



Communiqué of the Consultative Workshop for the Defence White Paper for Southern Sudan, Juba, 3rd – 7th September 2007

The Committee for the Defence White Paper for Southern Sudan concluded its first consultative workshop in Juba, Southern Sudan which ran between the 3rd and the 7th September 2007 under the auspices of H.E. Gen. Salva Kiir Mayardit, the First Vice President of the Republic of Sudan, the President of the Government of Southern Sudan and C-in-C of SPLA, the Minister of SPLA Affairs and the Chief of Staff of the SPLA. The overall purpose of the workshop was to create a forum for the leaderships of Southern Sudan from the Executive, Legislature, Judiciary, Civil Society, the Military and the other organized forces to input in the development of the Defence White Paper for Southern Sudan which will in turned provides the basis for the transformation of the SPLA.

The workshop was guided by the following overarching principles:

- The workshop represents an important first step in the Development of the Defense White Paper and the Transformation of the SPLA into a Professional Army.
- The process is in accordance with the provisions of the CPA and the interim constitutions that recognize the existence of the SPLA as one of the three legal Armies of Sudan and call for it to be treated equally with the SAF.
- The security sector in Southern Sudan to be governed in accordance with the principles of democratic control and accountability
- The Civil-Military Relations to enables civil supremacy over the armed and organized forces

The workshop resolved that:

- Given the role of the SPLA as one of the guarantors for the CPA, the development of the Defense White Paper is crucial to the CPA's full implementation. Therefore the Defense White Paper should be developed in accordance with the current political dynamics and continuously focus upon the protection and full implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.
- The Defense White Paper should also be developed to encompass concerns of all the sectors ranging from military to non-military security concerns
- The Committee for the development of the Defense White Paper should continue to consult widely so that the final product should represent the wide views and concerns of the cross section of our people

The workshop was however concluded by a strong leadership commitment in support of the process of developing the Defence White Paper

Thank you

Maj. Gen. Kuol Deim Kuol

Chairman of the Committee for the Defence White Paper