

SUDAN PEOPLE'S LIBERATION MOVEMENT

THE MANIFESTO

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VIVA SPLM VIVA!

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THE MANIFESTO

1. Background

The young Republic of South Sudan engulfed itself in a civil war barely two years into its independence. The political crisis within the political leadership of the ruling party, the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement (SPLM), turned violent on December 15, 2013 thereby plunging the country into the political abyss. Consequent to events of that fateful day, the SPLM split into two factions, namely the SPLM in government [Government of the Republic of South Sudan (GRSS)] led by Salva Kiir Mayardit and the SPLM/SPLA (in Opposition) led by Dr. Riek Machar Teny-Dhurgon.

On December 6, 2013, the reformists, led by Dr. Riek Machar, held a press conference in the SPLM House in which they called on the SPLM Chairman to, among other things, call to session the SPLM Political Bureau to set the agenda for the anticipated session of the SPLM National Liberation Council (NLC).

Held at the height of simmering tensions in the SPLM, the Press Conference marked the beginning of a split within the movement. In fact, Chairman Salva Kiir construed the press conference as an attempt to snatch power, which he on 16 December, 2013 elaborated as "failed coup attempt against the state", now proven beyond doubt that that was not the case. If anything, Salva Kiir pulled a coup against the SPLM and his colleagues in the leadership.

Splits are however not unusual to the SPLM/SPLA. The Movement witnessed splits within its ranks since its inception in 1983. The first rift pitted the group of Samuel Gai Tut and Akuot Atem against Dr. John Garang and other politicians. Then, Dr. John Garang and his loyalists embraced the idea of liberating the whole Sudan from Arab rulers. Samuel Gai Tut, Akuot Atem and other Southern Sudanese on the other hand insisted on simply liberating South Sudan and making it an independent country. This split led to bloodshed which resulted in the death of both Samuel Gai Tut and Akuot Atem.

A more serious split in the SPLM ensued in 1991. This time, it split into SPLM Nasir Faction and SPLM Torit Faction. The key reason for the split was that the Nasir Faction led by Dr. Riek Machar, rejected the Movement's policy ("New Sudan Vision") of unconditional unity of the Sudan and advocated for the right of Self-Determination for South Sudanese. The two leaders later on signed the Washington Declaration which adopted the right of Self-Determination for the people of Southern Sudan. This right became a reality on 9 July, 2011, a day when South Sudan gained independence.

In spite of having led the people of South Sudan through to independence, harmonious resolutions of internal contradictions within the SPLM did not happen. Splits were resolved through compromises and '*a return to the fold*' without addressing the root causes of the contradictions or effecting structural changes in the SPLM/SPLA explaining the recurrence of the contradictions. However, the split that boiled over in December 2013 has transcended the current ruling SPLM due to its linkage to South Sudanese state and its governance system.

The resistance to reforms, which now precipitated civil strife in the country, has therefore rendered it difficult to organise, democratize and politicise the SPLM internal relations. The lack of a unifying political ideology and insufficient organizational capacity compounds the internal situation, making the current governing SPLM incapable of transforming the South Sudanese society.

Coupled with inherited negative effects of colonial legacy, it is no wonder that South Sudan still bears the relics of centuries of socio-economic and cultural underdevelopment manifested in abject poverty, ignorance, and propensity to ethnic and regional autochthonism as survival instincts.

To confront and address this sad reality requires a new political ideology and organisation to usher in a socio-economic paradigm shift capable of rendering rapid development through competitiveness in the production of social goods and knowledge.

2. Establishment of SPLM/SPLA - A Clean Break with the Past

The events of December 2013 and the resultant civil war epitomized a system of political practice and decay associated with gruesome atrocities, corruption, tribalism, nepotism, dictatorship, chauvinism, widespread discrimination, underdevelopment, marginalization, ethnic domination, and so on. The SPLM/SPLA abhors such a system and makes a clean break with this past.

This manifesto therefore heralds the formation of **Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Sudan People's Liberation Army**, abbreviated as [SPLM/SPLA]. It was officially founded on 17 April, 2014 at Nasir Consultative Conference. The SPLM/SPLA as a revolutionary vanguard shall imbue the masses with ideas of democracy and social progress to enable it lead the social, economic and political processes of state and nation building in South Sudan through a governance system that is people centred.

Central to the system of governance, the political objective of SPLM/SPLA is to establish ***federal system of governance*** in the Republic of South Sudan comprising twenty-one federal states based on the former districts of the southern provinces of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. The SPLM/SPLA shall foster a political ideology whereby the state plays a leading role in social and economic development of the country by investing in large industrial and infrastructural installations, directing and transforming society through indigenous programmes as well as adopting those that have successfully been implemented in other parts of the world. At the same time, the SPLM/SPLA shall encourage and promote the development of the private sector.

