



United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

Media & Spokesperson Unit, Public Information Office

PRESS STATEMENT

Thursday 13 December, 2012

UNMISS CALLS FOR RESTRAINT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) expresses its deep concern over the violence and loss of life that occurred in Wau, the capital of Western Bahr El Ghazal State, on 8 and 9 December 2012.

Nine civilians have been confirmed killed and many more injured in incidents involving demonstrators and members of the security forces. The recent escalating tensions and the episodes of violence, as well as attacks on property, are of great concern.

UNMISS is investigating the use of force and other reports of violence in order to establish the facts behind these tragic events. The Mission is offering assistance to the Government of South Sudan and to State authorities in this regard.

It is positive that investigations into the events have commenced and that the National Legislative Assembly on Tuesday, 11 December, decided to establish a Fact Finding Committee to investigate and provide recommendations to facilitate a judicial inquiry.

UNMISS calls on the security forces to exercise maximum restraint and protect civilian life. The Mission also calls on the authorities to take prompt action to prevent an escalation of violence and to seek accountability if disproportionate force has been used during demonstrations. Lastly, UNMISS calls on all parties and the civilian population to remain calm and respect the rule of law.

*

For further information or media enquiries please contact:
A/Spokesperson-Kouider Zerrouk – zerrouk@un.org +211912396539
Media Relations Officer - Shantal Persaud persaud@un.org (m) +211 912 177 59

United Nations Mission in South Sudan - Public Information Office

www.unmiss.unmissions.org

UN House Juba 03, P.O. Box 29, Juba, South Sudan