

NATIONAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND PLANNING

"Towards a Diversified, Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth"

"I am today directing the Ministry of Finance and Planning to organize South Sudan's National Economic Conference that will complement the ongoing Public Finance Management Reforms."

H.E. Gen. Salva Kiir Mayardit
President of the Republic of South Sudan

PRICE FREE COPY

www.mofp.gov.ss



0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0



H.E. Dr. James Wani Igga
Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan
Chair of Economic Cluster

Hon. Dr. Bak Barnaba Chol
Minister of Finance and Planning

1.	Overview	4
2.	Concept note	6
3.	Program schedule	12
4.	Messages	20
	• President Kiir Speech	20
	• First Vice President	24
	• VP- Economic Cluster	25
	• VP-Services Cluster	26
	• VP-Infrastructure Cluster	27
	• Minister of Finance and Planning	28
	• Egyptian Minister of Finance	31
5.	Committees' Membership Structure	32
	• High-level steering Committee	32
	• Technical/ Organizing Committee	32
	• Sub-Committees	33
	• Secretariat	33
6.	Papers presented	34
7.	Highlights	43
	a. Highlight 1	43
	b. Highlight 2	46
8.	Features	48
9.	Communique	52
10.	Pictorials	60
	• Group photos	60
	• Group Photos of panelists	63
	• Photos from attendance	64
	• Parting shots of the event	66
	• Logos of key stakeholders	69
11.	Note of thanks	70

CONTENTS







An Overview of:

1st NATIONAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

The Government of South Sudan is convening its first National Economic Conference from 4th - 8th September 2023 in Juba under the theme: “Towards a Diversified, Inclusive, and Sustainable Economic Growth”.

This conference provides a pivotal platform that underscores the urgency and strategic importance of economic reforms for the nation’s progress. It serves as a catalyst to address economic challenges, capitalize on untapped opportunities, and promotes Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to partake in the country’s growth trajectory. The space provides for high-level government officials, economists, business leaders, and other stakeholders to collectively address and outline a comprehensive economic reform.

Why the National Economic Conference?

To address economic reforms through transformation and diversification in the following areas:

1. **Investment Opportunities:** the investment sectors beyond oil are not only beneficial to investors, but also contribute to skills development, technology transfer,

knowledge sharing, and the infusion of capital to boost economic growth and development.

2. **Stimulate the Economic Growth:** foster conducive investment environment, facilitate the ease of doing business, enhance transparency and accountability, and strengthen the governance economic system. It focuses on sectors beyond oil, such as: agriculture, manufacturing, infrastructure, mining, energy, tourism and services, which have the potential to drive economic diversification, create jobs, and boost inclusive growth.
3. **Promote Economic Diversification:** The conference aims to explore avenues for reducing reliance on oil by promoting investments in non-oil sectors.
4. **Enhance Investment Climate:** The focus is on showcasing policy reforms, regulations, and incentives that attract external investors.
5. **Facilitate Partnerships:** The conference facilitates partnerships between local and international businesses, fostering knowledge exchange and resource-sharing.
6. **Showcase Potential:** By highlighting investment opportunities, the government aims to project the untapped potential in various sectors.
7. **Generate Support for Reforms:** Engaging stakeholders and international partners builds consensus for economic reforms.

Expected Outcomes

The National Economic Conference is expected to yield several outcomes. These include: the identification of priority sectors for investment, agreements on policy reforms, establishment of public-private partnerships, and commitment from potential investors. Ultimately, the conference's success will be measured by tangible economic growth, job creation, and the



transformation of South Sudan into a diversified and resilient economy. This National Economic Conference reflects South Sudan's commitment to charting a new economic discourse, inviting collaboration with potential investors to create a foundation for sustainable development.

Concept Note

SOUTH SUDAN 1ST NATIONAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE (NEC)

8 – 4 September, 2023



A. Introduction and Background

South Sudan is recovering from yearslong conflict that has devastated the country and ebbed economic resilience for many households. The recovery effort has however been derailed by numerous factors, including natural disasters, the current conflict in the Sudan, the lingering impacts of COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine, and a level of sluggishness in the global economy not seen in more than eight decades. As a result of current global crisis, countries have lost the ability to grow because the global economy has changed characteristics as we have gone from a global economy that was lacking enough demand to a global economy that is lacking enough supply. Simultaneously, there is an economic deceleration in the three major economies of the US, EU and China. Indeed, this economic crisis is bad for all countries and worse for nations like South Sudan with its unique challenges such lack of adequate local productive capacity, landlocked-ness, and an insufficiently diversified economy.

To cushion itself against these adverse factors, South Sudan undertook a number of economic reform agenda aimed at improving domestic revenue mobilization, enhancing the Public Financial Management Reform to strengthen economic governance and create conducive conditions for economic stability. Additionally, the Ministry of Finance and Planning and the Bank of South Sudan adopted measures to restore fiscal discipline, implementing a rules-based monetary policy framework, and eliminating distortions in the foreign exchange market.

Furthermore, South Sudan has been working with development partners including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on a number of programs aimed at improving the overall economic performance. In early March 2023, the IMF Executive Board approved a disbursement of \$ 114.8 million for South Sudan under the Food Shock Window of the Rapid Credit Facility (RCF) – a much needed relief for an economy devastated by many factors, some of which are beyond internal control. While many obstacles still abound, the success of Staff Monitored Program (SMP) implemented by IMF and the Ministry of Finance and Planning has been one of the most successful, indicating a great potential for institutional strengthening in South Sudan. The challenge for South Sudan now is to continue on the same path, guided by the Public Financial Management Reform Strategy (PFMRS), which is provided for under Chapter IV of the R-ARCSS and to address the current volatilities in the market.

Recognizing that the economic challenges faced by South Sudan require a more wholistic approach that addresses multisector and

multifaceted strategies, H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit, in his address at the reopening of Parliament following recess, directed Minister of Finance and Planning, Hon. Dier Tong Ngor to organize a National Economic Conference that will leapfrogged the ongoing Public Financial Management Reforms and agree a road map for achieving macroeconomic stability and future sustainable economic growth for the country. The President asserted that the Conference shall bring together all stakeholders, including development partners, to deliberate on and address the fundamental economic challenges the country is faced with.

The said conference shall promote policy dialogue aimed at enhancing macroeconomic stability, sustainable financial resource mobilization, effective planning and budgeting, prudent resource allocation and government spending, organizational capacity strengthening, and overall inter-governmental fiscal discipline and business environment enabling.

Furthermore, the conference shall be an opportunity for South Sudan to showcase its investment opportunities to the world. From investments in energy and transport, to oil and real estate, South Sudan is a fertile ground and a new frontier for proactive businesses to make potentially huge returns on foreign direct investments, and this conference shall be an opportunity for country to reiterate its commitments to protecting investors' properties and rebuild confidence in the economy.

B. Theme of the Conference

The theme of this conference shall be “Towards a Diversified, Inclusive, and Sustainable Economic growth”.

The overall objective of NEC is to develop a roadmap for South Sudan' economic development in the medium term. The conference also aims to develop clear policies and measures to increase the competitiveness and flexibility of the South Sudanese economy.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE NEC;

- i) To inform all the economic sectors, stakeholders and development partners about the current status of economic and PFM government reforms, achievements and challenges.
- ii) To allow all the economic sectors, stakeholders and development partners to present their main concerns and challenges on the economic situation in South Sudan, and proposals to address them.
- iii) To identify a limited number of key priority policies to tackle the present and medium-term economy problems and challenges.
- iv) To identify policies to move South Sudan out of dependency on oil revenue to finance the government budget.
- v) To identify right fiscal and monetary policies that MoFP and BOSS can adapt to achieve macroeconomic stability e.g., exchange rate policy, inflation and budget deficits challenges.
- vi) To improve resource mobilization and prudent spending at the states level. Emphasis shall be placed on the establishment of transparent and accountable non-oil revenue-generating systems in the states.
- vii) To ensure better coordination and collaboration mechanisms between the National Ministry of Finance and the State Ministries of Finance.
- viii) To initiate and enhance projects coordination mechanism between the National and State Governments in preparation to moving out from third-party implementation to government-led implementation.
- ix) To evaluate the effectiveness of States allocation frameworks, including the formula used to allocate block and conditional transfers.



C. Agenda

The agenda of the conference will focus on four broad tracks including:

- a) Macroeconomic policies,
- b) Private sector development,
- c) Creating a business-friendly environment, and
- d) Dormulating a roadmap for the priority sectors in the government's work program.

This will be done through a number of interactive sessions that will discuss the visions and ideas of experts on what policies are required to achieve national goals in several priority sectors in the South Sudanese economy and the measures required to overcome the challenges facing those sectors. The conference is expected to close with clear conclusions and recommendations. The conference will also have roundtable sessions with the participation of government representatives as well as economists and representatives of private sector parties.

D. Participants of NEC

This National Economic Conference will bring together a number of participants from national and states/administrative areas government officials, members of parliament, private sector (e.g., Chamber of commerce) Academia and

Think Tanks, trade Union, Economic Cluster Ministries, Experts and Development Partners, for a Five-day deliberation on policy issues pertinent to the economic development frameworks. The Technical Committee of the Conference will agree the exact number of participants from each sector. The Committee will also develop the conference LOGO and will launch a dedicated website to solicit ideas of what should be discussed in the conference and to share the discussions and the final conclusions and recommendations of the conference on the said website.

E. Preparation of Inception Phase

The Ministry of Finance shall put in place necessary preparations including catering for the tickets, accommodation, local transportation and Per Diem, for all the stakeholders invited for the conference.

The NEC Organizing Committee shall be established to perform the following duties;

- i. Identify a qualified consultant to provide technical support needed for the conference.
- ii. Identify and invite experts on all thematic, who will present high quality policy papers to initiate discussions at the conference.
- iii. Draft and sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the identified consultant on behalf of the Ministry of Finance and Planning, indicating the obligations, terms and conditions attached to the appointment of the consultant;



- iv. Review all the materials shared by the consultant and/or related to the conference, and approve as the committee sees best fit the objectives of the conference as envisioned by the Ministry of Finance and Planning;
- v. Organize and publish all the materials related to the conference on the conference website;
- vi. Handle all administrative and logistical issues related to the conference; including drafting invitation letters, resource mobilization, advertisement and liaising with vendors among other roles, to ensure the overall success of the conference;

F. Expected Outputs of NEC

This policy engagement conference is expected achieve the following outputs.

- i) A conference report, conclusions, and recommendations, action plan (timelines and responsible).
- ii) A compilation of the proceedings of the conference, incorporating relevant comments and policy deliberations.
- iii) Clear Policy briefs on the right Macroeconomic Parameters.

G. Implementation Mechanism

This National Economic Conference shall be organized by the Ministry of Finance in consultation with relevant authorities including the Economic Cluster Ministries, the National



Revenue Authority, the Bank of South Sudan and the development partners, and convened under the auspices of H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan.

A NEC Organizing Committee comprised of technocrats has been constituted to put together reports and recommendations of NEC. This team shall also help identify experts on specific topics to make informed presentations on given thematic areas.

The conference shall feature presentations by national and international experts on selected areas, and propose policy recommendations meant to enhance macroeconomic performance and make path for sustained socio-economic transformation.

Key stakeholders shall be invited to make a presentation on the state-of-affairs of their institutions in the states and Administration Areas, as well as priority areas for their respective entities. This shall further enrich discussions and improve the overall quality of the Policy Statement as a precursor to national budget preparation processes.



The IMF and the World Bank shall also be invited to make specific suggestions on how best the institutions of government can enhance cooperation to achieve collective outcome.

H. Thematic Areas of Engagement

The Technical Committee shall identify experts, with support of partners to make high quality presentations on the following thematic areas:

- PFM Reform Agenda: Challenges in Implementation and Strategies for Success.
- South Sudan Macroeconomic Overview, achievements, challenges and plans.
- Development Partners Programs
- Banking sector and financial intermediary role (Bank and Non-Bank Institutions), focuses on FCV country experiences.
- Civil Service challenges in SS and international experience in FCV countries.
- Services sector ministries
- Gendering the economic reforms and economic development
- Fiscal Federalism and the role of our states and administrative areas. International experiences.
- Localization of SDGs and Agenda 2063: Implementation of National Development Plan.
- Human capital formation and Education?
- Physical Infrastructure (roads, telecommunication), benefits and economic impact... international examples FCV countries.
- Energy (Hydroelectricity, renewable energy)
- Investment (Agriculture, Industrialization)
- Environment and Climate Change
- International experiences -examples- on

failed and successful exit strategies from third-party implementation to government-led implementation.

I. Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

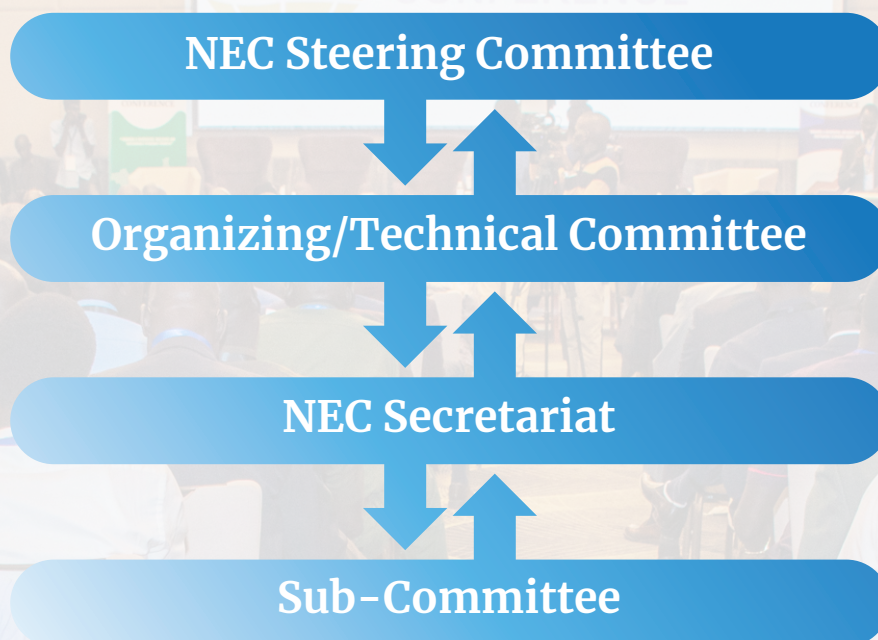
Finally, to ensure a good monitoring mechanism for implementation of resolutions and recommendations adopted from the National Economic Conference, a Policy Working Group should be established to act as a solid overseer of the implementation of the NEC recommendations, and should present an annual account of what has been achieved on various fronts.

J. Identified Potential Partners

- National Ministry of Finance and Planning (MoF&P)
- Relevant government ministries, departments and agencies
- Government Parastatals including NilePet, NCA, SSBC
- Academics, Private sector representatives
- Development partners i.e., World Bank (WB), UNDP, UNICEF, World Food Program (WFP), African Development Bank, Embassies, etc
- Political parties
- Private Banks (EcoBank, Equity, KCB, Stanbic, Cooperative, Afriland First Bank, Nile Commercial Bank, Alpha Bank, Ivory Bank)
- Dar Petroleum Operating Company (DPOC)
- Greater Pioneer Operating Company (GPOC)
- Sudd Petroleum Operating Company (SPOC)
- Trinity Energy
- Telecom Companies (MTN, ZAIN, DIGITEL)
- Ezra Power Company



Proposed NEC Leadership Structure:



Roles:

Body	Composition	Roles
NEC Steering Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chaired by the Minister of Finance • Ministers of the Economic Cluster • Head of Technical Committee to be the Secretary/Hon. Undersecretary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide overall leadership and guidance • Sign official invitation letters for the dignitaries. • Receiving high level dignitaries
Organizing/ Technical Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members in the Ministerial order • Co-opted members from key institutions including Presidency, Security Sector, Cabinet Affairs and Foreign Affairs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with consultants and partners • Make necessary preparations prior to the conference including identifying the conference venue. • Make official communications and visibility materials for the conference. • Review all presentations prepared by experts.
NEC Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some members of the organizing Committee • Technical Advisors; UNDP, WBG • Ebony Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with consultant • Documentation, drafting letters, • Compiling the final report.
Sub-committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key departments from MoFP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide general support during the conference including handling protocol and other services.

Day 1

Monday 4th Sept. 2023: Official Opening Ceremony

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
08:00 to 08:50 am	Arrival and Registration	All
08:50 to 09:00 am	Opening Prayers	Bishop & Sheikh
09:00 to 09:10 am	South Sudan Country Profile-Video	Ministry of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism
09:10 to 09:25 am	Introduction to NEC program and welcoming remarks	Hon. Josephine Joseph Lagu, Secretary of NEC High-Level Steering Committee
09:25 to 09:35 am	Speech by Governor of Central Equatoria State	Hon. Emanuel Adil Anthony
09:35 to 09:45 am	Interlude	Uropaap Cultural Group
	Development Partners	
09:45 to 09:50 am	Speech by UNDP	Dr. Samuel G. Doe, Resident Representative
09:50 to 09:55 am	Speech by AfDB	Themba Bhebehe, Country Manager
09:55 to 10:00 am	Speech by IMF	Guy Jenkinson, Resident Representative
10:05 to 10:10 am	Speech by World Bank	Dr. Firas Raad, Country Manager
	Diplomatic Corp	
10:10 to 10:15 am	People's Republic of China	Amb. Ma Qiang, Chinese Ambassador
10:15 to 10:20 am	TROIKA	Amb. Michael J. Adler, US Ambassador
10:20 to 10:25 am	European Union	Amb. Timo Olkkonen, EU Ambassador
10:25 to 10:30 am	Dean of Diplomatic Corp	Amb. Yohannes Teklemichael, Eritrean Ambassador
10:30 to 10:35 am	UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator	Peter Van Der Auwerraert
10:35 to 10:40 am	Special Representative of the Secretary General/ UNMISS Chief	Nicholas Haysom
10:40 to 10:45 am	African Union Head of Mission	Amb. Prof. Jerome Bisworo
10:45 to 11:00 am	Interlude	Emmanuel Kembe
	Minister of Finance, Arab Republic of Egypt	H.E Dr. Mohammed Ahmed Mohammed Maait
11:00 to 11:15 am	Speech of Minister of Finance and Planning	Hon. Dr. Bak Barnaba Chol
	Vice President - Economic Cluster	H.E. Dr. James Wani Igga
	Presidency	
11:15 to 11:35 am		

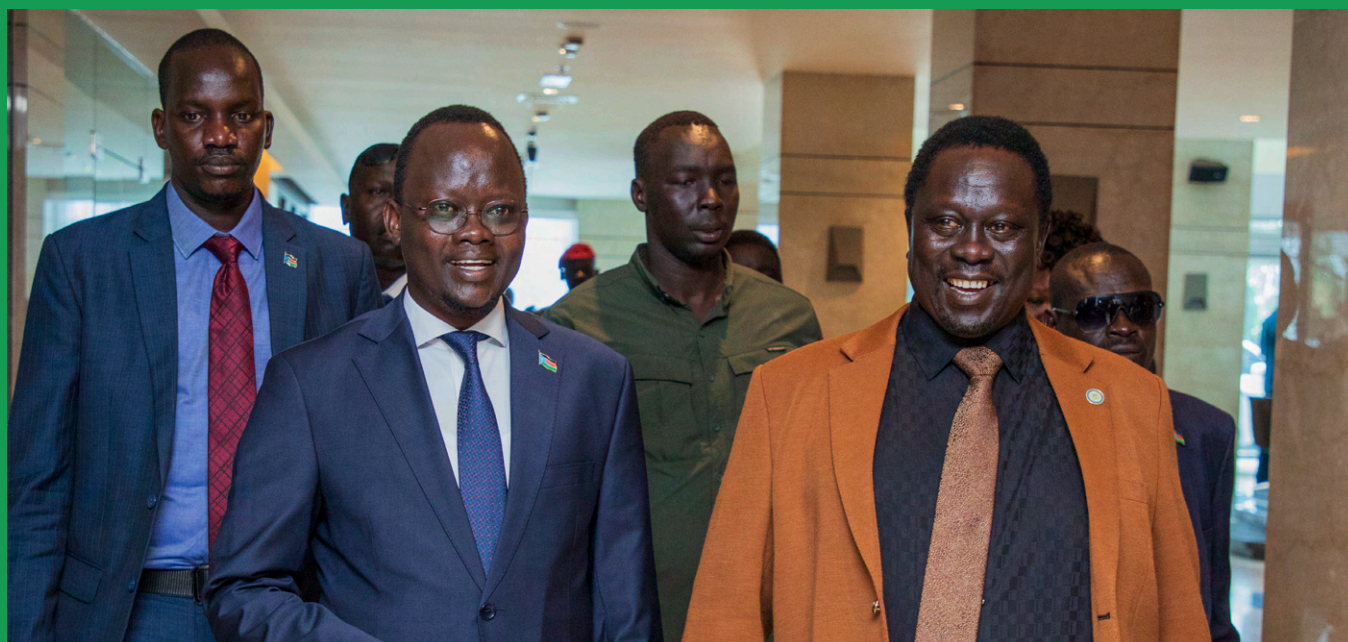




	PHOTO SESSION	
13:00 to 14:00 pm	LUNCH BREAK	
	Session 1: Plenary	
14:30 to 16:00 pm	Theme: Macroeconomic overview, ongoing PFM reform process, achievements and bottlenecks	
14:30 to 14:45 pm	Plenary Chair	Hon. Dr. Bak Barnaba Chol, Minister of Finance and Planning
14:45 to 15:15 pm	Speaker	Policy reflection on macroeconomic overview by Hon. Benjamin Ayali Koyongwa- Undersecretary for Planning, Ministry of Finance and Planning
15:15 to 15:55 pm	Panelists	Prof. John Akec, WB, UNDP, Prof. Abraham Matoch
15:55 to 16:10 pm	Moderator	Dr. Abraham Kuol
16:10 to 16:20 pm	Q and A	All participants
16:20 to 16:50 pm	Speaker	The Role of Bank of South Sudan in price stability and sustainable economic growth by Hon. Johnny Ohisa Damain- Governor of Bank of South Sudan
16:50 to 17:20 pm	Panelists	Hon. Gabriel Changson, Hon. Othom Rago, AfDB, Dr. Lual Achuek
	Moderator	Dr. James Alic Garang
17:30 pm	End of Day	

Day 2 | Tuesday, 5th Sept. 2023

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
8:00 to 9:00 am	Arrival and Registration	All
9:00 to 11:00 am	Session 1: Plenary & Keynote Addresses	
	Venue	Main Auditorium
	Theme	Diversification in Agriculture and Natural Resources Towards Inclusive Economic Growth
9:00 to 9:15 am	Chair of the Plenary	H.E Hussein Abdelbagi Akol, Vice President, Service Cluster
9:15 to 9:25 am	Speaker(s):	Hon. Puot Kang Chol, Minister for Petroleum Hon. Josephine Lagu, Minister for Agriculture and Food Security
	Presentation Title	From Dependence to Diversification: Maximizing Opportunities from Resource Wealth (Case Studies)
9:35 to 9:55 am	Author	Marco Hernández, World Bank
9:55 to 10:25 am	Panelists	Mr. Flavio Da Gama (AfDB), Mr. Augustino Atilio (Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock), Ms. Nyantiop Martha (MoFP), Prof. Ambrose Samuel Jubara (University of Bahr el Ghazal)
10:25 to 10:50 am	Q&A	All Participants
	Moderator	Mr. Rombek Esaya
10:50 to 11:10am	Coffee/Tea Break	
11:10 to 13:20 pm	Session 2: Plenary	Main Auditorium
11:10 to 11:30 am	Presentation Title	1) Revitalizing agriculture and generating local economic integration (Assit. Prof. Michael Roberto Kenyi & Dr. Betty Achan Ogwaro)
11:30 to 11:50 am		2) Contribution of Livestock & Fisheries to Economic Development of South Sudan (Hon. Onyiti Adigo Nyikwec)
11:50 to 12:10 pm		3) Economics of Water Resources (Assoc. Prof. Dr. John Leju)
12:10 to 12:30 pm		4) Using Oil Revenues to Spur Inclusive Growth in South Sudan (Prof. Shanta Devarajan, Georgetown University) – Virtual Presentation
12:30 to 13:00 pm	Panelists	Mr. Meshak Malo, Dr. John Kanisio, Dr. Addis Ababa Othow, Hon. Africano Mande, Prof. Daniel Bromley, Gen. Khamis Adiang, Dr. James A. Garang, Mr. Mou Ambrose (MGURUSH), Ms. Nyiel Gordon (Central Bank), Eng. Isaac Liabwel, Prof. Salah Khatir Jubara
13:00 to 13:20 pm	Q&A	All Participants
	Moderator	Prof. George Bureng Nyombe, Dr. Anne Itto
13:20 to 14:20 pm	Lunch	
14:20 to 16:30 pm	Session 3: Plenary	Main Auditorium
14.20 to 14.35 pm	Chair of the Plenary	Her Excellency Rebecca Nyandeng De Mabior, Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan and Chair of Gender and Youth Cluster