For the SPLM/SPLA, other than the pivotal establishment of a federal system, a complete break with the past must entail the following principles and objectives:

2.1 SPLM/SPLA Principles:

- 2.1.1 Democracy, justice, freedom, equality, religious tolerance, social cohesion, peace, prosperity, harmony and inclusivity;
- 2.1.2 Federalism and devolution of powers and resources;
- 2.1.3 Unity of the people of South Sudan, shared historical experiences and respect for diversity;

- 2.1.4 Supremacy of the rule of Law and respect of separation of powers and roles;
- 2.1.5 Human Rights and fundamental freedoms as stipulated in the Constitution and in regional and international instruments;
- 2.1.6 Respect of democratic institutions and collective leadership;
- 2.1.7 Accountability, transparency and good governance;
- 2.1.8 Respect for diversity of South Sudanese cultural values, heritage and beliefs;
- 2.1.9 Gender equality;
- 2.1.10 Socio-economic, cultural and political empowerment of women;
- 2.1.11 Safeguard the rights of the child, youth, widows, orphans, people with disabilities, wounded heroes and heroines, and war veterans;
- 2.1.12 Protection of the environment and sustainable development of natural resources;
- 2.1.13 Create conducive environment for participation of persons with special needs in all aspects of life;
- 2.1.14 Self-reliance and economic self-sufficiency and balanced urban-rural development; and
- 2.1.15 Pursue Foreign policy and International relations based on national interests, respect among nations and preservation of regional and global peace and stability.

2.2 SPLM/SPLA Objectives:

- 2.2.1 Build a federal state, based on a just, democratic, secular system of governance, and popular participation of its entire people;
- 2.2.2 Create national consciousness and common purpose through the liberation of the individual and society from all forms of political, economic and social constraints;
- 2.2.3 Ensure inclusiveness, gender equity and combat tribalism and ethnic chauvinism.
- 2.2.4 Promote the general wellbeing of the people of South Sudan;
- 2.2.5 Eradicate poverty and strive to attain sustainable development;
- 2.2.6 Plan, promote and direct economic and social development for the benefit of all;
- 2.2.7 Uphold, protect and promote rights of the child, persons with special needs, the elderly and woman;
- 2.2.8 Defend and advance the democratic values in the federal state;
- 2.2.9 Ensure that governments at all levels are representative and freely elected by the people of South Sudan through universal suffrage;
- 2.2.10 Promote and encourage scientific research and adopt appropriate modern technologies;
- 2.2.11 Ensure implementation of the principle of federalism and devolution of powers;
- 2.2.12 Promote democratic principles and practices, and social cohesion;
- 2.2.13 Uphold the principles of supremacy of the rule of law and separation of powers;
- 2.2.14 Ensure that human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Constitution, regional and international instruments are promoted, respected, and protected;

- 2.2.15 Enhance participatory democracy and ensure respect of democratic processes and institutions;
- 2.2.16 Ensure practices of collective leadership;
- 2.2.17 Ensure justice and equity for all irrespective of ethnicity, origin, religion, region, social status or gender;
- 2.2.18 Enhance accountability, transparency and good governance;
- 2.2.19 Encourage and promote respect for the diversity of the people of South Sudan;
- 2.2.20 Ensure gender equality and promote socio-economic, cultural and political empowerment of women;
- 2.2.21 Realise and ensure economic self-sufficiency and self-reliance for the people of South Sudan;
- 2.2.22 Protect and preserve the environment, ensure sustainable utilization of natural resources and promote environmental sustainability;
- 2.2.23 Protect, uphold and promote the unity of the people;
- 2.2.24 Uphold and promote national, regional and global peace and security; and
- 2.2.25 Develop and pursue an appropriate foreign policy to maintain regional and international cooperation and preserve global peace and stability.

3. SPLM/SPLA Compact (commitment to the people of South Sudan)

In breaking with the past, the SPLM shall be guided by the above principles and objectives and strive to build a new socio-political and economic order that is built on the commitment to the following:

3.1 Federalism: devolution of powers and resources

SPLM shall establish a federal system of governance. It is the best way of sharing political power and wealth in South Sudan. Therefore in order to achieve social, political and economic transformation, full implementation of federalism is critical, especially the devolution of resources to the lower levels of governments. This shall ensure that the distribution of income in the economy leaves purchasing power in the hands of the common man/woman and at the same time enable even distribution of economic development and national income among persons, group of persons and regions to avoid creation or emergence of separate development and concentration of wealth in the hands of a few or in particular regions. Establishment of federalism as the system of governance shall:

- 3.1.1 empower the national, state and local levels of government to have their own executive, legislature and judicial organs;
- 3.1.2 empower the states and local government to have their own local forces (Police, Correctional Service, Wildlife and Civil Defense) and deliver basic services in education, health, communication, infrastructure services, etc; and
- 3.1.3 empower the States and local governments, through devolution of powers to, exercise concurrent powers in developing natural resources such as mining, energy, oil and gas, agriculture, forestry, animal resources, fisheries and public utilities.

