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## **Article 30 on South Sudan**

### **Developments in South Sudan Conflict: SPLM/A-In Opposition (SPLM/A-IO) Shifting Heavy Weights from the Negotiations to Governance.**

Our Articles 1 to 3 and 5 to 29 were situation analyses of the conflict in South Sudan. Our articles 4 (A), 4 (B) and 4 (C) were the first of our series on “Who is Who”. This article (30) is dedicated to analysing frustration of the SPLM/A-IO with Addis/IGAD process and reassigning heavy weights to their newly established Governance Structures.

#### **Background**

Dr. Machar’s interview with Sudan tribune on June 30<sup>th</sup> 2014 in Addis Ababa just before his travel to South Africa needs to be well studied. We quote:

*“The driving force should not be the IGAD. IGAD should be the moderator. They bring us together since we are willing to come together under the auspices of IGAD, the parties should drive the process,”*

That, in a nut shell, what Mediation is.

We quote again:

*“The government of South Sudan sits in the summit when they are making decisions about peace and president Museveni sits in the summit when they are talking about South Sudan.”*

Such possible bias can be addressed in the Mediation Process.

We quote once more from the interview:

*“For example we initiated the stakeholders to be participant. We want them participants in a consultative manner. We don’t want them to be negotiating with us because we have no problem with them but we appreciate that we consult them.”*

Technically, there is no room in the negotiations room for Civil Society, Spiritual leaders or the Group 11 reduced to group 9 and counting down. They are not direct party to the conflict. See the ICG Alert circulated by us earlier on.

Another quote to note

*“This I hope will be the way forward since the two parties want direct negotiations between themselves with IGAD facilitating instead of IGAD imposing issues themselves. But this concern doesn’t mean the mediation be moved to UN or AU”*

It is to be commended that the SPLM/A-IO wants to stay with IGAD; but IGAD must “deliver” to keep this spirit.

One more quote from the interview:

*“So you can’t form such a government before you reach a political agreement, addressing the root cause of the problem, restructuring the state, a program for national reconciliation and healing and for accountability.”*

SPLM/A-IO is not only disinterested in any ill conceived, premature Transitional Government, but-in frustration or by design- have gone ahead and formed their own government and moved most of the heavy weights from Addis talks to run that “Quasi” Government.

**Let us detail:**

**The negotiation team of the SPLM/A-IO was made up of 16 members who were:**

1. Hon. Taban Deng Gai - Team Leader
  - Former Governor of Unity State
  - Member of Politico Bureau
  - From Unity State - Nuer
2. Hon. Alfred Lado Gore.- Team Member
  - Former Minister of Environment (GRSS)
  - Member of SPLM National Liberation Council
  - From Central Equatorial State - Bari
3. Hon. Gabriel Changson Lew - Member of delegation (*Currently was acting Chief Negotiator*)
  - Former Minister of Finance, Information and Wildlife (GRSS)
  - Chairperson of UDSF
  - From Upper Nile State - Nuer
4. Hon.(Mrs) Angelina Teny. - Member of delegation
  - Former Deputy Minister of Petroleum - Khartoum
  - Member of SPLM National Liberation Council
  - From Unity State - Nuer
5. Hon. Hussein Mar Nyuot - Member of delegation
  - Former Deputy Governor of Jonglei State
  - Deputy Chairperson of SPLM, Jonglei State
  - Member of State Legislative Assembly
  - From Jonglei State - Nuer
6. Hon. Dr. Dhieu Mathok Wol - Team member
  - Former Chairman of Employee Justice Chamber Commission
  - Member of SPLM National Liberation Council
  - From Northern Bahr El Ghazal State - Dinka
7. Hon. Dak Doup Bichok. - Team Member
  - Former Governor of Upper Nile State