14:35 to 14:55 pm	Presentation Titles	1) Building domestic revenue mobilization from scratch: Case studies (Nigeria, Sub-Saharan Africa) by Mr. Rajul Awasthi
14:55 to 15:15 pm		2) Challenges of Tax Revenue Mobilization and Opportunities for Reforms by Dr. Paul Atem Gal and Mr. Gabriel Mading Apach
15:15 to 15:35 pm		3) Using oil revenues to diversify and stabilize the economy (Dr. Edward Sennoga Batte, AfDB)
15:35 to 15:55 pm		4) Tax Base Potential & Policy Options for Domestic Revenue Mobilization in South Sudan (Hon. Athian Diing Athian, CG, NRA)
15:55 to 16:25 pm	Panelists/Discussants	Prof. Daniel Bromley, Hon. Benjamin Ayali, Mr. Flavio Da Gama, Dr. Ahmed A. Morgan and Hon. Wani Buyu
16:25 to 16:55 pm	Q&A	All Participants
	Moderator	Hon. Aggrey Tisa Sabuni
16:55 to 17:15 pm	Coffee/Tea Break	
17:30 pm	End of Day	



Day 3

Wednesday, 6th Sept. 2023

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
8:00 to 9:00 am	Arrival and Registration	
9:00 to 11:00 am	Session 1: Plenary	
	Venue	Main Auditorium
	Theme	Planning and Capital (Human capital formation, Physical Capital (roads, telecommunication), Energy (Hydroelectricity, renewable energy), Development planning)
9:00 to 9:15 am	Chair of the Plenary	H.E. Taban Deng Gai , Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan and Chair of Infrastructure Cluster
9:15 to 9:30 am	Speaker(s):	1) Empowering Digital Transformation: E-Government, Policy, Concept and Authority Dynamics in South Sudan's Journey Towards Digital Economy by Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth , Minister of Information, Communication, Technology & Postal Service
9:30 to 9:45 am		2). Effective and Efficient Utilization of Tourism Opportunities in the Republic of South Sudan for Sustainable Economic Growth by Hon. Rizik Zakaria Hassan , Minister of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism
9:45 to 10:05 am	Presentation Title	The Criticality of Human Capital in Economic Growth: A Review of Theory and Evidence
	Author	Dr. James Alic Garang, Policy Advisor, IMF
10:05 to 10:35 am	Panelists	Hon. Awut Deng Acuil - Minister of General Education and Instructions, Hon. Gabriel Changson Chang - Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Hon. Yolanda Awel - Minister of Health, Mr. Bol Atem, Akuja De Garang -Girls Education South Sudan, Dr. Elisama Wani - Windle Trust and Napoleon Adok Gai - DG National Communication Authority
10:35 to 11:00 am	Q&A	All Participants
	Moderator	Dr. Salwa Berberi
11:00 to 11:20am	Coffee/Tea Break	
11:20 to 13:20 pm	Session 2: Plenary	Main Auditorium
11:20 to 11:40 am	Presentation Title	1. Lessons from Human Resource Capacity Building in Somalia by Lucy Musira , World Bank
11:40 to 12:00 am		2. Physical Capital Formation: Focusing on Infrastructure and Energy by Eng. Emmanuel Lokiri
12:00 to 12:20 pm		3. Revised Debt Management Policy Framework and Midterm Strategy for South Sudan 2022-2025 by MoFP
12:20 to 12:50 pm	Panelists	Minister of Finance of Somalia, Minister of Finance of Liberia, Prof. Patricia Thomson , Hon. James Hoth Mai - Minister of Labor, Hon. Simon Mijok Mijak - Minister of Roads & Bridges, Hon. Madut Biar Yel – Minister of Transport and Hon. Peter Marcello - Minister of Energy and Dams
12:50 to 13:20 pm	Q&A	All Participants
	Moderator	Dr. Stephen Abraham
13:20 to 14:20 pm	Lunch	
14:20 to 16:20 pm	Session 3: Plenary	Main Auditorium

14:20 to 14:40 pm	Presentation Titles	1) Wage Bill Analysis by Prof. John Akec , VC University of Juba
14:40 to 15:00 pm		2) Exports Diversification by Dr. Constantine Bartel , UNFAO
15:00 to 15:20 pm		3) Infrastructure Finance Options and Challenges in the Context of South Sudan by Mr. Parek T. Maduot
15:20 to 15:40 pm		4) Trade and Regional Integration by Dr. Stephen Karingi et.al.
16:00 to 16:20 pm	Panelists	Hon. Aggrey Tisa Sabuni , Mr. Stephen Doctor - Ministry of Trade, John Lual - Chamber of Commerce
16:20 to 16:40 pm	Q&A	All Participants
	Moderator	Dr. Firas Raad - World Bank & Amb. Agnes Oswaha - South Sudan Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
16:40 to 17:00 pm	Coffee/Tea Break	
17:00 pm	End of Day	



Day 4 | Thursday, 7th Sept. 2023

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
8:00 to 9:00 am	Arrival and Registration	
9:00 to 11:20 am	Session 1: Plenary	Main Auditorium
	Theme	Enabling Environment for Investment
9:15 to 9:25 am	Chair of the Plenary	H.E. Dr. Riek Machar Teny , First Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan and Chair of Governance Cluster
9:25 to 9:35 am	Speakers:	1) South Sudan Investment Prospectives and Challenges by Hon. Ustaz Yel Luol Koor - Undersecretary Ministry of Investment
		2) Diversifying Inclusive Trade, Industrialization and Private Sector Competitiveness by Hon. Kuol Athian Mawien , Minister of Trade & Industry
	Presentation Title	Security Environment and Opportunities for Investment/Growth
9:35 to 9:55 am	Author(s)	Dr. Pierre Ekwa , et al.
9:55 to 10:25 am	Panelists	Dr. Majak D'Agoot , Mr. Geoffrey Duke , Hon. Chol Thon Balok - Minister of Defense and Veterans Affairs, Hon. Obote Mamur Mete - Minister of National Security, Hon. Peter Puok - Deputy Minister of Interior
10:25 to 10:55 am	Q&A	All Participants
	Moderator	Dr. Luka Biong Deng
10:55 to 11:15am	Coffee/Tea Break	



11:15 to 13:35 pm	Session 2: Plenary	Main Auditorium
11:15 to 11:35 am	Presentation Title	1) Implementation of the Extended R-ARCSS (Roadmap) by Christopher Oringa Mark
11:35 to 11:55 am		2) Development Planning in South Sudan by Dr. Augustino T. Mayai & Dr. Zerihun Kelbore
12:30 to 13:00 pm	Panelists	Hon. Dr. Martin Elia - Minister of Cabinet Affairs, Amb. Dr. James Okuk , Hon. Dr. John Gai Yoh , Hon. Benjamin Ayali Koyongwa - Undersecretary for Planning, Ministry of Finance and Planning, Hon. Peter Lam Both -SG SPLM
12:15 to 12:35 pm	Q&A	All Participants
	Moderator(s)	Dr. Rebecca Lorins & Ms. Lorna Merekaje
12:35 to 14:35 pm	Lunch	
14:35 to 16:55 pm	Session 3: Plenary	Main Auditorium
14:35 to 14:55 pm	Presentation Titles	1) Resettling IDPs and Refugees by Prof. Dr. Leben Nelson Moro - University of Juba
14:55 to 15:15 pm		2) Gender & Economic Empowerment by Hon. Aya Benjamin Warille - Minister of Gender, Child and Social Welfare
15:15 to 15:35 pm		3) Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations in South Sudan by Hon. Dr. David N. Mayo
15:35 to 15:55 pm		4) Efficient Resource Mobilization and Management Strategies by Dr. Abraham Maliet Mamer
15:55 to 16:25 pm	Panelists/Discussants	Dr. Luka Biong Deng , Dr. Jacob D. Chol , Dr. Angelia Bazugba , Mr. Agook Mayek Riak
16:25 to 16:55 pm	Q&A	All Participants
	Moderator	Dr. Majak D`Agoot & Prof. Pauline Riak
16:55 to 17:15 pm	Coffee/Tea Break	
17:30 pm	End of Day	



Day 5 | Friday, 8th Sept. 2023, Official Closing Ceremony

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
9:00 to 10:00 am	Arrival and Registration	All
10:00 to 10:10 am	Prayers	Priest/ Sheikh - Christian and Islamic Faith
10:10 to 10:20 am	Resolutions and Recommendations	Secretary for Steering Committee
	Vote of Thanks	Hon. Dr. Bak Barnaba Chol , Minister of Finance and Planning
10:20 to 10:30 am	Interlude	Musician Emmanuel Kembe
	Gifts Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President • All Vice Presidents • Representatives of Foreign Governments • Partners/Donors • Others 	Chair of the Economic Cluster Chair of the NEC Steering Committee
Presidency		
10:30 to 10:50 am	Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan and Chair of Economic Cluster	H.E. Dr. James Wani Igga
10:50 to 11:10 am	First Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan and Chair of Governance Cluster	H.E. Dr. Riek Machar Teny
11:10 am	The President	H.E. GEN SALVA KIIR MAYARDIT
9:55 to 10:25 am	Lunch	All
18:00 to 21:00 pm	Dinner at Radisson Blu Hotel	Invited Guests



THE SPEECH OF: H.E. GEN. SALVA KIIR MAYARDIT

**President of the Republic of South Sudan
During the closing ceremony of NEC**

Your Excellency **Dr. Riek Machar Teny**, First Vice President of the
Republic of South Sudan

Your Excellency Vice Presidents

Right Honorable Speaker of Transitional National Legislative
Assembly

Right Honorable Speaker of Council of States

Deputy Chief Justice

Presidential Advisors

Cabinet Ministers

Governors and Chief Administrators

Honorable Members of Parliament

Members of Diplomatic Community

Representatives of the International Organizations

Distinguished Invited Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Afternoon

I am honored today to have this opportunity to close this first National Economic Conference under the theme, "Towards a diversified, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth".