3.2 Peace and Security

War and violence have stalked the people of South Sudan for centuries. The pursuit for peace is therefore not just the absence of war. In pursuing peace that is just and sustainable, it is paramount that the root causes of war must be addressed so as to create a society where everyone feels a sense of belonging without fear.

The SPLM upholds that peaceful resolution to conflicts is through a negotiated settlement and is therefore ready to settle for a just and sustainable peace. Further to its policy of promoting mutual forgiveness, peace, reconciliation and unity of purpose and consensus-building, the SPLM policy on Dialogue proposes the holding of a series of national, regional and local conferences in order to further the cause of mutual forgiveness, peace, reconciliation, healing and sustainable development.

3.3 Rights and Freedoms

It should be recalled that the heroic struggle of generations of our people was for freedom and dignity. The SPLM/SPLA shall therefore ensure that human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of South Sudan and in regional and international instruments are promoted, respected, and protected.

3.4 Justice and Equality

Justice and equality are SPLM/SPLA guiding principles. The SPLM/SPLA shall ensure that all persons are equal before the law and are entitled to equal protection of the law without discrimination as to race, ethnic origin, colour, sex, language, religious creed, political opinion, birth, locality or social status.

3.5 Foreign Policy

The foreign policy of the SPLM/SPLA shall primarily be guided by policies and objectives that serve the interest of the people of South Sudan. To that end, the SPLM/SPLA shall:

- 3.5.1 establish relations with all countries based on mutual benefit, and acquire membership in international and regional organizations such as Intergovernmental Authority on Development IGAD, East African Community (EAC), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), African Union (AU), United Nations (UN) and others;
- 3.5.2 respect, promote and foster to all international conventions on human rights and other civil rights;
- 3.5.3 devote to and promote the noble objectives of democracy, peace, modernization, development and mutual cooperation among the people of Africa and the world at large;
- 3.5.4 maintain uncompromising principle of non-interference and meddling in the internal affairs of other countries and sustain good neighborliness policies within the region;

- 3.5.5 actively promote global cooperation on the protection and conservation of the environment for current and future generations;
- 3.5.6 cooperate in combating international terrorism; and
- 3.5.7 build a competent professional foreign service, and observe international diplomatic norms and ethics.

3.6 Dialogue and building consensus

The SPLM/SPLA acknowledges that the best way to resolve conflicts peacefully is through dialogue. But hitherto, the conflict imposed on the people of South Sudan has always been by an aggressor who wielded economic and armed power. This last upheaval that erupted on 13 December 2013 is rooted on political intolerance and lack of compromise. Dialogue was stifled by way of intimidation and use of security forces to harass dissenting voices. Had there been dialogue, a peaceful resolution of issues would have been reached and the war could have been avoided. For the SPLM/SPLA therefore, the search for peace through dialogue shall be encouraged and further still promote forgiveness, reconciliation, unity of purpose and consensus-building. A series of meetings shall be held at the national, regional and local conferences for these purposes. It is intended that such dialogue shall deepen the sentiments of trust and confidence within and between the elders, leaders, peoples or constituencies for the fostering and building a culture of peaceful coexistence; and policy making that ensure nation and peace building.

3.7 The Economy

From independence of then Sudan through to our deserved independence from Sudan, our economy has teetered abysmally as a result of many woes including wars, corruption, Kleptocracy, incompetence, etc. But since the country is well endowed with natural resources, it shall take a short period for South Sudan to leapfrog into a viable and sustainable economic powerhouse. To usher in economic prosperity, it is a must to attain peace first. The SPLM/SPLA shall then embark on a sustainable people-based development of the country, combining economic growth with poverty reduction, increasing empowerment while at the same time ensuring rational utilisation of natural resources, effective protection of the environment and preservation of our cultural heritage. With sustainable exploitation of our natural resources, the SPLM/SPLA shall use the proceeds to develop a Strategic Economic Development Roadmap/Plan to accelerate progress in achieving a sustainable and resilient national economy including:

