



SUDAN PEOPLES' LIBERATION MOVEMENT

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

SPLM LEADERS (FPD)

PRESS STATEMENT

We, the SPLM Leaders (Former Political Detainees – FDs) regret the initialing of the 'final text' of ARCSS by Cde Deng Alor Kuol as this has been done prematurely and without proper consultations, leaving many issues unresolved to become the bone of contention and seeds of future conflict.

We maintain the position that the outstanding issues that we had raised earlier on need to be resolved satisfactorily and reflected in the final text of the draft agreement before initialing. At this eleventh hour, we can no longer rely on vague assurances of initialing or signing documents with reservations or having points of disagreements bracketed or referred to other bodies for decision. Similarly, we cannot shelve substantive issues for further negotiations during the time of implementation simply because we want to give the appearance of showing concern for ameliorating the suffering of our people. We believe that to negotiate these outstanding issues during the stage of implementation will be a futile exercise. These same issues should be discussed and resolved now and around the table, with all the parties being part and parcel of the discussion and the decision. These same issues have been identified by SSOA and other opposition groups as points of differences so they need to be addressed and resolved in order to assure sustainable peace. First and foremost among them is the bracketed issue of the 28/32 states which were decreed in contravention of ARCSS and the Constitution.

It is worth noting that the semi-final text of the would-be Revitalized ARCSS was shared on 27th of August, 2018. By the time of initialing yesterday 28th August, 2018, we the members of SPLM Leaders had not finalized consulting amongst ourselves. Hence the initialing was not based on consensus nor majority decision. It is therefore invalid and should be treated thus.

We remain open and ready to continue engaging in the process to bring genuine and sustainable peace back to our country South Sudan.



Pagan Amum Okiech

Head, SPLM Leaders (FDs)

29th August 2018