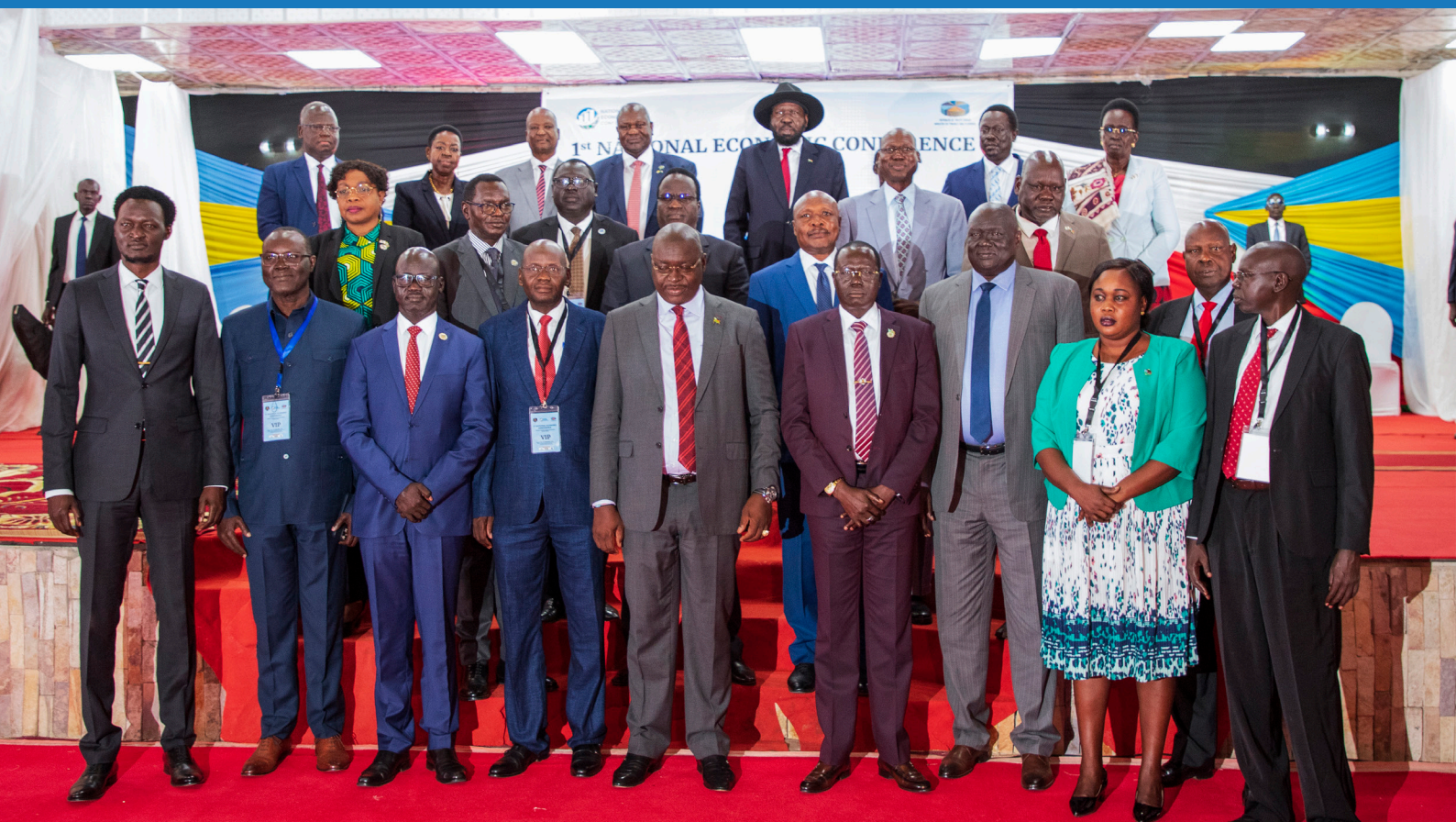
This Conference reminds me of the successful Investment Conference we held in 2013, whose resolutions we did not implement because of the senseless war we brought upon ourselves.

The fact that this conference took place now is a big

achievement for our country. I thank the Minister of Finance and planning and his officials for a job well done in making this conference a reality. My thanks also goes to our partners who contributed towards the effort to organize this conference.

To all those shared their views in the last 6 days, I say thank you for your contribution. What you have said here will shape our economic policy moving forward.





Group photo:

H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan and Honorable Governors of the States and Administrative Areas of South Sudan

Excellencies, Ladies and gentlemen, on March 27th 2023 during my speech to the parliament, I directed the Ministry of Finance and Planning to organize South Sudan's first National Economic Conference. That directive was a deliberate decision aimed at steering our economy towards a diversified, inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

If we get this right, we will achieve our economic independence to compliment the political independence we achieved in 2011.

Why are choosing to change our economic direction by

conducting this conference? The reason is very simple, what we had in 2013 and 2018 was a War-Economy. Now we have peace and we are more stable compared to previous years, a key condition for development.

Those interested in undermining our stability may not concede this point but it is a fact. With this stability we can not continue to remain in the same economic situation.

That is why I felt the time is right now for us to set a new direction that transform our economy to a people driven service delivery economy.

Since transforming the economy is a collective exercise, I felt that holding this first National Economic Conference, which brought together many stakeholders was the best approach that can help us identify areas where we need to undertake structural reforms in order to transform our economy.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, in the last 6 days people from different backgrounds, government officials, academic, investors, representatives of international organizations, and members of the diplomatic community, among others, gave their views

Continuation of the Speech of:

H.E. GEN. SALVA KIIR MAYARDIT

on needs to be done to address the economic challenges we are facing.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, what needs to be done to accomplish the task set out in the theme of this conference has been outlined by those who spoke here in the last 6 days.

This means that my remarks will not repeat what is already stated. What I need to speak about today is the issue of implementation of the resolutions that was just read out.

This is important because I know for sure that the views that constituted these resolutions came from what was said during the conference.

Thus, the resolution speaks to the theme of this conference and will form the basis of policy direction that we will take as a government to transform the economy.

I have followed your discussions keenly like to address the doubts expressed by some within our population. While some voices have commended the conference on basis of what they heard from presenters, others have questioned whether the resolution will be implemented.

To those who expressed

doubts, I would like to assure you that these resolutions will be implemented, because we plan to give it a government wide backing.

It will not be up to the ministry of Finance and Planning to decide what to do with the resolution, they will be tabled in the council of ministers by the Minister of Finance himself for further discussions to determine appropriate ways to implement them.

After the cabinet resolve, it will be set to the parliament for further discussions and ratification. The policy framework that will follow this process will guide both the Economic Cluster and the Finance and Planning as they work to review and transform the economy.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, having said this, I would like to underscore that the task we have undertaken to transform our economy is not an event, it is a process, this means things will not change for better overnight.

What we planned to achieve is to attract investors to many sectors of our economy, while keeping in mind the desire for green growth. These objectives can not be realized tomorrow. It needs hard work to build confidence among investors and it takes time to do that. This

conference has now started this process.

As we work towards the new direction, I am urging for patience among our people, the same message goes to our partners. While South Sudan can adopt best practices from others, it can not do that straight away because our specific political, social and cultural context has a bearing on the face of reforms we implement.

Therefore, those who want us to learn from their experiences, must also understand that we need to develop their experience to our context first before we adopt them and that also takes time.

Before I conclude, I would like to thank the First Vice President and the Vice President for Economic Cluster for providing leadership during the conference while I was away. I also thank them for their participation in this conference.

Once again, I thank the organizers for the job well done and I declare this conference officially closed.

May God bless you all and your country the Republic of South Sudan.

Thank you

H.E. DR. RIEK MACHAR TENY

First Vice President, Chair Of Governance Cluster



“I Want to Talk About Poverty Eradication”

“There are many funds established or being established such as; the women enterprise and development fund, youth enterprise and development fund, healthcare support fund, the student support fund, the future generation fund. All these are created to eradicate poverty even the road construction by the government is to make sure our people get a better life.

The two priorities we have are roads and power. If you build roads you create access to products and boost demand and supply. And the power attracts investors to engage in major businesses. But such projects like roads and power are never done through the budget but its done through concessionary loans.”

“
If you build roads you create access to products and boost demand and supply. And the power attracts investors to engage in major businesses.
”



H.E. DR. JAMES WANI IGGA

Vice President, Economic Cluster

during the opening of the 1st National Economic Conference at Freedom Hall in Juba

I congratulate H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit for the timely directive he gave to us in the Economic Cluster to convene this historic conference. I also hail and thank the Ministry of Finance and Planning headed by our able Minister, Dr. Bak Barnaba Chol alongside the High-Level Steering Committee for the work well done, Mabruk Alekum.

It is none the less worthy to

mention that the origin of this economic gathering was basically conceived by the outgoing Minister, Hon. Dr. Dier Tong Ngor, we are grateful to you and we also congratulate you for your efforts.

Today is a pleasure to see you all in Juba attending South Sudan's first National Economic Conference. Your presence is a demonstration of your commitment to stand shoulder to shoulder with the people of

South Sudan in their quest for mechanisms that will stabilize its' economy and find jobs for our youth and women.

You will be aware that South Sudan is moving carefully with optimism energized by the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan and the Roadmap."

H.E. GEN. HISSEN ABDELBAGI

Vice President and Chair of Service Cluster



“

This is a collective responsibility for all us in government, private sector, partners and experts to stabilize our economy.

I want us to invest in Agriculture such that we can secure the consumption of our food on daily basis.

Now if I compare Juba and some states which are producing food, some states are far much better than Juba because they rely on their domestic products like what I saw during my visit to Aweil, Rumbek and even Bor.

If we support those farmers with government funding it will boost their production and directly improve our economy.



“I want us to invest in Agriculture such that we can secure the consumption of our food on daily basis.”

”



H.E. GEN. TABAN DENG GAI

Vice President and Chair of Infrastructure Cluster

“One very important point which is in the area of policy making is the tenure of the Governor and his deputies, you know can not change the face of the economy in one night.

I will recommend in this forum that the Minister of Finance and his Undersecretaries should be given ample time instead of bringing them today and remove them tomorrow. They can not do what they wanted to do unless we give them time so that they implement policies of the government. Same

thing to the Governor of the bank of South Sudan and his deputies. We can not bring them today and think that they deliver tomorrow. This is very important Ya Jama.”



“
I will recommend in this forum that the Minister of Finance and his Undersecretaries should be given ample time instead of bringing them today and remove them tomorrow.
”

HON. DR. BAK BARNABA CHOL, PH.D

Minister of Finance and Planning

At the Closing of the 1st National Economic Conference
held at Freedom Hall on September 9th, 2023

Juba, South Sudan



Your Excellency, when you were on that important trip in Nairobi, we started the conversation that you instructed us to do.

It was an open discussion with love, honesty, passion and commitment. It was highly attended by states governments, national ministries, civil societies, diplomatic corps and representatives from the regional countries, especially The minister of finance from the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The cooperation between the secretariat, moderators, panellists and the participants were very friendly. The participation of our Vice Presidents made it even more relevant and interesting. And yes, the environment was even conducive. The discussion was in Radisson Blu your excellency not here and i remember someone asking me to extend it for 3 days more.

As we draw the curtains on the 1st National Economic Conference, I stand before you with a sense of profound gratitude and optimism. Over the course of five days, we have engaged in a dialogue of immense significance, charting a course for the economic future of our great nation.

Before the commencement of the conference, your excellency, there were a lot of scepticism whether the conference's resolutions will hold water. Their argument was, that there has been many conferences and workshops held before, but to no avail!

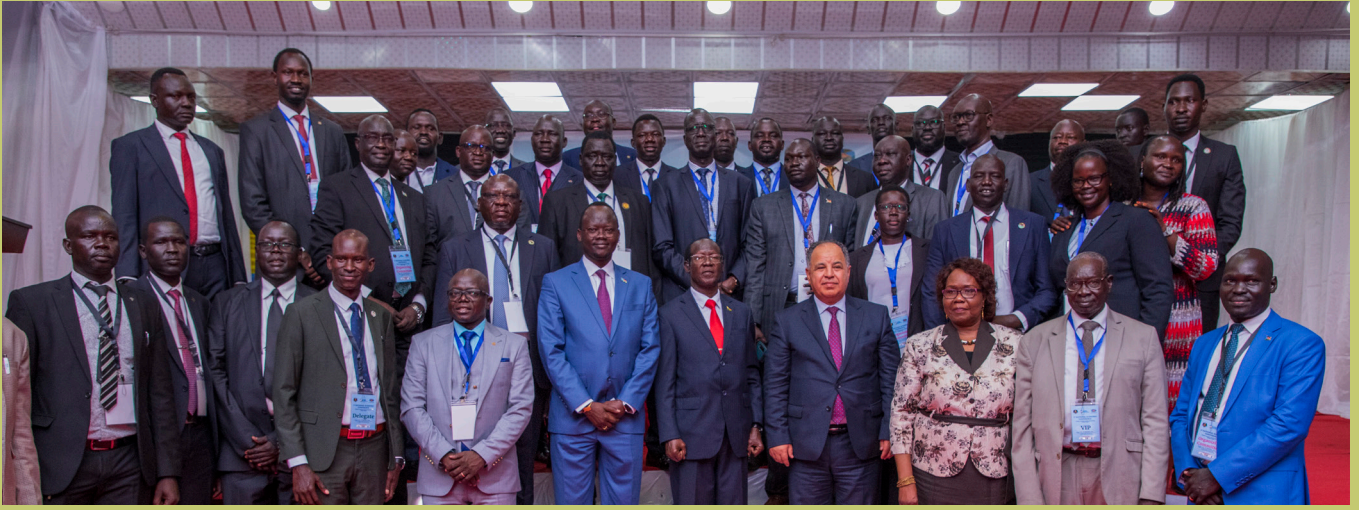
Your excellency, I have assured them that yes, the resolutions and recommendations are not only going to be implemented but also used to guide our transformational agenda, and the remaining period towards the election coming 2024.

