United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

Media & Spokesperson Unit Communications & Public Information Section

PRESS RELEASE

Juba, 8 July 2016

UNMISS condemns resurgence of violence ahead of South Sudan's Fifth Anniversary

The United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) condemns in the strongest terms the resurgence of violence in the country, which has resulted in numerous civilian casualties and injuries over the course of the week in Juba, Wau and Bentiu. UNMISS reiterates its calls on all parties to put an end to the ongoing fighting and refrain from inflicting further violence against innocent civilians.

We equally deplore the indiscriminate shooting attack on a senior United Nations agency official that took place yesterday evening in the Tomping area of Juba. Such an act constitutes a grave violation of the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) between the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and the United Nations. UNMISS calls on the authorities to investigate this incident and bring the perpetrators to account.

The UN and the international community are here to assist the people of South Sudan on their road to peace, and under no uncertain terms should its installation/premises or personnel be subjected to targeting nor violence.

The Special Representative of the Secretary General and head of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan, SRSG Ellen Margrethe Loej, urges all parties "on the eve of South Sudan's Fifth Anniversary of Independence to cease from engaging in violence and to focus on the implementation of the peace agreement for the benefit of all the people of South Sudan."

The UN remains resolved in fulfilling its mission in South Sudan and supporting the implementation of the Peace Agreement for a peaceful and prosperous country.

For further information or media enquiries,

Acting Spokesperson: Shantal Persaud – <u>persaud@un.org</u> +211 912 1 77 77 1 / +211 9121 77 592

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