- 3.7.1 reconstruction of the areas directly affected by the war and the rehabilitation of the infrastructure, agricultural and industrial projects and public services;
- 3.7.2 relieving the difficult living conditions and meeting the basic human needs by implementing programmes that are based on self-reliance accompanied by controlling consumption and tightening expenditure at all levels of governments;
- 3.7.3 carrying out a comprehensive revision of the general expenditure in order to control it;
- 3.7.4 encouraging private initiative, invocation of efficient exploitation of our enormous natural resources so as to raise the quality of life of the people;

- 3.7.5 encouraging and managing a mixed economy based on a composite of freely competitive private, cooperative and public sectors, and ensuring fair distribution of income, wealth and development opportunities in the country;
- 3.7.6 adopting investment promotion to attract capital financing from internal and external sources, including joint ventures to optimally exploit the available resources and the modernisation of production technologies;
- 3.7.7 establishing projects for the exploration and extraction of mineral resources and the generation of energy from waste, hydro, oil, solar energy, bio-fuels, geothermal sources, etc.;
- 3.7.8 encourage economic collaboration with other countries especially neighbouring countries, regional networks of economic cooperation and international trade.
- 3.7.9 pay attention to creation of job opportunities and combating unemployment;

3.8 The Civil Service

Civil service is the prime mover of state machinery and must be founded on efficiency, justice and equal opportunity. To date, the civil service has been bedevilled by lack of employment criteria which has manifested in regional and ethnic segregation in labour where particular jobs became the preserve of certain socio-cultural or ethnic backgrounds. This is a deliberate policy of social division that must be rectified. Another factor necessitating reforms in the civil service is the deterioration in the working environment, terms of service, politicisation, nepotism, lack of transparency and employment of persons without the necessary qualifications or experience. To have an effective and efficient public service sector, the SPLM/SPLA shall carry out the following reforms:

- 3.8.1 review and amend the current Public Service law(s) to ensure that they are effective and can be operationalized;
- 3.8.2 restructure the bureaucratic structures of the civil service based on a federal system of governance;
- 3.8.3 review and amend the current employment processes and procedures to ensure that it can be strictly followed and adhered to and provide fair opportunity to every citizen of South Sudan equal opportunity of employment based on merit, competence and experience;
- 3.8.4 develop code of ethics and integrity for public officials, emphasizing the values of honesty and integrity;
- 3.8.5 expand the curriculum in the educational system to promote the values of honesty, integrity and respect for public property;
- 3.8.6 reduce/eradicate wasteful spending that undermines the effectiveness of public policies;
- 3.8.7 introduce merit-based reward systems;
- 3.8.8 establish a unified civil service program that will link the federal, state and local governments;
- 3.8.9 review the current payroll system and re-structure it to ensure that only active and working employees are on the payroll;
- 3.8.10 hold civil servants accountable for their actions;
- 3.8.11 strictly enforce the civil service rules and regulations and hold anyone found violating accountable;

- 3.8.12 develop selection criteria for scholarship and training and strictly adhered to; and
- 3.8.13 recruit employees on competitive basis.

3.9 Banking System and Fiscal Policy

The executive power is the authority that lays down the economic and financial policies of the country. The Central Bank shall be restructured on the basis of federal system with full devolution of financial resources to the state and local government levels and the federal bank and its subsidiaries shall be independent from any direct administrative control by the Ministry of Finance or executive branch so as to enable it to play its regulatory role in the attainment of the economic stability and the solution to the problems of inflation and exchange rates. In this context the Central Bank, which shall be renamed Federal Reserve Bank, shall fully supervise the activities of the Commercial Banks and all the institutions of the banking sector.

A sound fiscal policy is essential for the financial viability of the Government. This will be reflected in budgetary controls, fair tax structure both on the individuals and the business enterprises, efficient customs systems and other areas of economic activity.

3.10 Agriculture

Agriculture is the backbone of the economy and self-sustenance. Over 80% of the population is engaged in agricultural activities. In this regard, priority shall be given to food self-sufficiency. It is therefore imperative that development and production of food crops, livestock and fisheries is robustly supported to meet food needs as well as for cash in both local and international markets. Given the policy, the SPLM/SPLA shall:

- 3.10.1 restore and strengthen the agricultural sector for production of food crops to guarantee food security;
- 3.10.2 expand the production base and introduce many varieties of crops;
- 3.10.3 ensure that the environment is taken care of in planning agricultural development;
- 3.10.4 reduce the cost of production in all schemes;
- 3.10.5 support and improve all the institutions that formulate and execute agricultural policies;
- 3.10.6 intensify afforestation and adoption of other measures that will mitigate the desertification;
- 3.10.7 exert efforts to stop environmental damage in pastoral and other areas;
- 3.10.8 intensify research and development in animal husbandry and fisheries for improved breeding and production in the prevailing environment;
- 3.10.9 pay special attention to the modern animal production sector;
- 3.10.10 formulate comprehensive plans and programmes to combat the spread of endemic animals diseases;
- 3.10.11 expand and improve preventive and curative veterinary services;
- 3.10.12 evaluate fisheries resources and develop policies and methods for its sustainable exploitation and protection; and
- 3.10.13 improve the fisheries resources through systems of technical treatment preservation and sale of products for local consumption and for export.