And that this is the first economic conference of it kind.

I emphasized, your excellency, that you are concerned about the current affairs of our country's economy. And that you vowed to support the ministry of finance to implement the resolutions.

Our conference centred on the critical sectors that hold the key to diversifying our economy; oil, mining, agriculture, livestock and fisheries, banking regulation, infrastructure, human capital, trade and access to market, governance and policy framework, transparency and accountability in tax collection among others.

Together, we have explored the vast potential



within these domains and deliberated on strategies to harness them for the benefit of all our citizens.

One of the foundational pillars of any thriving economy is a robust and efficient taxation system. During this conference, we dedicated considerable time to discuss the issues of taxation, transparency, and accountability.

It is evident that our nation requires a taxation system that is not only fair but also conducive to businesses and individuals if we are to attain economic growth. We delved into the complexities of multiple taxes collected both at the national and state levels, causing price increment and shifting the burden to the consumer.

I plan to tour all the collection points to see why taxes are not streamlined, why there are so many roadblocks and why there is lack of transparency and accountability in revenue collection.

Your excellency, the conference was an opportunity to learn, interact and exchange ideas in different important matters of our economy. Now that all delegates have spoken, from national ministries, states government, scholars and experts. It will be upon the council of ministers and your high authority to direct us in the ministry of finance and planning to implement in letter and spirits the outcomes of this historic conference.

I want to seize this opportunity to thank all the presenters who presented very excellent, informative and educative papers in a special way. We became students during this period,

and I can attest that we have learned a lot.

Before I conclude, I want to give a vote of thanks first to you your Excellency for allowing and facilitating this conference, to all those who enabled us to conduct the conference; from our partners, the World Bank, Africa Development Bank and UNDP, experts, presenters, panellist and my own steering committee, a big thank you to all of you. I am proud of all that you sacrificed to make this conference a success.

As we conclude this conference, let us carry forward the knowledge, insights, and commitments we have cultivated here. Our journey towards economic diversification will not be without challenges, but we are armed with the collective will to overcome them. It is a journey that requires collaboration among government, the private sector, civil society, and our international partners.

Let us harness the vast potential of our nation's resources, both human and natural, to build a prosperous and sustainable future.

Continuation of the Statement of:

HON. DR. BAK BARNABA CHOL, PH.D

In closing, I want to emphasize that this conference is not the end but rather the beginning of a new era for South Sudan. It is a call to action, a call to transform our economy, and a call to empower our people.

Let us harness the vast potential of our nation's resources, both human and natural, to build a prosperous and sustainable future.

Together, we can diversify our economy, create jobs, reduce poverty, and improve the quality

of life for all South Sudanese citizens. This is our shared vision, and together, we will turn it into a reality.

Thank you for your dedication and participation in this historic conference. Safe travels back to your respective destinations and let us continue this journey of economic diversification with determination and resolve. South Sudan's future is bright, and together, we will shape it for the betterment of all.



H.E. Hissen Abdelbagi, Vice President and chief of Services Cluster welcomed by Hon. Dr. Bak Barnaba Chol, Minister of Finance and Planning as he's entering the conference hall.



H.E. DR. MOHAMMED AHMED MOHAMMED MAAIT

Minister of Finance, Arab Republic of Egypt

"It is a great privilege that I participate in this conference and to convey the message of my President H.E. Abdelfatah El Sisi and the people of Egypt to the leadership of their brothers and sisters in South Sudan.

In order to strengthen our strategic and bilateral relations, which was notably signaled when Egypt became the second nation to officially recognize the independence of the Republic of South Sudan in 2011, confirming our long commitment to the stability and development in South Sudan.

The relationship between Egypt and South Sudan is deep rooted and revolves around all sectors. The economic aspect in South Sudan that Egypt looks forward to, range from hosting investment activities to increase bilateral trade as well as sharing expertise to the current economic and financial challenges.

In Egypt we are encouraging our private sector to expand their investment in South Sudan and we hope that the implementation of the resolution of this conference will serve as a catalyst for enhancing our joint investment endeavors."



COMMITTEES' MEMBERSHIP

S T R U C T U R E

A. HIGH-LEVEL STEERING COMMITTEE

Hon. Dr. Bak Barnaba Chol

Chairperson

Hon. Michael Chiengjiek
Hon. Josephine Joseph Lagu
Dr. Abraham Kuol Nyuon
Hon. Pal Mai
Hon. Martin Abucha
Hon. Kuol Athian
Hon. Onyoti Adigo
Hon. Josephine Napwon
Hon. Rizig Zakaria
Hon. Dr. Dhieu mathok
Hon. Othom Rago
Hon. Wani Buyu
Hon. Justice Germia Swaka

Deputy Chairperson
Secretary
Deputy Secretary
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member

B. TECHNICAL/ ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Hon. Benjamin Ayali Koyongwa |

Chairperson

Kuyu Dhel Kudwel
Morris Madut Kon
Arop Noi Arop
Maxwell Malingasuk Loboka
Tekajwok Stephen Ogut
Nyantiop Martha Agoot
Dr. Augustino Ting Maya
Mario Konyen Nakua
Dr. Zerihon Getachew
Mr. Theophilus Addy
Dr. Rukundo Bosco Johnson
David Santos
David Thiang
Amb. Situna Abdallah
Makur Peter

Deputy Chairperson
Secretary
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member
Member

C. SUBCOMMITTEES

- Information and Media
- Protocol
- Security
- Reception
- Services
- Entertainment
- Finance
- Organization



D. SECRETARIAT MEMBERS (NEC)

- Machien Luol T. Dagoor
- Apal Toby Maduot
- Tab Gatdiet Bannack
- William Payee Naoya
- Nyakueth Buom Pal
- Peter Garang Geng
- Emmanuel Candiga Abiaza
- John Garang Awan
- Akol Maduok Akol
- Reja Glady Joseph



For complete documents check the website of the Ministry of Finance and Planning,

www.mofp.gov.ss / National Economic Conference



Presentation Paper No: 1

Effective, and Efficient Utilizations of the Tourism Opportunities in the Republic of South Sudan for Sustainable Economic Growth

HON. RIZIK ZAKARIA HASSAN
Minister of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism

Presentation Paper No: 2

Role of the Bank of South Sudan in promoting price stability and sustainable economic growth

HON. JOHNNY OHISA DAMIAN
Former Governor of Bank of South Sudan



Presentation Paper No: 3

South Sudan's National Effort for Agricultural Transformation (NEAT) and Strengthening Food Security

DR. BETTY A. OGWARO
Former Minister of Agriculture

Presentation Paper No: 4

Oil for Diversified and Stable Economy

BY DR. EDWARD



Presentation Paper No: 5

Economics of Water Resources

DR. JOHN LEJU CELESTINO LADU

Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental Studies,
University of Juba

Presentation Paper No: 6

The Role of Road Infrastructure Development in Enhancing Economic Growth in South Sudan

HON. SIMON MIJOK MIJAK

Minister of Roads and Bridges



Presentation Paper No: 7

Physical Capital Formation: Focusing on Infrastructure and Energy (Hydropower)

ENG. EMMANUEL LOKIRI KOMURI

Independent Consultant

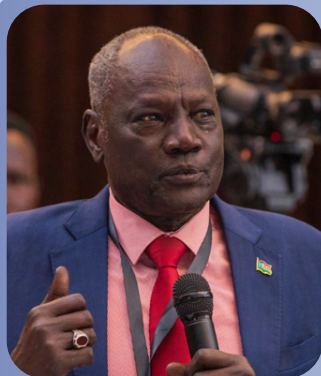
Presentation Paper No: 8

Challenges and Opportunities for Reforms of Non-Oil Revenues Administration in South Sudan

ADV. GABRIEL MADING APACH,

LLM (International Trade & Investment Law in Africa)





Presentation Paper No: 9

Empowering Digital Transformation: E-Government, Policy, Concept and Authority Dynamics in South Sudan's Journey towards a Digital Economy

HON. MICHAEL MAKUEI LUETH

Minister of Information, Communication Technology and Postal Services

Presentation Paper No: 10

Comparative Analysis of Wage Bills & Inflation-Indexed Adjustment of Public Sector Salaries and Wages in South Sudan

PROF. JOHN A. AKEC

Vice Chancellor, University of Juba
The University of Juba



Presentation Paper No: 11

South Sudan: Improving public sector capacity through public service management reform

LUCY MUSIRA

Public Sector Specialist,
World Bank Group

Presentation Paper No: 12

Revitalizing Agriculture & Generating Local Economic Integration: The South Sudan Food System and the Outcomes of Sub-National and the South Sudan Sub- National and National Food Systems Dialogue

MICHAEL ROBERTO KENYI LEGGE

Assist Prof of Agriculture and Food Security, University of Juba





Presentation Paper No: 13

Agriculture-led growth for Broad-based Socioeconomic Transformation

HON. JOSEPHINE JOSEPH LAGU YANGA
Minister of Agriculture and Food Security

Presentation Paper No: 14

The contribution of Livestock and Fisheries to National Economic development of South Sudan

HON. ONYOTI ADIGO NYIKWACH
Minister of Livestock and Fisheries



Presentation Paper No: 15

Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations in South Sudan

The Quest for Justice, Equality and Prosperity

DAVID NAILO N. MAYO, Ph.D
MP, RTNLA

Presentation Paper No: 16

Efficient Resource Mobilization and Management Strategies

DR. ABRAHAM MALIET MAMER
Economic Analyst





Presentation Paper No: 17

Energy Sector Status and Potential Resources in South Sudan

ENG. TOM REMIS

Undersecretary Ministry of Energy and Dams

Presentation Paper No: 18

Revised Debt Management Policy Framework and Medium- Term Strategy for South Sudan

HON. BENJAMIN AYALI KOYONGWA

Undersecretary for Planning,
Ministry of Finance and Planning



Presentation Paper No: 19

Economic Opportunities from Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

HON. JOSEPHINE NAPWON COSMOS

Minister of Environment and Forestry

Presentation Paper No: 20

Diversified and Inclusive Trade, Industrialization and Private Sector Competitiveness

THOMAS SERAFINO OHURE

Director for Policy Advocacy and programs,
Ministry of Trade and Industry





Presentation Paper No: 21

Resettling Refugees and IDPs

BY PROF. LEBEN NELSON MORO

Professor of Development Studies

University of Juba

Presentation Paper No: 22

The Role of the Core Security Forces in Economic Growth in South Sudan



MAJ. LAGUYA KENYI LUPAI



**BRIG. GEN. PIERRE ATILIO-
EKWA**



MAJ. GANO MARK NYIKANG

Presentation Paper No: 23

Tax Base Potential and Policy Options for Domestic Revenue Mobilization in South Sudan

HON. ATHIAN DING ATHIAN

Former Commissioner General,
National Revenue Authority





Presentation Paper No: 24

South Sudan Investment Prospective and Challenges

HON. DHIEU MATHOK DIING WOL, PHD
Minister of Investment

Presentation Paper No: 25

Status of oil production in South Sudan

HON. PUOT KANG CHOL
Minister of Petroleum



Presentation Paper No: 26

South Sudan: Building Non-Oil Revenue Mobilization

RAJUL AWASTHI
Lead Governance Specialist,
World Bank Group

Presentation Paper No: 27

Development Planning in South Sudan



DR. AUGUSTINO T. MAYAI
The Sudd Institute, South Sudan



DR. ZERIHUN KELBORE
World Bank, South Sudan

Presentation Paper No: 28

Policy Issues Implications on the Implementation of Extended R-ARCSS With Focus on Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6.

CHRISTOPHER ORINGA MARK

Presentation Paper No: 29

Export Diversification: Towards an Action-Oriented Policies for Export Diversification

CONSTANTINE OBURA BARTEL

Lead Consultant

Policy and Institutional Analysis and Development Expert

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)



Presentation Paper No: 30

Infrastructure And Energy For Economic Development Of South Sudan

ENG. EMMANUEL LOKIRI KOMURI

BSc (Civil Engineering)



Presentation Paper No: 31

The Criticality of Human Capital in Economic Growth: A Review of Theory and Evidence

DR. JAMES ALIC GARANG

Governor- Bank of South Sudan

Economist, Policy Practitioner, and Academic Founder and Managing Director,

Africa Center for Financial Inclusion





Presentation Paper No: 32

Using Oil Revenues to Spur Inclusive Growth in South Sudan

SHANTAYANAN DEVARAJAN
Georgetown University

Presentation Paper No: 33

Policy Research Paper on Trade and Regional Integration



STEPHEN KARINGI

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)



NDINAYE CHARUMBIRA



BRICE N. S. ADOU

a



Office of the President - Republic of South Sudan

27 Mar •

JUBA, 27th March 2023- President Salva Kiir Mayardit opened the Transitional National Legislative Assembly after a short recess.

