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**Resolution 2126 (2013)**

**Adopted by the Security Council at its 7067th meeting, on  
25 November 2013**

*The Security Council,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions and its presidential statements on the situation in Sudan and South Sudan, and in particular, resolutions [1990 \(2011\)](#), [2024 \(2011\)](#), [2032 \(2011\)](#), [2046 \(2012\)](#), [2047 \(2012\)](#), [2075 \(2012\)](#), [2104 \(2013\)](#), as well as presidential statements [S/PRST/2012/19](#) and [S/PRST/2013/14](#), and the Council's press statements of 18 June 2012, 21 September 2012, 28 September 2012, 6 May 2013 and 14 June 2013,

*Reaffirming* its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity, and territorial integrity of Sudan and South Sudan, and to the purposes and the principles of the United Nations Charter, and recalling the importance of the principles of good neighbourliness, non-interference and regional cooperation,

*Reiterating* that the territorial boundaries of states shall not be altered by force, and that any territorial disputes shall be settled exclusively by peaceful means,

*Affirming* the priority it attaches to the full and urgent implementation of all outstanding issues from the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA),

*Reaffirming* its previous resolutions [1265 \(1999\)](#), [1296 \(2000\)](#), [1674 \(2006\)](#), [1738 \(2006\)](#) and [1894 \(2009\)](#) on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, [1612 \(2005\)](#), [1882 \(2009\)](#), [1998 \(2011\)](#), and [2068 \(2012\)](#) on children and armed conflict, [1502 \(2003\)](#) on the protection of humanitarian and United Nations personnel, and [1325 \(2000\)](#), [1820 \(2008\)](#), [1888 \(2009\)](#), and [1889 \(2009\)](#), [1960 \(2010\)](#) and [2122 \(2013\)](#) on women peace and security,

*Recalling* the commitments made by the Government of Sudan and the Government of South Sudan in the 20 June 2011 Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement on Temporary Arrangements for the Administration and Security of the Abyei Area, the 29 June 2011 Agreement between the Government of the Sudan and the Government of Southern Sudan on Border Security and the Joint Political and Security Mechanism (JPSM), and the 30 July 2011 Agreement on the Border Monitoring Support Mission between the Government of Sudan and the Government of South Sudan, as well as the 27 September 2012 Agreements on Cooperation and Security Arrangements, the JPSM's 8 March decision, and the Implementation Matrix of 12 March 2013,



reached by the Government of Sudan and the Government of South Sudan in Addis Ababa under the auspices of the African Union High-level Implementation Panel (AUHIP),

*Emphasizing* the importance of the full participation of women in the implementation of agreements and in the prevention and resolution of conflict and peacebuilding more broadly,

*Expressing* its full support for the efforts of the African Union on the situation between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan, in order to ease the current tension, facilitate the resumption of negotiations on post-secession relations and the normalization of their relations, *recalling* in this regard the AU Peace and Security Council Communiqués of 24 April 2012, 24 October 2012, 25 January 2013, 7 May 2013, 29 July 2013, 23 September 2013 and 26 October 2013, and Press Statement of 6 November, and the Statement from the Chairperson of the AU on 28 October 2013,

*Welcoming* the 5-6 November AUPSC visit to Abyei, and its continued engagement in seeking a lasting solution so that the communities in Abyei can coexist peacefully, *commending* the Governments of Sudan and South Sudan, and UNISFA for facilitating the visit, *strongly regretting* the November 5 violent demonstration and attempted forced entry by some Ngok Dinka at UNISFA's headquarters, and *welcoming* the peaceful resolution to the protest through a meeting with the AUPSC delegation,

*Welcoming* the efforts by the Government of Sudan and the Government of South Sudan to demilitarize the Safe Demilitarized Border Zone (SDBZ), including the "14 Mile Area", and to implement the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism (JBVMM), in accordance with Council resolution 2046 and the AU Peace and Security Council Roadmap of 24 April 2012,

