



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Plenary sitting

13.1.2014

B7-0022/2014

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statement by the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

pursuant to Rule 110(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on the situation in South Sudan
(2014/2512(RSP))

**Sabine Lösing, Willy Meyer, João Ferreira, Inês Cristina Zuber,
Sabine Wils, Marie-Christine Vergiat**
on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

RE\1015266EN.doc

PE527.212v01-00

EN

United in diversity

EN

B7-0022/2014

**European Parliament resolution on the situation in South Sudan
(2014/2512(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Charter of the United Nations,
 - having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948,
 - having regard to the UN conventions on refugees,
 - having regard to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) signed on 9 January 2005,
 - having regard to UN Security Council resolutions 1990 (2011), 1996 (2011), 1997 (2011) and 1999 (2011),
 - having regard to the declaration of the African Union of 31 January 2011,
 - having regard to the mandate of the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS),
 - having regard to Rule 110(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas South Sudan, which has a multi-ethnic population, has been an independent state since July 2011, as a result of the CPA of 2005 and a referendum held only in the south of Sudan;
- B. whereas following internal disagreements in the ruling Sudan People’s Liberation Movement, President Salva Kiir Mayardit dissolved his entire cabinet and removed Vice-President Riek Machar from office in July 2013;
- C. whereas the conflict has developed around the issue of who rules the country, and appointments to positions of authority have become a way of accumulating wealth through high salaries and access to unlimited privileges and services;
- D. whereas the dismissed vice-president allegedly attempted a coup in December 2013, following which 11 politicians allied to Riek Machar were arrested, and whereas the president has insisted that they should face justice;
- E. whereas the Sudan People’s Liberation Army has integrated the former militias, but the latter still maintain in parallel their former structure and leadership; whereas military expenditure in 2012 amounted to 10.32 % of the country’s GDP, the highest proportionally in the world;
- F. whereas the power struggle is seeking to create and exploit ethnic divisions, and thus threatens to descend into an ethnic war that may lead South Sudan to the brink of full-blown civil war;

- G. whereas civil society has demanded a peaceful political solution to the problem;
- H. whereas, since 15 December 2013, reports have put the number of mostly civilian victims well above 1 000, with mass graves in many parts of the country; whereas an estimated 400 000 people are internally displaced, some of whom are already moving to neighbouring countries, and the UN has accused both the government and the rebels of causing the humanitarian crisis;
- I. whereas the most strife-torn area in the Jonglei region is close to the border with Ethiopia; whereas the crisis in South Sudan, coupled with reports and accusations of involvement by Ugandan and Sudanese troops in the conflict on the side of President Kiir, threatens to destabilise much of the area of East Africa;
- J. whereas mediators for the East African regional bloc IGAD (Intergovernmental Authority on Development) are currently leading talks in Addis Ababa between representatives of the two fighting sides;
- K. whereas the 2012 decision of the South Sudanese Government to cease oil production in the north of the country has led to an economic deterioration and a sharp drop in GDP, with real growth estimated at -47.6 %; whereas as a result of the clashes oil production in Unity state has almost come to a standstill;
- L. whereas the conflict reveals an inability to deal with the most pressing problems facing the people;
- M. whereas the Republic of South Sudan is one of the world's poorest and least developed countries, with 50 % of its population living below the poverty line, the highest maternal mortality rate in the world, one of the highest infant mortality rates, illiteracy at around 75 %, and only one third of the population having access to clean water;
- N. whereas South Sudan has abundant fertile agricultural land, and natural resources besides petroleum which include iron ore, copper, diamonds and gold;
- O. whereas UNMISS succeeded the UN Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS), and was established on 9 July 2011 with up to 7 000 military personnel;
- P. whereas since its establishment South Sudan has been mainly dependent on financial support from several states, primarily the United States and the United Kingdom;
1. Expresses deep concern at the developing conflict, which is causing civilian deaths, calls for an immediate ceasefire to be concluded between the warring parties, and expresses its support for neutral mediation aimed at securing a quick agreement;
 2. Expresses support for the call by civil society for a peaceful political solution; calls for political non-violent resolution of the internal differences and for the disarmament/decommissioning of the militia;
 3. Calls for increased humanitarian aid to be provided to the civilian population caught up in the fighting and those fleeing the area; urges both sides to grant unobstructed access to the

UN agencies providing this aid;

4. Asks the EU and its Member States to increase funding to the neighbouring countries to help them cope with the incoming refugees; calls on the EU and its Member States to open their borders to refugees fleeing the crisis in South Sudan;
5. Calls on neighbouring countries as well as all other forces not to intervene militarily in the country; calls particularly on the Member States to stop any arms or military equipment deliveries to South Sudan, and to stop all arms exports to the region;
6. Underlines the need for the country's natural resources, particularly oil production, to be under state control and for the state to use them for the benefit of its people as a whole, the prosperity of the country, and to tackle hunger and poverty;
7. Stresses that the South Sudanese Government should use the funds provided to resolve the underlying causes of the country's disastrous economic situation, inequality and extreme poverty;
8. Stresses the fact that the situation could be improved if the civic, economic, social and democratic rights of the people were respected by the government;
9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Government of South Sudan, the Government of Sudan, the Government of Ethiopia, the Government of Uganda and the African Union.