



U.S. EMBASSY JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN  
Office of Public Affairs

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**For Immediate Release**

**April 10, 2014**

The following press statement was issued today by the United States, Norway, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom Missions, and the Delegation of the European Union to South Sudan:

**PRESS STATEMENT**

The United States, Norway, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom Missions, and the Delegation of the European Union welcome the South Sudan Human Rights Commission's (SSHRC) release of its Interim Report on the South Sudan Internal Conflict. Despite difficult circumstances, the SSHRC staff forged ahead to fulfill their constitutional mandate. Their report strives to provide a balanced and independent view of the causes of the conflict and of abuses and violations committed by both parties to the conflict. We encourage them to continue their important work as they prepare the upcoming SSHRC Annual Report.

Much work remains to ensure justice and accountability for human rights abuses in South Sudan. We call on all parties to cooperate fully with the SSHRC as well as others such as the African Union's Commission of Inquiry (COI), UNMISS and other UN institutions responsible for investigating and reporting on human rights abuses and violations. Independent and public monitoring, investigation and reporting are vital to accountability efforts, and can help lay the groundwork for justice, accountability, and reconciliation among South Sudan's communities.

We remain gravely concerned about the humanitarian cost of the crisis in South Sudan. As of April 3, more than one million South Sudanese have been displaced by the violence. This humanitarian crisis is a direct result of the ongoing violence and the parties' violating the Cessation of Hostilities agreement they signed on Jan 23, 2014. We call on all parties to cease military engagements and attacks on civilians, and to allow UNMISS to carry out its mandate to protect civilians and facilitate full, unfettered humanitarian access to all parts of South Sudan.

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