*Underlining* the importance of establishing and maintaining effective JBVMM monitoring of the SDBZ, including the "14 Mile Area",

*Stressing* that both countries will have much to gain if they show restraint and choose the path of dialogue instead of resorting to violence or provocations,

*Welcoming* the importance of recent meetings of President Bashir and President Kiir in continuing dialogue, *recalling* the UNSC decision in resolution 2046 that the parties must resume immediately negotiations to reach agreement on Abyei final status under the auspices of the AUHIP, *calling upon* all parties to engage constructively in the process mediated by the AUHIP towards final agreement on the final status of Abyei Area, and *stressing* that the parties must immediately implement pending aspects of the 20 June 2011 Agreement, in particular to resolve the dispute over the Abyei Area Council and immediately establish the Abyei Area Administration and Abyei Police Service,

*Commending* the continued assistance provided to the parties by the AUHIP, including its Chairman President Thabo Mbeki, former Presidents Abdulsalami Abubakar and Pierre Buyoya, the Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Sudan and South Sudan, Haile Menkerios, and the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) under the leadership of Major General Yohannes Tesfamariam,

*Commending* the efforts of UNISFA in carrying out its mandate, including by its ongoing facilitation of peaceful migration throughout the Abyei Area and *expressing* its deep appreciation for the work of the troop contributing countries,

*Encouraged* by the improvements in security and stability in Abyei Area since the deployment of UNISFA, and *determined* to prevent the recurrence of violence against or displacements of civilians and to avert intercommunal conflict,

*Expressing* its determination that the future status of Abyei shall be resolved by negotiations between the parties in a manner consistent with the CPA and not by the unilateral actions of either party,

*Deeply concerned* by the public administration and rule of law vacuum in the Abyei Area, due to continued delays in the establishment of the Abyei Area Administration, Council and Police, including a special unit to deal with particular issues related to nomadic migration, which are essential to maintain law and order and prevent intercommunal conflict in Abyei,

*Noting with concern* the continued threat of intercommunal violence in the Abyei Area, including the ongoing tensions that prevent UNISFA's and other agencies' Sudanese staff from returning to Abyei,

*Noting* that the continued delay in establishing the temporary institutions and resolving the final status of Abyei contributes to tension in the region, *emphasizing* the importance of all parties refraining from any unilateral action to aggravate intercommunal relations within Abyei Area, and expressing concern over what the AUPSC described in their November 6 press statement as "the decision by the Ngok Dinka to conduct a unilateral referendum", in contravention of the agreements signed between the two sides, and despite the calls for restraint from the international community, including the United Nations Security Council, AU Peace and Security Council and Governments of Sudan and South Sudan,

*Bearing in mind* the importance of coherence of United Nations assistance in the region,

*Welcoming and encouraging* efforts by the United Nations to sensitize peacekeeping personnel in the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases in all of its peacekeeping operations,

*Stressing* the need for effective human rights monitoring, including of any sexual and gender-based violence and violations and abuses committed against children, taking note that there have been no developments with regard to the operationalization of human rights monitoring in the Abyei Area, and reiterating its concern at the lack of cooperation by the parties with the Secretary-General to this end,

*Stressing* the urgency of facilitating the delivery of humanitarian assistance to all affected communities in the Abyei Area,

*Affirming* the importance of voluntary, safe, orderly return and sustainable reintegration of displaced persons, and of peaceful and orderly migration cycles respecting the traditional migratory routes from Sudan to South Sudan through Abyei, and *urging* UNISFA to take measures as necessary to ensure security in the Abyei Area in accordance with its mandate,

*Recognizing* the deleterious impact of the proliferation of arms, on the security of civilians,

*Concerned* with the residual threat of landmines and explosive remnants of war in the Abyei Area, which hinders the safe return of displaced persons to their homes and safe migration,

*Recognizing* that the current situation in Abyei and along the border between the Sudan and South Sudan continues to constitute a serious threat to international peace and security,

