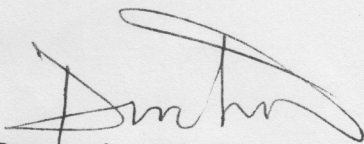


SPLM Leaders (FPD) Observations on the Protocol Signed by the IGAD Heads of State and Government on 25th August, 2014

Addis Ababa, 28th August, 2014

1. The Protocol has ignored the consensus reached by the stakeholders in the thematic committees formed by the IGAD Envoys. The Political Committee on transitional Governance Arrangements unanimously agreed on the formula for power sharing between the President and the Prime Minister during the Transitional Period. The power sharing formula prescribed by the Committee on Governance is based on various experiences from Africa, i.e. Kenya, Zimbabwe, Cote d'Ivoire, in order to resolve similar crisis. Details of the agreed power sharing arrangement are attached herewith.
2. The Protocol confirmed President Kiir as both the Head of State and Government. The consensus of all stakeholders except the Government delegation was for the Prime Minister to be the Chief Executive in charge of the day to day running of the Government while the President performs the functions of Head of State. This arrangement is to stop the war and allow for a peaceful transition to a permanent and sustainable political dispensation. The Protocol has ignored this consensus.
3. The Protocol, while recognizing the role of the SPLM/A in-Opposition to nominate the Prime Minister, nevertheless it gives the President the power to veto the nomination of the SPLM/A (IO). In other words the nominee of the SPLM/A (IO) must be acceptable to the President. This undermines the principle of Power Sharing and the choice of the Opposition.
4. The Protocol bars any person nominated by the SPLM/A (IO) to the position of Prime Minister from running for any public office in the next general elections. This condition does not apply to the President and the Vice President respectively. This condition is unfair, unjust and discriminatory. Persons occupying the top three positions in the transitional Government are either all excluded from running for any public office in the next elections or permitted all without exception.

5. Most surprisingly, Dr. Riek Machar, the leader of the opposition SPLM/A(IO) is completely excluded from the leadership of the transitional Government of National Unity, without giving him the option to participate or not. This position will not help the achievement of peace as it will be read as a defeat by the supporters of the SPLM/A (IO). It does not reflect a win-win solution.
6. The Protocol has rejected the position of the stakeholders to have two Deputies or at least one deputy to the Prime Minister. The position of the stakeholders was based on the tasks to be undertaken by the office of the Prime Minister as head of government. We still think that the Prime Minister shall have two or one Deputy Prime Minister.
7. Finally, the Protocol was meant to capture the consensus of the stakeholders as is evident from the first paragraph of the preamble. Unfortunately, the leaders of the region took over the document and became the principal owners as well as guarantors of the document to the exclusion of the stakeholders.
8. In the interest of just and enduring peace, we urge leaders of the region to consider the above observations in order to expedite resolution of the conflict in the upcoming session of the Talks scheduled for September, 2014.



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