The session was opened under the theme: "Implementing the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) through the Roadmap"



a**Right Honourable Speakers, Honorable Members of our two Houses, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

As I mentioned earlier, the Government recognizes that our economy has not been performing well due to both continued internal and external shocks. Our internal shocks are mainly a result of our dependency on oil whose prices often fluctuate in the international market. Externally, we have factors such as COVID-19 that grounded the world for almost two years, climate change and the war in Ukraine. These have one way or another had a negative impact on our economy, including the recent depreciating of our pound.

The Ministry of Finance and Planning and the Bank of South Sudan have tried their best to stabilize the situation, but these problems continue to persist. This call on us to take a broader approach, which is why I am today directing the Ministry of Finance and Planning to organize South Sudan's National

Economic Conference that will complement the ongoing Public Finance Management Reforms.

This Economic Conference should bring together all the sectors of our economy and the stakeholders, including our development partners. The objective of this conference will be to address the fundamental challenges that are holding our economy back. The recommendations from the conference will help us chart a way forward on structural reforms we need to undertake to revive our economy.

a



National Economic Conference

August 26 · 🌐

Radio Miraya hosts members of the National Economic Conference High-Level Steering Committee for penal discussion on the coming event on September 4th, 2023 in Juba.



National Economic Conference

August 24 · 🌐

SSBC hosts the High-level Steering Committee of the National Economic Conference to sensitize the public about the upcoming event on September 4th to 8th 2023 in Juba.





Minister Dier Addresses a press conference

Minister of Finance Briefs Journalists on the Forthcoming National Economic Conference

Wednesday, 19th July, 2023 | Juba

Communication Department-MoFP

The Minister of Finance and Planning, Dr. Dier Tong Ngor, has on Wednesday briefed the media on the National Economic Conference set to commence on the 4th of September this year in the National Capital, Juba, under the theme “towards a diversified, inclusive and sustainable economic growth”.

In his keynotes address to reporters this morning, minister Dier said the objective of conducting a Conference is to brief economic sector and other stakeholders about the current status of the country's

economy, identifying areas that will move South Sudan out of oil revenues dependency as well as identifying appropriate fiscal and monetary policies for the country to achieve macroeconomic stability in addition to enhancing coordination and collaboration mechanisms between the national, States and Administrative Areas Finance Ministries.

The conference that will be attended by regional economic experts, would also be used by other stakeholders to present their main proposals

towards addressing economic challenges.

Earlier in March this year, President Salva Kiir directed the Minister of Finance and Planning to organize the National Economic Conference aims at advancing the ongoing Public Financial Management (PFM) reforms set to achieve the country's future sustainable economic growth.

The Ministry's two undersecretaries and other senior officials attended the press conference on Wednesday.





Minister of Finance and Planning Hon. Dr. Bak Barnaba Chol addressing the media

SOUTH SUDAN IS HOSTING A HISTORIC NATIONAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE TO CHART A PATH TOWARDS ECONOMIC STABILITY AND GROWTH

Communication Department
Ministry of Finance & Planning
16th August 2023, Juba

In a ground-breaking effort to address the economic challenges the country is facing, South Sudan will be hosting its first ever National Economic Conference from 4-8 September 2023.

The conference, organized by the Ministry of Finance and Planning, brings together various economic sectors, stakeholders, and development partners to devise a comprehensive strategy for

achieving macroeconomic stability and sustainable economic growth.

Speaking during a press conference, Dr. Bak Barnaba Chol, the Minister of Finance

and Planning, highlighted the importance of adopting a holistic approach that encompasses multi-sectoral and multifaceted strategies.

He emphasized that the conference aims to achieve a range of objectives, including providing stakeholders with an understanding of the current state of the economy and the progress made in Public Finance Management reforms.

“As some of you are aware, my Predecessor, Hon. Dr. Dier Tong Ngor, started the process of organizing the NEC by issuing a ministerial Order for the establishment of a technical organizing committee in April 2023, a concept note was developed by this committee, and an official launch was done on 19th July 2023. H.E Dr. James Wani Igga, the Vice President and Chairman of the Economic Cluster, constituted a High-Level Steering Committee to oversee the organization of the conference. I will continue with this noble cause and ensure that it is implemented as directed by H.E. President Gen. Salva Kiir Mayardit”, said Hon. Dr. Bak.

The minister also focused on enabling representatives from various economic sectors to present their concerns, challenges, and proposals to address the economic situation in South Sudan. The aim is to identify key policy priorities that could effectively help the sector manage the immediate and medium-term economic challenges that the country faces.

One of the crucial goals of the conference is to develop strategies that would reduce South Sudan’s dependency on oil revenues. By diversifying the economy, the nation could create a more sustainable and resilient economic foundation. Participants will engage in discussions to identify appropriate fiscal and monetary policies that would contribute to achieving macroeconomic stability in the country.

Resource mobilization and prudent spending at all levels of government are also key areas of focus. He further explained that the conference aims to improve the efficiency of resource allocation, enhance coordination and

collaboration between the National Ministry of Finance and the State Ministries of Finance, and strengthen project implementation mechanisms to reduce reliance on third-party implementation.

Furthermore, the conference seeks to review the framework for state allocations and transfers to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of resources across the nation.

Hon. Dr. Bak expressed his optimism regarding the outcomes of the conference. He emphasized that the insights gathered would form the basis of a policy dialogue aimed at achieving macroeconomic stability, effective planning and budgeting, resource mobilization, and prudent allocation and spending.

The desired outcome of the 1st National Economic Conference are expected to enhance inter-governmental fiscal discipline, strengthen organizational capacities, and position South Sudan as an attractive business and investment destination.



CONVENING THE 1ST NATIONAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE:

Why it Matters



By Morris Madut Kon

INTRODUCTION

On 27th March, 2023, while officiating the reopening of Parliament following a recess, H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit gave a comprehensive speech, assessing the socio-political and economic situation in the country and outlined his government's priorities. In his speech, the President directed the Minister of Finance and Planning to convene a National Economic Conference to address the prevailing economic challenges and complement the ongoing Public Financial Management Reform agenda in the country. Here is why that matters;

South Sudan is recovering from years long conflict that has devastated the country and ebbd economic resilience for many households. The

recovery effort has however been derailed by numerous factors, including natural disasters, COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine and a level of sluggishness in the global economy not seen in more than eight decades. As a result of current global crisis, countries have lost the ability to grow because the global economy has changed characteristics as we have gone from a global economy that was lacking enough demand to a global economy that is lacking enough supply. Simultaneously, there is an economic deceleration in the three major economies of the US, EU and China. Indeed, this economic crisis is bad for all countries and worse for nations like South Sudan with its unique challenges such as lack of adequate local productive capacity, landlockedness, and an insufficiently diversified economy.

While the Ministry of Finance and Planning is leading the recovery efforts, the challenges facing our economy require a multifaceted and multisector approach. This Conference shall be a once in a while opportunity for various stakeholders in the selected themes to engage in a constructive, inclusive, and transparent debate to collectively address the country's economic and social



reform challenges, and propose practical and operational solutions to the difficulties identified in the deliberations.

The conference shall feature presentations by national and international experts on selected areas, and propose policy recommendations meant to enhance macroeconomic stability, ensure sustainable financial resource mobilization, effective planning and budgeting, prudent resource allocation and government spending, organizational capacity strengthening, and overall inter-governmental fiscal discipline and business environment enabling.

Furthermore, the conference shall be an opportunity for South Sudan to showcase its investment opportunities to the world. From investments in energy and transport, to oil and real estate, South Sudan is a fertile ground and a new frontier for proactive businesses to make potentially huge returns on foreign direct investments, and this conference shall be an opportunity for country to reiterate its commitments to protecting investors' properties and rebuild confidence in the economy.

Finally, to ensure a good monitoring mechanism for implementation of resolutions and recommendations adopted from the National Economic Conference, a Policy Working Group should be established to act as a solid overseer of the implementation of the NEC recommendations, and should present an annual account of what has been achieved on various fronts.

The Communique Of The First National Economic Conference

Background

South Sudan is recovering from a decade of conflict and fragility that devastated the country following independence in 2011. After the signing of the Revitalized Peace Agreement in 2018, development outcomes were also adversely impacted by numerous shocks, including climate disasters (i.e., record-level flooding), the COVID-19 pandemic, the Russian war against Ukraine, and the sluggishness of the global economy.

As part of its efforts to promote economic recovery and resilience, South Sudan in recent years undertook several reform measures. These include the expansion of domestic revenue mobilization, the enhancement of Public Financial Management policies and procedures, the strengthening of the public procurement system, and harmonization of the exchange rate.

South Sudan has also been working with development partners, including international financial institutions (World Bank, IMF and AfDB) and UN agencies to rollout a number of programs that are aimed at laying the foundations for improving economic growth and development outcomes over the medium-term. While many challenges remain, South Sudan is determined to chart out a new development trajectory built on these development gains, its development partnerships, and its immense natural assets.

Recognizing that the economic challenges faced by South Sudan require a multisector, multifaceted approach, **H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit**, in his address at the reopening of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly (or Parliament) following recess, directed the then Minister of Finance and Planning, **Hon. Dr. Dier Tong Ngor** and subsequently **Hon. Dr. Bak Barnaba Chol**, to organize the first National Economic Conference (NEC) that



would complement the ongoing Public Financial Management reform efforts. The President envisioned that the Conference shall bring together all stakeholders, including development partners, to deliberate on and address the fundamental economic challenges facing the country.

The Conference, convened between September 4th and 10th, 2023, presented a great opportunity to promote policy dialogue aimed at enhancing macroeconomic stability, sustainable financial resource mobilization, effective planning and budgeting, prudent resource allocation and government spending, human capital development, poverty reduction, organizational capacity strengthening, and overall inter-governmental fiscal discipline and business environment enabling. Similarly, the Conference was an opportunity for the country to reiterate its commitment to protecting investors' operations and rebuilding confidence in the economy.

The Conference brought together all stakeholders (State Ministers of Finance, academia and think tanks, trade unions, National Economic Cluster Ministries, the business community, experts and

development partners) from around the world/ country for a 6-day deliberation and produced the following communique and resolutions.

Preamble

The 1st NEC, organized under the theme ***Towards a diversified, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth***, and convened between 4th and 10th September 2023, brought together stakeholders from around the country/world to analyze, debate, and offer policy ideas on how to stabilize and diversify the country's economy, and how to improve development outcomes over the medium-term.



Thus, the Conferees:

Appreciate H.E. Gen. Salva Kiiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan, for initiating the 1st NEC and commissioning the Ministry of Finance and Planning to organize it;

Thank and congratulate both Hon. Dr. Dier Tong Ngor and Hon. Dr. Bak Barnaba Chol and the staff of the Ministry of Finance and Planning (MoFP); The Ebony Center for Strategic Studies, The University of Juba and the contributing partners – the World Bank, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) for a successful organization of the NEC;

Appreciate and congratulate Honorable Ministers; Honorable Governors of 10 States and 3 Chief Administrators; Members of the TNLA and all the Delegates of the NEC for their commitment, attendance, and contributions to the discussions and recommendations of the 1st NEC;

Appreciate the efforts of H.E Dr. Riek Machar Teny, First Vice President and Chair of the Governance Cluster; H.E. Dr. James Wani Igga, Vice President and Chair of Economic Cluster; H.E. Gen. Taban Deng Gai, Vice President and Chair of the Infrastructure Cluster; H.E Hussein Abdelbagi Akol, Vice President and Chair of the Service Cluster in overseeing the deliberations of the NEC, and chairing its various sessions;

Deeply concerned by the status of development in South Sudan that continues to impact the lives and livelihoods of households and communities across the country;

Recognize and appreciate the participation and contributions of our development and diplomatic partners who gave their efforts to make the NEC a success;

Recognize the importance of clear and pragmatic vision, policies, and legal frameworks to grow and manage a vibrant and resilient economy;

Recognize the importance of instituting robust and realistic economic plans and actionable goals to improve development outcomes to promote diversified, inclusive and sustainable economy in the Republic of South Sudan;

Assert that the 1st NEC was a timely opportunity to discuss the key economic reform priorities of the country;

Realize the importance of collective thoughts and concerted actions to change the course and the trajectory of our national economy, and

Validate and commit to the resolutions and recommendations (immediate and medium-term) of the 1st NEC, conducted between 4th-10th September 2023 as follows.