3.11 Industrial Sector

The main objective of industrialization is to be a complementary sector to agriculture, to process agricultural raw materials and intermediate products and the development of industries for agricultural equipment. In addition, the role of industry is to include development of national skills in the exploitation of renewable and alternative energy resources such as biomass, solar, etc., and to build a basis for manufacturing industries. Therefore, the industrial policies will include the following:

- 3.11.1 development of the sources of energy which is the backbone to any industrialization efforts;
- 3.11.2 integration of the industrial sector with the other sectors of national economy by means of developing agriculturally-based industries and the industries that depend on minerals and petroleum products;
- 3.11.3 laying down a framework for mixed economy by the integration of the public and private sectors and consolidating the role of each;
- 3.11.4 building basic structures that encourage industry as the provision of fuel, energy, communications, transport and the manufacturing of the agricultural equipment and vital agricultural inputs in order to attain self-efficiency in basic needs and to encourage the increase in the volume of exports of finished products;
- 3.11.5 expansion of the industrial base with the objectives of increasing the national income, self-reliance and reducing dependency on the outside world; and
- 3.11.6 formulation of a plan to organize, encourage and develop cottage and rural industries to contribute to the rise of employment opportunities and the increase of industrial production.

3.12 Research and Human development

With a constantly changing work environment, it is of utmost importance to keep a skilled work force for better performance and efficiency. To this end, the SPLM/SPLA shall:

- 3.12.1 support existing training centres and establish new specialized training centres and at the same time encourage the private sector to carry out in-service training for their employees;
- 3.12.2 direct institutions of scientific research towards industrial development by creating a close relationship between these institutions and the production sectors; and
- 3.12.3 place emphasis on and support vocational training, specifying the priorities and quality of the training required.

3.13 Transportation and Communication

Unity cannot be attained without connectivity. At the same time, no meaningful development or progress in industry and trade can take place without an efficient transport system and effective communications network. Given the large area of the country, it is imperative to immediately establish a reliable infrastructure in transport and communications. The SPLM/SPLA shall prioritize the following:

- 3.13.1 rehabilitation, development and expansion of the river transport as it provides the cheapest means of transport;
- 3.13.2 maintenance of the old river transport ports and establishment of new ones;
- 3.13.3 rehabilitation and construction of roads and highways connecting various parts of the country;
- 3.13.4 building of wide-track railways to many parts of the country and consider use of electric trams in urban settlements;
- 3.13.5 construction and maintenance of existing airstrips and construction of new ones in various areas in the country;
- 3.13.6 setting up of efficient air transport networks to be run by either or both public and private sector corporations;
- 3.13.7 introducing modern telecommunications systems all over the country;
- 3.13.8 establishing an efficient postal service across the country;
- 3.13.9 building radio and TV transmission to play their role in information, education and development; and
- 3.13.10 involving the private sector in all the above except in the regulatory aspect which shall remain a governmental authority.

3.14 Wildlife and Tourism

South Sudan is well endowed with sufficient and rare species of wildlife. This natural wealth must be preserved and the rare species protected for posterity. The SPLM/SPLA shall establish and rejuvenate national parks. Efficient management of the wildlife sanctuaries shall encourage tourism to bring in employment and income.

3.15 Land

The SPLM/SPLA shall undertake the following for optimum utilization of land:

- 3.15.1 Initiate an in-depth national debate to review the current national land policy and statutes in order to achieve consensus over land tenure, use, management and address issues of land grabbing, other malpractices involving land, carry out necessary reforms, undertake mapping, and to maximize economic utilization of land in South Sudan.
- 3.15.2 Land use activities and any conflict on land issues will be handled by land commissions and other competent bodies at the various levels of government (Federal, State and County).
- 3.15.3 Establish independent Registrars at all levels of government to streamline and introduce digital registration of land titles and deeds.
- 3.15.4 Empower commissions at different levels of government to develop and interpret legislation regarding land issues and to reflect customary laws and practices, local heritage and institutional trends.
- 3.15.5 Ensure security of land rights as a fundamental condition for poverty eradication in accordance with existing statutes.
- 3.15.6 Enact and implement laws, regulations and procedures that promote transparent and accountable land administration.
- 3.15.7 Review all land concessions awarded to individuals and foreign companies for large scale agriculture, mining, exploration and extraction.
- 3.15.8 Assist in mediation of land rights conflicts.