*Welcoming* the steps taken by UNISFA towards the effective implementation of its mandate, including, inter alia, through conflict prevention, mediation and deterrence,

1. *Decides* to extend until 31 May 2014 the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) as set out in paragraph 2 of resolution [1990 \(2011\)](#) and modified by resolution [2024 \(2011\)](#) and paragraph 1 of resolution [2075 \(2012\)](#), and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, further decides to extend until 31 May 2014 the mandate of UNISFA as set out in paragraph 3 of resolution 1990, and *determines* that for the purposes of paragraph 1 of resolution [2024 \(2011\)](#), support to the operational activities of the JBVMM shall include support to the Ad Hoc Committees, as appropriate when so requested by consensual decisions of these mechanisms, within UNISFA's operational area and existing capabilities;

2. *Takes note* of the deployment in October of the initial group of 117 troops authorized by resolution [2104 \(2013\)](#) and *urges* deployment of the remaining authorized forces as soon as possible to enable UNISFA to provide required force protection to the JBVMM and to enable UNISFA to fully support the JBVMM to conduct extended operations into the SDBZ as soon as possible, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the Council fully updated on the status of deployment as part of his regular reporting cycle;

3. *Welcomes* the continued and effective efforts to fully operationalize the JBVMM, and *calls on* the Government of Sudan and the Government of South Sudan to make timely and effective use of the JBVMM, JPSM, and other agreed joint mechanisms to ensure the security and transparency of the SDBZ, including the "14 Mile Area";

4. *Welcomes also* the creation of the AU Border Programme Technical Team (AUBP TT) to determine conclusively the SDBZ centreline on the ground, and reiterates that the centreline of the SDBZ in no way prejudices the current or future legal status of the border, ongoing negotiations on the disputed and claimed areas, and demarcation of the borders, *welcoming further* both Governments' commitments to accept the AUBP TT's findings;

5. *Underscores* that UNISFA's protection of civilians mandate as set out in paragraph 3 of resolution [1990 \(2011\)](#) includes taking the necessary actions to protect civilians under imminent threat of physical violence, irrespective of the source of such violence;

6. *Welcomes* the redeployment of Sudanese military and South Sudanese military and police personnel from the Abyei Area in compliance with resolution [2046](#), and *reiterates* its demand that the Government of Sudan redeploy the Oil

Police in Diffra from the Abyei Area immediately and without preconditions, and *further reiterates*, in accordance with relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 1990 and resolution 2046, that the Abyei Area shall be demilitarized from any forces, as well as armed elements of the local communities, other than UNISFA and the Abyei Police Service;

7. *Reiterates* its demand that Sudan and South Sudan urgently commence the establishment of the Abyei Area Administration and Council, including by resolving the deadlock over the composition of the Council, and constitute the Abyei Police Service, to enable it to take over policing functions throughout the Abyei Area, including the protection of oil infrastructure, in accordance with their commitments in the 20 June 2011 Agreement;

8. *Urges* Sudan and South Sudan to immediately resume the work of the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee (AJOC) to ensure steady progress on the implementation of the 20 June 2011 Agreement, including the implementation of the AJOC decisions;

9. *Supports* the AJOC's May 3 decision on Abyei's status as a weapons-free area, *underscores* the AU Peace and Security Council's concern in its 7 May 2013 Communiqué over reports that various communities living in Abyei are heavily armed, *recalls* that the 20 June 2011 Agreement on Temporary Arrangements for the Administration and Security of the Abyei Area stipulates that Abyei should be a weapons-free area and that only UNISFA is authorized to carry weapons inside the area, and likewise *urges* the two Governments to take all necessary steps to ensure that Abyei is effectively demilitarized, including through disarmament programmes as necessary;

10. *Requests* that UNISFA, consistent with its mandate and within its existing capabilities, observe, document and report on the movement of weapons into Abyei and the presence of weapons within Abyei as part of the Secretary-Generals' regular reporting cycle;