- From Upper Nile State - Nuer
- 8. Hon. Aggri Idri.
  - Team Member
  - Former Manager of South Sudan Nile Commercial Bank
  - Member of SPLM National Liberation Council
  - From Western Equatorial State - Moro
- 9. Hon. Stephen Par Kuol.
  - Team member
  - Former Minister of Education, Jonglei State
  - Former Diplomat
  - From Jonglei State - Nuer
- 10. Hon. (Mrs) Sophia Pal Gai - Team Member
  - Secretary of Administration and Finance, SPLM Secretariat
  - Member of National Legislative Assembly
  - Member of SPLM liberation Council
  - From Upper Nile State - Nuer
- 11. Hon. (Mrs) Bongout Amum Okech - Team Member  
(Sister of Pagan)
  - Member of National Legislative Assembly
  - Member of SPLM National Liberation Council
  - From Jonglei State - Shuluk married to Murle
- 12. Cde. Mabior Garang De Mabior - Team Member
  - SPLA Officer
  - From Jonglei State - Dinka
- 13. Cde. Martin Abucha.
  - Team Member
  - Former Employee of Bureau of Census and statistics
  - Member of Rally for peace and Democracy (RPD)
  - From Eastern Equatoria State - Madi
- 14. Cde. Pout Kang.
  - Team Member
  - Member of SPLM national Secretariat - youth department
  - From Upper Nile State - Nuer
- 15. Cde. Tor Tounguar.
  - Team Member
  - SPLM Secretary, Unity State
  - From Unity State, Nuer
- 16. Cde. Hatim Chaui Deng - Team Member
  - Former Public Relation Officer, Office of Former Vice President
  - From Upper Nile State, Dinka

**9 Nuers, 3 Dinkas, 3 Equatorians and one Shuluk.**

## What happened?

Now 9 heavy weight members of the 16 have been taken away to chair or deputy chair the 12 Committees (Government Organs) of the SPLM/A-IO. This includes the Chief Negotiator and the Deputy Chief.

### They are:

1. Taban Deng Gai – Chair of the National Committee for Peace and Reconciliation
  - Former Governor of Unity State
  - Member of Politico Bureau
  - From Unity State - Nuer
2. Dr. Dhieu Mathok Wol - Chair for External Relations
  - Former Chairman of Employee Justice Chamber Commission
  - Member of SPLM National Liberation Council
  - From Northern Bahr El Ghazal State – Dinka
3. Mabior Garang De Mabior – Chair of Information and Public Relations
  - SPLA Officer
  - From Jonglei State - Dinka
4. Hussein Mar Nyuot - Chair for Humanitarian Affairs
  - Former Deputy Governor of Jonglei State
  - Deputy Chairperson of SPLM, Jonglei State
  - Member of State Legislative Assembly
  - From Jonglei State - Nuer
5. Gabriel Changson Lew – Chair of Finance and Resource Mobilization
  - Former Minister of Finance, Information and Wildlife (GRSS)
  - Chairperson of UDSF
  - From Upper Nile State - Nuer
6. Stephen Par Kuol. – Chair for Education
  - Former Minister of Education, Jonglei State
  - Former Diplomat
  - From Jonglei State - Nuer
7. (Mrs) Bongout Amum Okech – Chair of women and youth empowerment
  - Member of National Legislative Assembly
  - Member of SPLM National Liberation Council
  - From Jonglei State - Shuluk married to Murle
8. (Mrs) Sophia Pal Gai – Deputy for Taban Deng
  - Secretary of Administration and Finance, SPLM Secretariat
  - Member of National Legislative Assembly
  - Member of SPLM liberation Council
  - From Upper Nile State - Nuer
9. Aggri Izboni Idri. – Deputy for Gabriel Changson
  - Former Manager of South Sudan Nile Commercial Bank
  - Member of SPLM National Liberation Council
  - From Western Equatorial State - Moro

**These are: 4 Nuers, 2 Dinkas, 2 Moro and one Shuluk.**

Hence only 7 of the original 16 remain for the talks in Addis. 9 members who sat through most of the sessions and started to understand the process (as inadequate as it may be) and are now gone and it is far-fetched that they will come back to the hall in the full-time basis they did before. They now have a government to run.

But why did Dr. Machar and his team take this move of establishing his quasi government and staff it with 60% of the negotiating team?

**May it be Fatigue and frustration?**

If we read Dr. Machar's interview with Sudan Tribune

If we note the cadre he selected for the quasi government in his held land

If we observe his pattern and style of travel

If we trace where his senior staff now are

If we trace the frequency and time of "recess" of the Mediation Process versus the "in session"

If we analysis the pre-mature "flight" by the Chairperson of the IGAD Special Envoys (Chief Mediator) to the informal meeting with the UNSC on June 27<sup>th</sup> (wait for our full analysis)

And if we observe the general lack of any *serious* "collective will" by the regional and international community other than for Humanitarian Issues (and even that is lukewarm at best as the envelope is still \$ one billion short and no one knows for sure who is in charge)

We may probably understand why Dr. Machar and Party are re-measuring their concern and engagement with the IGAD Mediation Process in Addis Ababa

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