3.16 The Environment

The SPLM/SPLA believes that all citizens and future generations have the right to safe and healthy environment. Accordingly, the broad objectives of our environmental policy are aimed at fulfilling this right. In this context economic growth and development must be based on the criteria of sustainability. The SPLM/SPLA shall:

- 3.16.1 regulate access to and sustainably use resources while preserving the environment;
- 3.16.2 participate in all planning and decisions which affect the development and management of natural resources;
- 3.16.3 permit public access to information and the courts on issues of environmental concern;
- 3.16.4 practice an integrated approach to environmental issues that relates to all sectors of society;
- 3.16.5 recognize and participate in the integrated nature of global resolution of environment issues;
- 3.16.6 encourage the NGOs that work to protect the environment, and in particular the conservation of biological diversity and protection of endangered species;
- 3.16.7 enact legislation that protects the natural environment, habitat and natural resources as well as inhibition of unsound practices that harm the environment;
- 3.16.8 To ensure that feasibility studies are carried out and environmental impact assessment certificate are issued before major industrial or other projects effected;

3.17 Civil Society

Civil Society plays a vital role in democracy, good governance and the rule of law. The SPLM/SPLA views as critical the need to create an enabling environment for the civil society to play its natural role through policies, programmes and activities that include:

- 3.17.1 campaigning for a humane and equitable world order;
- 3.17.2 guaranteeing basic freedoms including freedom of speech and association;
- 3.17.3 advocate against corruption and raising public awareness to strengthen capacity of the public to resist and prevent corruption;
- 3.17.4 public education, increased information flow and better communication among the people, provision of legal framework to regulate, formalise and facilitate the work of civil organisations, provision of necessary environment for peace, security and stability;
- 3.17.5 advocating and supporting capacity building and institutional development of civic organisations including promotion of effective participation, democracy and accountability;
- 3.17.6 undertaking civic education and political awareness;
- 3.17.7 promoting economic activities that generate income, enhance self-sufficiency, eliminate dependency; all leading to the restoration of dignity and self-worth; and
- 3.17.8 Enhancing gender consciousness, increasing the participation of women in public life and more importantly, increasing access to education of girls and skills training for women.

3.18 Corruption

The SPLM/SPLA acknowledges and condemns the evil of corruption, particularly bribery and misuse of public funds to serve personal interests. This wanton behavior has led to the loss of public resources including other public property which is an impediment to development and prosperity in society. The principle of zero tolerance to corruption shall never be a political slogan but an actual practice and hence the SPLM/SPLA shall:

- 3.18.1 include an anti-corruption culture through civic education against corruption in the syllabuses of all educational institutions;
- 3.18.2 Create public awareness about the evil of corruption so that we do not accept it as a norm in our society;
- 3.18.3 devolve power and funds from the centre to the lower tiers of government and establish special public accounts committees and effective audit offices at all levels;
- 3.18.4 Establish contact and cooperation with international anti-corruption organisations to assist in the elimination of corruption;
- 3.18.5 Be strict in observance of good governance, transparency and accountability at all levels of administration; and
- 3.18.6 On conviction involving corruption by a court of law, severely punish any corrupt official.

3.19 Family, Women and Child Welfare

Women in South Sudan constitute more than 60% of the population. They suffer many forms of discrimination in social, economic and political fields simply because they are women. Underdevelopment, poverty and a host of other negative customs and traditions further exacerbate the plight of women. Thus, the SPLM/SPLA shall:

- 3.19.1 ensure gender equality and take all necessary positive measures for the full emancipation, development and empowerment of women;
- 3.19.2 assist women to take the necessary initiatives at all levels from the grassroots to the highest national level to organise themselves and establish women organisations to ensure their effective participation in society;
- 3.19.3 support women of the South Sudan to network internationally and actively participate in international women organisations;
- 3.19.4 empower women socially, economically, and politically;
- 3.19.5 establish a Women Enterprise Development Fund for provision of subsidized credit for women-based enterprise development; capacity building of women entrepreneurs, women oriented enterprises and others;
- 3.19.6 ensure that women are protected against violence, harmful customs and traditions which undermine their dignity and status; and pursue positive development of women at all levels; and
- 3.19.7 design and implement programmes on early childhood upbringing on the basis of social values, good citizenship, equality and strengthening the role of its institutions such as the family in ways consistent with the UN Convention on the Rights of the child.

