



## Statement

### The Agreement Between SPLA/M N and SAF

7<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024

Justice Africa Sudan welcome the agreement between Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and Sudan People Liberation Army (North) to facilitate delivery of humanitarian Aid to conflict- affected areas in South Kordofan state, we believe the agreement represent step in the right direction which long overdue.

Since the start of the ongoing war between Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023 South Kordofan state has suffered from the spread of the conflict to some parts of the state and the clashes between SAF and RSF in North Kordofan state block the main supply road to the state and tighten the siege over it as most movements of people and goods to the state come through main roads which cross North Kordofan from central , north Sudan or the main Ports in Eastern Sudan, the roads also represented the main passages of products such agricultural products and livestock for export.

Clashes between SAF and SPLA N in the last ten months , around Kadogli and El Dalinj towns led to the closure of the main roads between Kadogli and El Dalinj in additional to that element from RSF and some Allied tribal militias blocked the El Oboed El Dalanj, road all these factors left the city of Kadogli under siege for over nine months increasing the prices of essential commodities with the price of sack of sorghum reaching 100 thousand Sudanese Pound, and for that reason people in South Kordofan state resort to AL Naam Market in Republic of South Sudan to get some of the essential goods.

Recently the only way to get to Kosti in White Nile state from the eastern part of South Kordofan is through long and very rough road which take over two days and that road will close as soon as the rain start falling in the area,

Roads closure also threatening the agriculture season as its difficult to get the needed inputs, Blocking the main roads between North Kodofan and central Sudan by RSF and its allied militias and increased numbers of armed gangs, The recent attacks by RSF and allied militias on Gardod Njam, AL Morad, AL Dyer mountains and villages surrounding the mountains which led to mass displacement of thousands of civilians, looting and destruction of their properties creating one of the worse humanitarian crises.

Addressing the humanitarian crisis need urgent actions taking in to consideration the coming rainy season which just few days away and if rain start falling in this area that will make movement of people and goods very difficult.

The tribal militias and former member of the Popular Defence Forces (PDF) recently their name changed to friends' forces, represent a serious threat to peace and stability in the area, as most to them are using arms and ammunition supplies to them by SAF as part of their counter-insurgency policies.

Last year the harvest in South Kordofan was very bad due to numbers of factors include, poor rain, lack of input such as fuel, seeds, pesticides, and the spread of locusts. And due to the road closure local people failed to get market to other product such as Gum Arabic and other forestry products as that used to compensate them in poor harvests.

**For the success of the efforts to address the humanitarian crisis and looming famine we demand the following:**

- We urge SAF and SPLM-A to immediately sign secession of hostilities, and for the two parties to restore peace and security in the region.
- For SAF and SPLA N jointly must ensure the opening of the major roads to El Obied North Kordofan and Kosti.

- Using South Sudan roads for passing through assistance that require urgent move as the roads linking South Sudan to South Kordofan are not proper road and will close in the rainy season,

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