



UNMISS PRESS STATEMENT

United Nations Mission In South Sudan
Working for the people of South Sudan

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UNMISS CONDEMNS THE ATTACKS ON LOU NUER CAMPS IN AKOBO AND WANDING AREAS

Juba, 13 March 2012 – On 9 March 2012, the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) received reports indicating that attacks took place by unknown armed attackers against several Lou Nuer cattle camps in areas bordering South Sudan and Ethiopia.

UNMISS dispatched patrols with medical teams to Akobo and Wanding areas to determine the circumstances of the clashes and to provide medical aid.

According to information provided by the local authorities, most of the cattle camps that were attacked are located within Ethiopia. Reports indicate that 63 wounded have been treated in Akobo hospital, but reliable casualty figures, including those killed, are not yet available.

UNMISS condemns these attacks and calls on all communities in Jonglei to exercise restraint and put an end to the inter-communal violence that has already caused huge suffering and resulted in an unacceptable loss of lives.

These attacks have also come at a time when the Government of the Republic of South Sudan has appointed a Peace Committee to work on establishing peace and reconciliation between the communities in Jonglei state. A voluntary and simultaneous civilian disarmament process has also been launched. Both actions are intending to break the cycle of deadly violence in the area.

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for South Sudan, Hilde F. Johnson, urges the communities to cooperate and ensure that these important initiatives are successfully implemented. The SRSG also urges the Government to effectively carry out its responsibility to protect the civilian population. This is key for establishing peace and stability in Jonglei in the long term.

For further information,

Please contact UNMISS Spokesperson a.i.: Kouider Zerrouk, Email: zerrouk@un.org . Phone: + (211) 912 396 539.

www.unmiss.unmissions.org, UNMISS Headquarters. UN House. Juba 03. P.O. Box 29, Juba, South Sudan