3.20 Youth

"It Takes a Village to raise a child." So says the African proverb which simply translates that child upbringing is a communal effort. The SPLM/SPLA believes that society has a responsibility to develop and nurture its youth to allow them to reach their full potential in order to make a meaningful contribution as individual members of society. Their resourcefulness, energy and enthusiasm must be harnessed to allow them to play their meaningful role in our country. The SPLM shall therefore:

- 3.20.1 promote the development of all South Sudanese youth and implement policies which will prevent the recurrence of the marginalization of our young people in the future;
- 3.20.2 focus programmes of the socio-economic development of the youth;
- 3.20.3 set in place an autonomous, broad and representative structure of the youth and to coordinate and develop youth activities;
- 3.20.4 Encourage a spirit of understanding and respect between the youth and the old, parents and children;
- 3.20.5 eradicate the root causes of delinquency and targeting street children, unaccompanied minors and children under difficult circumstances for social care and rehabilitation; and
- 3.20.6 To protect the youth from negative alien cultural influences.

3.21 Basic Social Services

Although a trickle of basic services have been provided in towns, it has attracted many people who end up being in slums, exacerbating the already abysmal livelihoods. Thus by providing basic services to our people and especially to the rural countryside, the SPLM shall be fulfilling its solemn promise of "taking towns to villages rather than people to towns." The SPLM/SPLA therefore affirms its commitment to ensure that people stay on the land so that agriculture and agro-industry can flourish through the provision of the following basic services:

3.21.1 Health

A healthy people beget a healthy economy and happy peaceful nation. To achieve the full realization of this, the SPLM/SPLA shall:

- 3.21.1.1 rehabilitate curative health institutions coupled with soliciting external assistance to control the endemic diseases and the HIV/AIDS pandemic;
- 3.21.1.2 reactivate preventive health programmes in the towns and countryside with special attention paid to the elderly, women and children;
- 3.21.1.3 create a comprehensive, equitable and integrated National Health Service (NHS);
- 3.21.1.4 given priority rural health services with particular attention given to improving transport facilities;
- 3.21.1.5 mitigate still-birth rate and infant mortality and provide for the health development of the child;
- 3.21.1.6 building hospitals, health centres and dispensaries;
- 3.21.1.7 improve all aspects of environmental and industrial hygiene;

- 3.21.1.8 prevent, treat and control epidemic, endemic, occupational and other diseases.
- 3.21.1.9 direct the health service to give priority to children, mothers, the elderly, the mentally ill, workers, the unemployed and the disabled;
- 3.21.1.10 provide appropriate services to adolescent and to young adults;
- 3.21.1.11 empower national health services to appropriately and efficiently collect data to enable rational management, planning and relevant research to address the most important health problems facing communities;
- 3.21.1.12 recognise and regulate herbal and alternative medicine practitioners; and
- 3.21.1.13 establish a national drug authority to regulate the manufacturing, importation and use of medicines.

3.21.2 Water and Sanitation

Large areas in the country lack clean water and healthy waste disposal facilities. The SPLM/SPLA recognizes the right of every citizen to have access to clean water. In this respect, the SPLM/SPLA shall:

- 3.21.2.1 rehabilitate existing water pumps, haffirs and other facilities;
- 3.21.2.2 construct boreholes and other water sources where needed;
- 3.21.2.3 Train community-based water technicians;
- 3.21.2.4 Facilitate access to adequate and decent toilet facilities and appropriate and efficient waste disposal services.

3.21.3 Basic Education

Every South Sudanese has the right to education. Education enables all persons to participate effectively in a free society. It promotes understanding, tolerance and friendship among citizens irrespective of their ethnicity, religious affiliation or gender differences. The SPLM/SPLA therefore shall:

- 3.21.3.1 rehabilitate the present educational institutions;
- 3.21.3.2 build more educational facilities;
- 3.21.3.3 establish an educational system that combines theory and practice so that the educational system covers basic formal education, vocational training and other technical education;
- 3.21.3.4 make mandatory compulsory and free primary education for all;
- 3.21.3.5 ensure that secondary education in its different forms, including technical and vocational secondary education, shall be made generally available and accessible to all by every appropriate means, and in particular by progressive introduction of free education;
- 3.21.3.6 ensure that higher education is accessible to all on the basis of capacity and merit;
- 3.21.3.7 eradicate illiteracy among adults and achieve adult literacy tied to a specific timetable in order to achieve literacy for all;
- 3.21.3.8 produce relevant curriculum to both the needs for the individual, as well as the social and economic needs of society; and
- 3.21.3.9 undertake to respect the liberty of parents and when applicable, legal guardians, to choose for their children schools other than those established by public authorities which conform to such minimum educational standards as

may be laid down or approved by the State to ensure the religious and moral education of their children in conformity with their convictions.

