

*As the holy month of Ramadan draws to a close with the celebration of Eid al-Fitr, I wish to extend my warm greetings to our Muslim colleagues in the UN family throughout South Sudan.*

*Each year, Ramadan is a time for peaceful reflection, spiritual development, and charity, and a reminder to consider those less fortunate than ourselves. As we mark the celebration of Eid, we are reminded of the ties that draw us together, regardless of religion, nationality, or cultural background. Above all, Eid is a time to celebrate our shared universal values - peace, equality and compassion - and to reflect on our place in the world around us.*

*In that spirit, let us all reinforce our hope for the future of South Sudan. As this young nation continues on its road towards peace, may its people and its leaders also remember these collective ties and shared values, which have the power to overcome anything that could ever divide. I remain confident that peace is indeed possible, and that South Sudan can have the future its people long for and deserve.*

*Eid Mubarak!*

*Ellen Margrethe Løj, SRSG*