11. *Urges* the two Governments immediately to take steps to implement confidence-building measures among the respective communities in Abyei Area, including through reconciliation processes at the grassroots level, and strongly urges all Abyei communities to exercise maximum restraint in all their engagements and to desist from inflammatory acts or statements that may lead to violent clashes, or any further unilateral activities;

12. *Requests* UNISFA to continue its dialogue with the AJOC and with the Misseriya and Ngok Dinka communities on effective strategies and oversight mechanisms for ensuring full compliance by all relevant parties with Abyei's status as a weapons-free area, with a particular priority placed on the urgent elimination of heavy or crew-served weapons, as well as rocket-propelled grenades, and *calls upon* the Governments of Sudan and South Sudan, the AJOC, and the Misseriya and Ngok Dinka communities to extend full cooperation to UNISFA in this regard;

13. *Calls upon* all parties to cooperate fully with the findings and recommendations following the Abyei Area Joint Investigation and Inquiry Committee's (AAJIIC's) investigation into the killing of a UNISFA peacekeeper and the Ngok Dinka paramount chief;

14. *Expresses* its intention to review as appropriate the mandate of UNISFA for possible reconfiguration of the mission in light of the compliance by Sudan and South Sudan with the decisions set forth in resolution 2046 and their commitments as set forth in the Agreements of 20 June, 29 June, 30 July 2011 and 27 September 2012, including the redeployment of all forces from the SDBZ, achieving full operational capability for the JVBMM, and the Ad Hoc Committees, as well as completing the full demilitarization of the Abyei Area;

15. *Takes note* of the Secretary-General's review of UNISFA's configuration in accordance with resolution 2104, and the assessment of the relevant risks and threats, and the force posture and troop ceiling required for implementation of its mandate;

16. *Calls upon* all Member States, in particular Sudan and South Sudan, to ensure the free, unhindered and expeditious movement to and from Abyei and throughout the SDBZ of all personnel, as well as equipment, provisions, supplies and other goods, including vehicles, aircraft, and spare parts, which are for the exclusive and official use of UNISFA;

17. *Renews* its call on Sudan and South Sudan to provide full support to the United Nations, including by promptly issuing visas to military, police and civilian United Nations personnel, including humanitarian personnel, without prejudice to their nationality, facilitating basing arrangements and flight clearances, and providing logistical support, and *calls on* all parties to fully adhere to their obligations under the Status of Forces Agreements;

18. *Recognizes* the absence of critical infrastructure projects affecting UNISFA peacekeeping personnel, *notes* the action being taken to address this situation, and *urges* the Secretary-General to continue to take the measures available to him to remediate this situation and better enable UNISFA to implement its mandate;

19. *Demands* that the Government of Sudan and the Government of South Sudan continue to facilitate the deployment of the United Nations Mine Action Service to ensure JVBMM freedom of movement as well as the identification and clearance of mines in the Abyei Area and SDBZ;

20. *Demands* that all parties involved provide humanitarian personnel with full, safe and unhindered access to civilians in need of assistance and all necessary facilities for their operations, in accordance with international law, including applicable international humanitarian law, and United Nations guiding principles of humanitarian assistance;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that effective human rights monitoring is carried out, and the results included in his reports to the Council, and *reiterates* its call upon the Government of Sudan and the Government of South Sudan to extend their full cooperation to the Secretary-General to this end, including by issuing visas to the concerned United Nations personnel;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure full compliance of UNISFA with the United Nations zero tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuses and to keep the Council informed if cases of such conduct occur;

23. *Stresses* that continued cooperation between the Government of Sudan and Government of South Sudan is also critical for peace, security and stability and the future relations between them;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to inform the Council of progress in implementing UNISFA's mandate in 90-day intervals, and continue to bring to the Council's immediate attention any serious violations of the above referenced agreements;

25. *Notes* the Secretary-General's efforts to ensure close cooperation among United Nations missions in the region, including UNISFA, the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS), and the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID), as well as his Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan, and requests him to continue this practice;

26. *Decides* to remain actively seized of this matter.

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