brooklyn, NY, USA

**Christian Solidarity International-USA**, The Rev. Heidi McGinness, Director of Outreach, Denver, CO, USA

**CLIP-Poverty**, Sam Lony Geng, Team Leader, South Sudan

**Collectif Urgence Darfour**, Dr. Jacky Mamou, President, Paris, France

**Colorado Coalition for Genocide Awareness and Action**, Roz Duman, Founder/Director, Denver, CO, USA

**Colorado Episcopal Foundation**, Anita Sanborn, President, Denver, CO, USA

**Dialogue on South Sudan**, Reuben Garang, Co-Founder, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

**Genocide Watch**, Dr. Gregory H. Stanton, Founding President, Arlington, VA, USA

**Hope with South Sudan**

**Human Rights & Advocacy Network for Democracy (HAND)**, Abdalmageed S. Haroun, Chairperson, Brooklyn, NY, USA

**Idaho Darfur Coalition**, Marilyn Griep, Co-Founder, Boise, ID, USA

**Institute for Sustainable Peace**, Randall Butler, CEO, Houston, TX, USA

**Investors Against Genocide**, Eric Cohen, Chairperson, Boston, MA, USA

**Jewish World Watch**, Mike Brand, Director of Policy and Programs, Encino, CA, USA

**Massachusetts Coalition for Darfur**, William Rosenfeld, Director, Boston, MA, USA

**Mercy Beyond Borders**, Sister Marilyn Lacey, Executive Director, Santa Clara, CA, USA

**Never Again Coalition**, Lauren Fortgang, Co-Chair, Portland, OR, USA

**OMNI Center for Peace, Justice & Ecology**, Gladys Tiffany, Director, Fayetteville, AK, USA

**Pittsburgh Darfur Emergency Coalition**, David Rosenberg, Coordinator, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

**Presbyterian Church (USA)**

**San Diego Lost Boys of Sudan Charitable Corporation**, Karen Richards, President, San Diego, CA, USA

**Save Darfur North Shore**, Lakshmi Sirois, Chair, Ipswich, MA, USA

**Sisters Hope for South Sudan**, Hanna Andrew Kong, Executive Director, Washington, DC, USA

**South Sudan Human Rights Commission**, Amute Francis Lobalu, Human Rights Officer, Juba, Jubek State, South Sudan

**St. Clare's Episcopal Church**, The Reverend Ronald D. Culmer, Rector, Pleasanton, CA, USA

**Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa (SIHA)**, Hala Alkarib, Director, Kampala, Uganda

**Sudan Advocacy Action Forum**, Dr. Eleanor Wright, Moderator, Birmingham, AL, USA

**Sudan Democratic Forum**, Saifeldin Babiker, Executive Officer, San Francisco, CA, USA

**Sudan Unlimited**, Esther Sprague, Founder and Director, San Francisco, CA, USA

**SW PA Bread for the World Team**, Joyce Rothermel, Co-Chair, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

**The Center for Democracy and Peace**, Sabri Elshareef, Director, New Jersey, NJ, USA

**The Elsa-Gopa Trust**, Nell Okie, Director, Madison, CT, USA

**The Institute on Religion and Democracy**, Faith J.H. McDonnell, Director, Religious Liberty Program, Washington, DC, USA

**Waging Peace**, Olivia Warham MBE, Director, London, England, UK

**Allan Reed**, Anya-Nya Witness, Sudan Council of Churches, USAID (retired), San Francisco, CA, USA

**Autumn Earle-Rodriguez**, Educator, Beaumont, CA, USA

**Dr. Deborah Mayersen**, Historian, University of Wollongong, Wollongong, NSW, Australia

**Dr. Robert K. Hitchcock**, Professor of Anthropology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM, USA

**Ehag Ali Warrag**, Editor in Chief, Hurriyat Newsletter  
**Eric Reeves**, Northampton, MA, USA

**Henry C. Theriault, Ph.D.**, Professor and Chair of Philosophy, Worcester State University,  
Worcester, MA, USA

**Khalid Kodi**, Adjunct Professor, Boston College and Brown University, Boston, MA, USA

**Prof. Mukesh Kapila**, Former Head of the UN in Sudan, People4Sudan, Geneva, Sweden

**Victoria Sanford, PhD**, Director, Center for Human Rights & Peace Studies, Lehman  
College, City University of New York