A. GOVERNANCE CLUSTER

1. Urge for greater tenure stability and less politically motivated turnover among the key members of the country's national economic policy making team (Ministers of Finance, Governors of BOSS, Undersecretaries of Ministries of Finance and Planning).
2. Urge the government to immediately institute e-government plans to promote efficiency and accountability in the public sector.
3. Urge the government to define and implement a credible action plan for the immediate removal of check points country-wide to reduce transaction costs.
4. Demand for an immediate and efficient implementation of the R-ARCSS, policies, regulations and laws to enable greater economic activity.
5. Call on the government, private sector, and regional and international stakeholders to strengthen the country's data capacity by investing more resources in the National Bureau of Statistics (inter-institutional).
6. Call for an immediate decision to advance regional integration by finalizing pending EAC protocols, including customs management and movement of labor and capital among the member states (inter-institutional).
7. Call for a robustly coordinated, comprehensive disarmament of civilians and unauthorized persons.
8. Call on the government to immediately enact laws that govern insurance companies, micro-finance organizations, and real estate businesses (inter-institutional).
9. Call for greater judicial independence and respect for the rule of law to combat crimes (i.e., economic), protect rights, and promote greater economic activity.

10. Call on the government to encourage community policing, enlisting communities' participation in maintaining peace and promoting economic growth.

11. Call on the Council of Ministers and National Parliament to legalize these resolutions.

B. ECONOMIC CLUSTER

a) Agriculture and Food Security

12. Call on the government to boost the economy by investing a significant share of oil revenues in agriculture, diversifying the economy, and creating more rewarding jobs.
13. Urge the government to adopt the CAADP Maputo Declaration and Malabo Commitment of the Heads of State and Government to allocate at least 10% of national budget to agriculture in the next three years and beyond.
14. Urge the government to review taxes on agricultural equipment for farmers to cheaply import agricultural technologies and equipment required for improving productivity.
15. Urge South Sudanese farmers to form cooperatives to collectively access agricultural credit, seeds, and to benefit from marketing and trade opportunities, both locally and regionally.



16. Call for an immediate establishment of 13 model farms in the 10 states and 3 administrative areas to lead the way in agricultural sector transformation and to help local farmers learn and adapt new ways of farming for both subsistence and commercial purposes.
17. Call for the establishment of agricultural extensions nationwide to enhance farming.
18. Urge the government to restore all historical agricultural schemes nationwide.
19. Urge the government to improve food storage facilities and food preservation to reduce food wastage. In line with this recommendation, the conferees further call for the establishment of the Food Preservation Authority (FPA)—to ensure food safety and availability.
20. Call for the adoption of an appropriate mechanization, especially encouraging the use of ox-ploughs, low-skills and low-cost irrigation systems, and tilling equipment in rural South Sudan.

b) Livestock and Fisheries

21. Call on the government to attract the private sector to commercialize the abundant livestock resources to generate revenues to enhance service delivery and development.
22. Call for an introduction of animal health and traceability system to increase marketability, and to ensure consumer safety, security, and confidence.
23. Call on the government and private sector to introduce new animal breeds that produce more milk and meat.
24. Call on the government and private sector to support the fishing communities with modern equipment to improve fishing, handling, processing, and marketing.



25. Call on the government and private sector to strengthen veterinary medicine to improve livestock health.

c) Finance and Planning/NRA and Bank of South Sudan

26. Call on the government to immediately establish a Treasury Single Account (TSA) to ensure government revenues are pooled and administered in a single account.
27. Urge the government to fully integrate and mainstream the Oil for Roads program and other out of budget funds into the budgetary processes of the MOFP.
28. Call on the government to increase allocations of the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and South Sudan Bureau of Standards (BS) to generate data for evidence-based policy, and to better control quality and standard of locally produced goods and imports.
29. Urge the government to streamline the tax system to prevent leakages and improve revenue collection, including implementing tax digitalization.
30. Urge the government to establish a fund that

targets and supports microfinance institutions and SMEs countywide to boost economic activity.

31. To expand tax base, call on the government to review tax laws governing subcontractors operating under SOFA/EPsAs.
32. Call for the establishment of Tax and Commercial and Trading Dispute Resolution Courts across the country to ensure investors are treated fairly.
33. Urge the government to have the oil revenues remitted to BoSS to build foreign reserves and to facilitate International Payment System through the BIS and corresponding banks supporting South Sudanese Commercial Banks and other suppliers.
34. Urge the citizens to transact using South Sudan Pound to reduce dollarization of the economy.
35. Call for the government to enact laws (including establishing a regulatory agency) that govern insurance companies, microfinance organizations, and real estate businesses.
36. Call on the government and commercial banks operating within South Sudan to design and facilitate access to business loans to people/entities with promising business plans.
37. Urge the government to conduct a study on inflation dynamics in South Sudan, to help inform policy community and all economic actors operating/those with interest to invest in South Sudan.
38. Call on the government to uphold BoSS's independence as envisaged in the Bank's Act, 2011.
39. Call on the government to routinely monitor and evaluate public investments (i.e., infrastructure) and milestones to provide evidence on the value for money.
40. Call for the strengthening of National

Development Planning functions within the MoFP to advance a renewed social contract between the South Sudanese citizenry and their State by restoring investment programs in the people through more inclusive economic development.

41. Call on the government to implement measures to improve transparency on debt and procurement processes (i.e., loans and state contracts).
42. Urge the government to strengthen a Debt Management Committee (now established and headed by Deputy Minister of Finance and Planning) to guide and advise the government.
43. Call on the government to restore the Petroleum Revenues Gazette, which issues public reports annually regarding production and sales of oil to ensure transparency and accountability in the petroleum sector.
44. Call on the government to implement the Sovereign Wealth Fund according to the Petroleum Act, 2012.
45. Urge the government to invest in an alternative pipeline and to construct a refinery for local and regional markets.
46. Urge the government to enhance the capacity of trainable, coachable, and tradeable petroleum sector workers.



47. Urge the government to review the petroleum laws, including exploration and production sharing agreements (EPSAs).
48. Call for the review of the Revised National Development Strategy (R-NDS) to properly situate the NEC's recommendations.
49. Call for the privatization of oil sector holdings and business activities to maximize value for local businesses and engender economic growth.

d) Wildlife Conservation and Tourism

50. Call for the classification of all the existing hotels and restaurants in the country to determine the different types of services and their scale.
51. Call for the establishment, review, and enforcement of the Tourism Sector laws, policies and regulations to enhance investment and utilization of the tourism economic opportunities.
52. Call on the government at all levels to enact Wildlife and Tourism laws, policies, and regulations for the protected areas, including deploying the necessary unified force with immediate effect to prevent poaching and unlawful activities in the wildlife and tourism designated sites across the country.

e) Trade and Industry

53. Urge the government to ensure all trade transactions are channeled through the BoSS to adhere to international standard practices.
54. Urge the government to strengthen capacity for trade and industry sector by investing more resources in trade and industry technical training institutes across the nation.

f) Investment

55. Call for the establishment of an investment body that arbitrates investment related conflicts and disputes.

56. Call for the enactment of laws and policies that protect intellectual property rights.
57. Call on the government to allocate investment land across states and administrative areas.
58. Call on the government to create special economic zones to enhance economic activity across the country.

C. SERVICE CLUSTER

59. Call on the government to increase budget allocation and real public expenditure on human capital development by investing more in health and education. A financing target of 4% or more of GDP or 15% or more of government budgets allocated to the education sector, according to the UN, is recommended.
60. Call for efficient and unhindered delivery of basic services across the country by increasing management capacity and allocating more resources to states and administrative areas, including investing in technology (i.e., providing one computer for each household nationally).
61. Urge the government to cleanse the payroll of ghost workers and to institute a biometric payroll system to reduce/curtail leakages.
62. Call on the government to develop an educational system (i.e., learning/competency, not schooling-based) that is more responsive to the country's economic challenges.
63. Urge the government to develop and strictly enforce a merit-based public service cadres recruitment process country-wide.
64. Urge the government to develop and enforce policies that promote hard work and honesty, recognize and appreciate capability, promote talent, and reward performance.



65. Call for an increase of the wages and salaries of the civil servants and organized forces to reduce economic crimes and strengthen public service.
66. Urge the government to mobilize sufficient resources to retire with dignity the pension-bound personnel, opening up employment opportunities for qualified youth.

D. INFRASTRUCTURE CLUSTER

67. Call on the government and private sector to invest in hydro-power and solar energy for sustainable industrialization, including immediately implementing the Grand Fulla Falls Project.
68. Urge the government to fast-track the construction of Juba-Malakal, Juba-Wau, Juba-Kenya border and Pagak–Malakal roads to enhance transport, movement of commercial goods and people, and to strengthen trade among South Sudanese and with their neighbors.
69. Urge the government to build technology infrastructure (i.e., fiber optic), establish broadband connectivity to enhance knowledge sharing, and establish data centers to inform

policy, educational, and commercial purposes.

70. Urge the government to construct an alternative oil pipeline through Pagak to Ethiopia and to Djibouti Port.
71. Call on the government to restore or construct river ports.
72. Call on the government to construct feeder roads connecting states, counties, and payams to enhance local trade and cultural exchanges.

E. GENDER AND YOUTH CLUSTER

73. Call on the government to initiate development projects that mainstream gender to achieve an inclusive economic empowerment, including expediting the establishment of Women's Enterprise Fund envisaged in the R-ARCSS.
74. Urge the government to foster gender-oriented metrics in the public expenditure.
75. Urge the government to incentivize school enrolment, attendance, and retention programs for girl-children.

76. Urge the government and private sector to grant credit with low interest rates to women and youth run businesses to achieve economic empowerment.
77. Urge the government, private sector, and international partners to provide resources to training institutions, such as the National Transformative Leadership Institute, School of Public Service, and related technical and vocational training (TVET) entities across the nation, to enhance capacities for women and youth.
78. Urge the government to develop gender and youth agricultural policy to foster a diversified and an inclusive economy.
79. Call for an immediate enactment of the Bill for the Youth Enterprise Development Fund.
80. Strongly urge the government to formulate policies that encourage microfinance institutions to target/prioritize women and youth.

D. Generally

We resolve to continue a conversation on the economy of South Sudan in an integrated manner. This will happen at national and each of the ten states and three administrative areas, as well as at the counties. This will enable the leadership (both Presidency and Economic Cluster) to continue guiding the nation. As part of this resolution, the Government and Partners will articulate a mechanism or mechanisms that seek for updated evidence to regularly inform these conversations.

We resolve to leverage benchmarking as an essential part of our modus operandi and ensure that what we as a country and local authorities do and how we do it will benefit from the best practice within the region and beyond. This includes, for example, benchmarking of aid management, exchange rate management, and how to set and achieve targets.

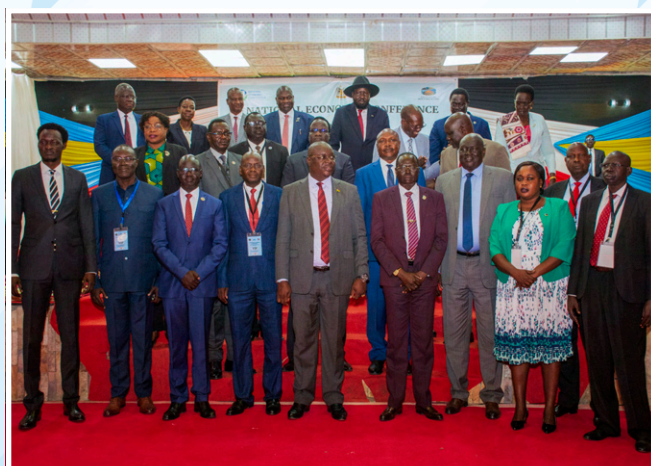
We resolve to put in place a mechanism to enable South Sudan to implement the outcomes of this conference in a sequence, at national and state/administrative area, and nurture the right coalition. This will enable the country to leverage the interlinkages across peace and security, transformation in health and education, trade, rule of law and access to justice, efforts for agriculture transformation, and more. This will ensure ownership and commitment as well as accountability. It will also enable us to put in place the right human resources, ensure their continuous training and remunerate them.