3.21.4 Rural and Community Development

Rural development forms an essential component of the SPLM/SPLA programmes for redistribution of wealth and growth. The following actions shall be effected:

- 3.21.4.1 Take affirmative action in the allocation of resources in the provision of social services and physical infrastructure in order to establish a viable, productive rural economy through activities such as agro-industry;
- 3.21.4.2 initiate wide-ranging co-related and coordinated research to develop a comprehensive rural development programme, integrating the relevant sector policies, including those on land, local government, the environment and agriculture;
- 3.21.4.3 encourage and empower community leaders to work towards raising the level of consciousness in their communities and to mobilize the grassroots to undertake implementation of social services for the welfare of the individual and the community;
- 3.21.4.4 use the traditional institutions and organisations as channels for individual and community participation in developmental activities; and
- 3.21.4.5 provide credit facilities to the rural population to encourage production and commerce.

3.21.5 Housing

Provision of decent housing and accommodation to workers, government officials and other sectors of the community is of central importance. The SPLM/SPLA shall strive to meet this need at a reasonable cost to the tenant. The citizens will also be encouraged to own houses or flats on a hire-purchase basis on monthly instalments they can afford. The SPLM/SPLA henceforth shall develop a clear national housing policy to address housing in order to improve citizens overall living conditions. The SPLM/SPLA therefore shall:

- 3.21.5.1 acknowledge housing as a basic human right;
- 3.21.5.2 regard housing as contributing to social equality;
- 3.21.5.3 treat housing as a critical component of development;
- 3.21.5.4 encourage the private and cooperative sectors to mobilize resources and device innovative strategies for provision of affordable housing;
- 3.21.5.5 ensure that the poor, men and women in both urban and rural areas, have favourable access to credit facilities to enable them build decent houses; and
- 3.21.5.6 participate in partnerships with private and cooperative sectors to build affordable housing for citizens.

3.21.6 Culture and Religion

The SPLM/SPLA appreciates and respects the diversity of South Sudanese cultural values, heritage and beliefs. The SPLM/SPLA shall ensure:

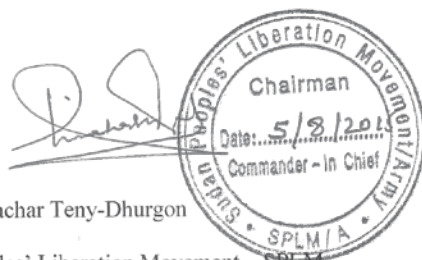
- 3.21.6.1 no person shall be denied the right to enjoy their own culture, to profess and practise their own religion, or to use their own language;
- 3.21.6.2 no particular nationality, whatever its size, has the right to impose its own identity over the others; and
- 3.21.6.3 promotion of a new cultural outlook that would create a conducive environment for mutual interaction amongst the cultures of the various nationalities.

3.21.7 Information

Currently there is a virtual absence of effective mass media in the marginalized areas of the South Sudan and other mechanisms for disseminating information. The legislation, the structure of the ownership of media resources, skill, language policy, and social deprivation have undermined access to information for the majority of the population. The SPLM/SPLA believes that the transition to democracy in the South Sudan entails a movement from a closed society into one based on a free flow of information and a culture of open debate. Therefore the SPLM/SPLA shall:

- 3.21.7.1 encourage the development of both print and electronic media to meet the needs of enlightenment, civic education, sensitisation of the people in areas such as peace, health, education, gender issues, agriculture and development in general.
- 3.21.7.2 Ensure the media serve as vehicles to promote social and ethnic integration, harmony, mutual respect and understanding;
- 3.21.7.3 enhance cultural and social activities of the people through liberalized media policy;
- 3.21.7.4 ensure that citizens have the right of access to information held or collected by the state or other social institution on the individual/community/institution, subject to any limitations provided for in statutes;
- 3.21.7.5 ensure there shall be no institutional or legislative measures restricting the free flow of information or imposing censorship over the media and other information agencies;
- 3.21.7.6 ensure the right to freely publish, broadcast, disseminate information and opinion on the one hand and the right of free access to information and opinion on the other;
- 3.21.7.7 ensure media subscribe to a standard of practice and/or code of conduct agreed upon among the producers and distributors of public information, communication and advertisement; and
- 3.21.7.8 ensure no restrictions on private broadcasting initiatives beyond the accepted constitutional constraints and technical regulations arising out of legislation governing the media.

Signed:



Dr. Riek Machar Teny-Dhurgon
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5 August 2015.

RMTD

