Juba, 9 October 2013

UNMISS SRSG visits Northern Bahr El Ghazal

The Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General (SRSG) and Head of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), Ms. Hilde F. Johnson, concluded yesterday a two-day visit to Northern Bahr el Ghazal where she met with government officials, members of the State Legislative Assembly and representatives of civil society.

“The purpose of my visit is to listen, learn and understand achievements that have been made, how we can support them, and areas where we can improve to ensure that Northern Bahr el Ghazal remains one of the most peaceful states in South Sudan” SRSG Johnson said after meeting with Governor Paul Malong Awan in the State capital Aweil. She also commended local authorities for this year’s peaceful cross-border nomadic migration of Rizaigat and Misseriya.

The SRSG also traveled to Gok Machar where she was welcomed by the County Commissioner. In her discussions, SRSG Johnson underlined the role of UNMISS in strengthening local government by building capacity and supporting the police. She indicated that the Mission will help mobilize international partners to support the local community. The SRSG also took the opportunity to visit the UNMISS County Support Base as well as the Joint Border Verification Monitoring Mechanism (JVBMM) base.

SRSG Johnson is currently embarking on another series of visits to the 10 States. This was her second trip to the State of Northern Bahr el Ghazal since being appointed SRSG.