

Speaker: Emmanuel Gore

Mr President,

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and its local partners would like to commend the Government of South Sudan for its constructive engagement with the Universal Periodic Review mechanism, especially given that this is the first time the human rights situation of South Sudan is reviewed under this mechanism.

To improve the human rights situation in the country, LWF reiterates its support and desire to collaborate with the Government of South Sudan to ensure the implementation of recommendations that are pending adoption today. LWF look forward to working with the Government of South Sudan in, not least, to provide immediate assistance to refugees and the Internally Displaced Persons and expedite the implementation of the transitional justice and reconciliation provision of the Agreement on Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan (ARCISS).

LWF and its partners will continue to leverage their respective clouts and provide platforms for key government and non-governmental stakeholders to come together and collectively devise strategies to amicably and tangibly address these issues and promote dialogue as a means to overcome political difference.

Mr President, in order to carry out these moral duties and obligations to ensure that the UPR mechanism makes a difference on the ground, we call upon, first the Government of South Sudan to continue working closely with all national stakeholders in the implementation and monitoring of the UPR recommendations, and secondly, the international community to provide necessary support and resources for the Government of South Sudan in its endeavour to realize human rights for its citizens.

I thank you Mr President.