## **United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)**

Media & Spokesperson Unit Communications & Public Information Office

## PRESS RELEASE

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## UNMISS CONGRATULATES SOUTH SUDAN ON THE 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

The United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) Ms. Hilde F. Johnson congratulate the Republic of South Sudan on the second anniversary of its independence.

"Let us celebrate the Republic of South Sudan's second birthday, and renew our pledge to help its people achieve the enduring peace and prosperity they so richly deserve", SRSG Johnson said on the eve of the celebrations. "The global commitment of Mission as well as the United Nations remains robust, with 63 countries represented among the more than 10,000 civilian, military and police staff members serving in South Sudan" she added.

Since independence two years ago, sky-high expectations have been tempered by two years of austerity, frictions with Sudan and also internal tensions. UNMISS salutes the resilience and determination of the nation and its people to move forward. As history has shown, South Sudan has always managed to overcome ordeals and challenges. We trust that the leadership of the country will do its utmost to strengthen governance, reform its institutions and enhance the respect for the rights of all South Sudanese in the years to come.

UNMISS will continue to support the government's efforts to help restore peace and stability throughout the country and facilitate the establishment of conditions for development benefiting all the people of South Sudan.

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