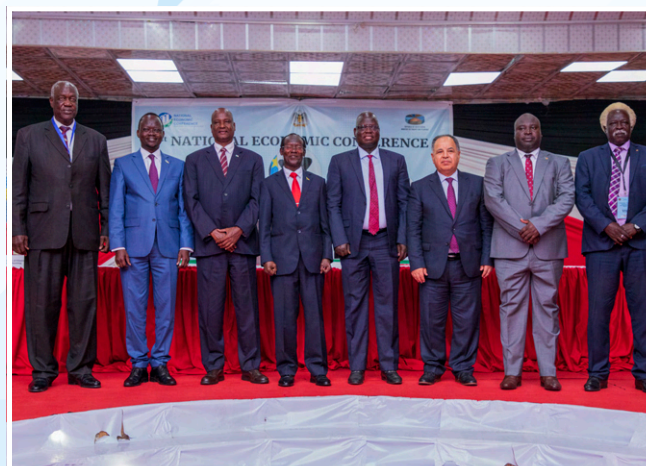
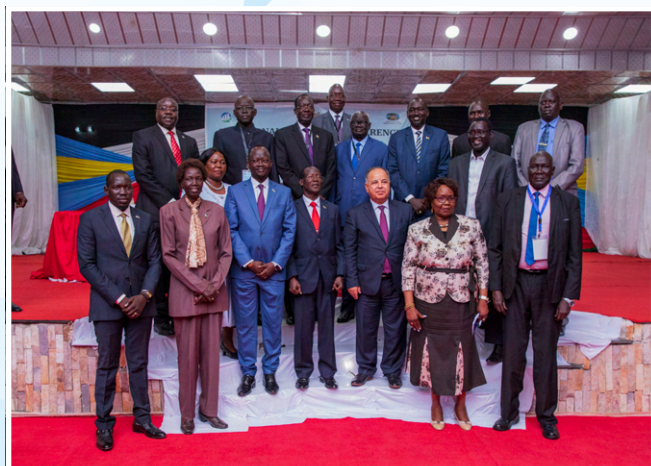
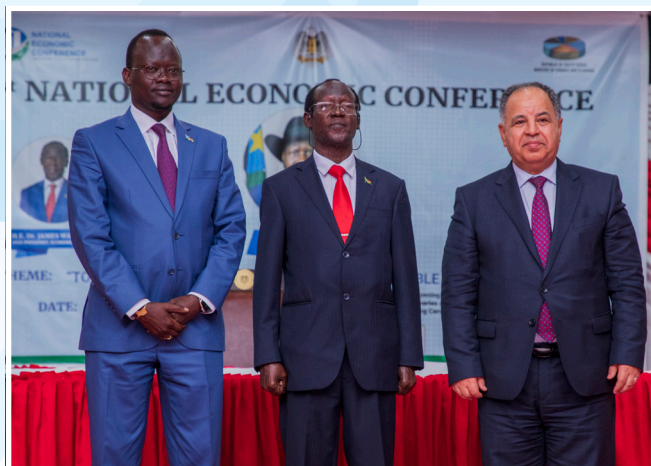
We resolve to turn the challenge of climate change in South Sudan into an opportunity to transform public services, improve food production, appropriately respond to climate-change induced conflicts, and ensure just energy transition.

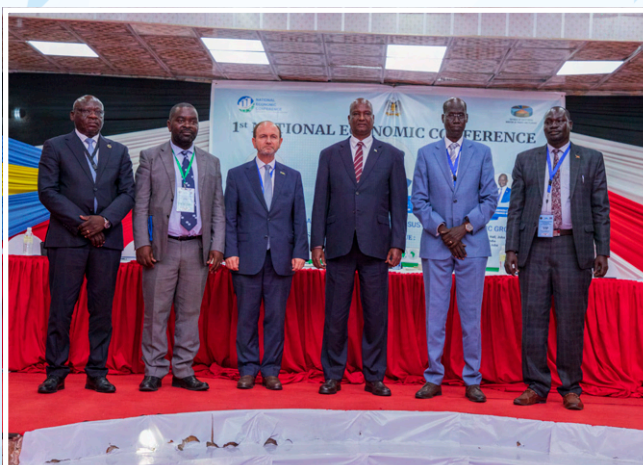
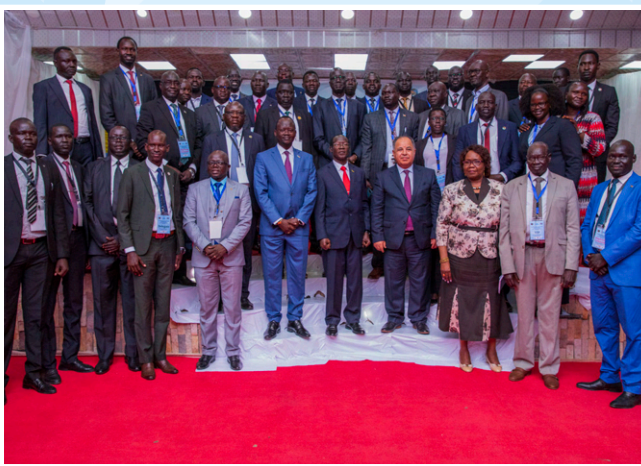
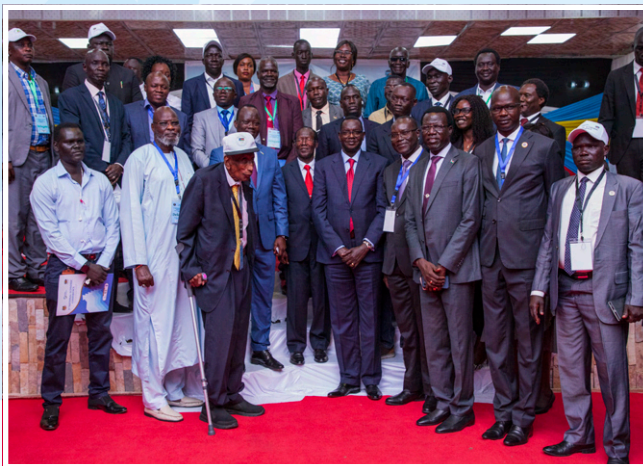
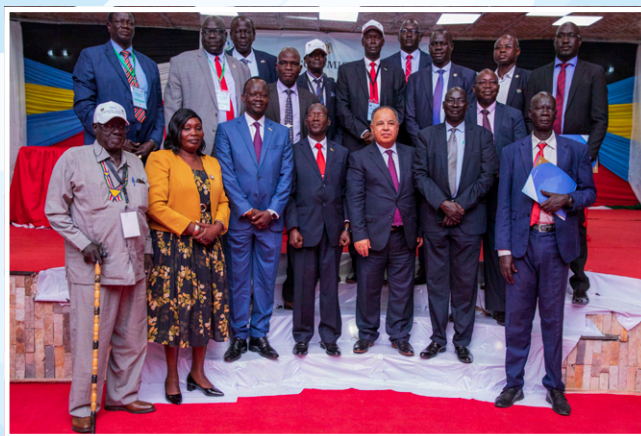
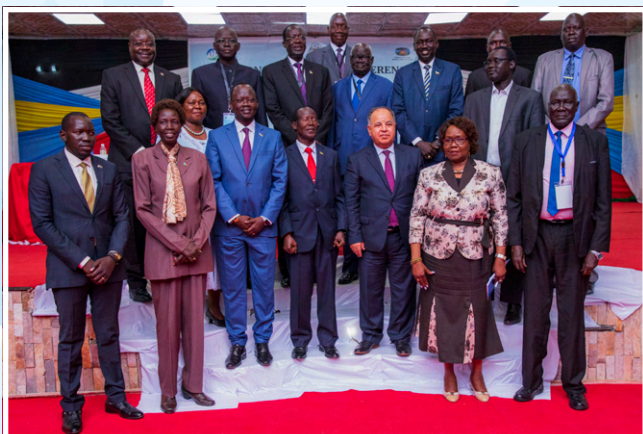
We also recognize the deleterious impacts of insecurity on the economy, thus calling on the government to fully implement the Roadmap to foster an improved environment for investment.

Finally, we resolve that there be a National Economic Conference every three years, creating an opportunity for progress updates every few years.









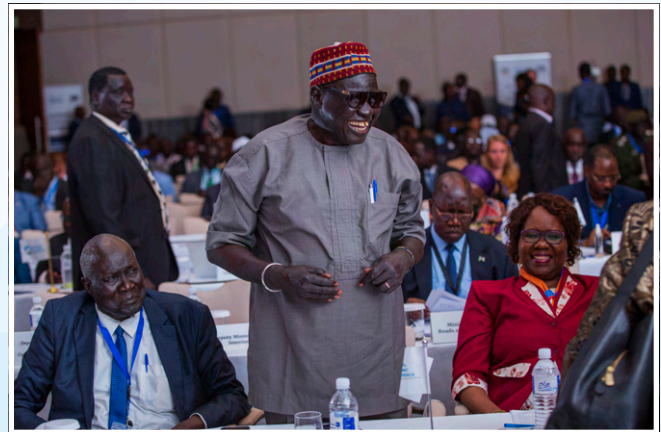
Group Photos of Panelists

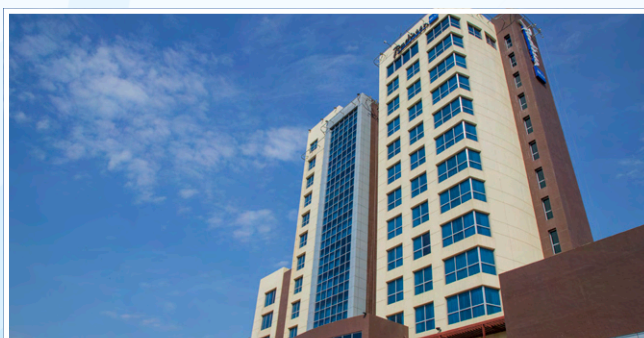






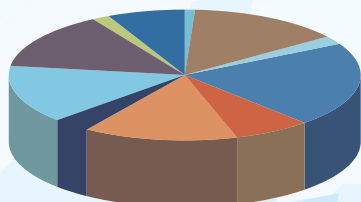








**Republic of South Sudan
Office of the President**



**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND PLANNING**



**NATIONAL
ECONOMIC
CONFERENCE**

Towards a Diversified, Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth



WORLD BANK GROUP



Group Photos

Billboard of the NEC



UNDER THE AUSPICES OF:
H.E. Gen. SALVA KIIR MAYARDIT
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN



1ST NATIONAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

THEME:

**"TOWARDS A DIVERSIFIED, INCLUSIVE, AND SUSTAINABLE
ECONOMIC GROWTH"**

**VENUE &
DATE:**

4th – 8th . September . 2023
Official Opening Ceremony at Freedom Hall, Juba
Plenaries at Radisson Blu Hotel, Juba
Closing Ceremony at Freedom Hall, Juba

**IN
PARTNERSHIP
WITH:**



Hon. Dr. BAK BARNABA CHOL BAK, Ph.D
MINISTER OF FINANCE AND PLANNING



H.E. Dr. JAMES WANI IGGA
VICE PRESIDENT, ECONOMIC CLUSTER



EDITORIAL TEAM

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND PLANNING
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN, JUBA**

TEKAJWOK STEPHEN OGUT

Director of Communication, Editor in Chief

SIMON DENG

Deputy Director for Protocol

Acien Wal

Assistant Director for PR

Marach Wol

Maal Maker Thiong

Ismail Wani

Valentino Kulang Nhial

Lindri Godfrey

Abraham Aken

Moses Mathok

Gabriel Wecyin Turic

Simon Majak Maker

Jackson Kur

Moses Mabior

Atana Charity

Nyanchuet Ayuel

CE





“It will not be up to the Ministry of Finance and Planning to decide what to do with the resolution, they will be tabled in the council of ministers by the Minister of Finance himself for further discussions to determine appropriate ways to implement them.”

H.E. Gen. Salva Kiir Mayardit
President of the Republic of South Sudan

