



# United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

Media & Spokesperson Unit

Communications & Public Information Office

## PRESS RELEASE

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### UNMISS Organizes Women's Forum in Juba

The United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) will organize a Women's Forum on August 21<sup>st</sup> in Juba. The Forum, taking place at the Juba Civic Engagement Center, is an effort to empower women in South Sudan by providing them with a platform to express themselves. The conference will also be an opportunity for UNMISS to describe its mandate and the work of the Mission.

Some 30 women will attend the conference entitled "*Reflections of South Sudan's Women: Two Years of Independence*". Speakers will include members of the Legislative Assembly, journalists, and women leading civil society organizations such as the South Sudan Women Empowerment Network and the Voice for Change. Discussions will be held on achievements and challenges encountered by women after independence, different situations returnee women have faced, and women's access to information.

A similar Forum took place in Torit, Eastern Equatoria on 16 August. Organized by UNMISS with the Women's Association of Eastern Equatoria, the Forum brought together 35 women from all walks of life: rural communities, youth associations, politicians and activists. UNMISS representatives of human rights, gender, and civil affairs units attended the conference to discuss the Mission's mandate and UNMISS achievements in Eastern Equatoria.

UNMISS plans to continue organizing similar fora in an effort to strengthen the role of women in South Sudan, and promote, through their voices, peace and security.

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