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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **INCLUSIVE NEGOTIATIONS FOR SOUTH SUDAN LAUNCHED: STAKEHOLDERS TO DISCUSS SECURITY AND TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

**20 June 2014:** Multi-stakeholder roundtable negotiations for South Sudan were launched this morning in Addis Ababa. The launch follows the 10 June 2014 commitment by H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan (RSS) and Dr. Riek Machar, former Vice President of the RSS and Leader of the SPLM/A (In Opposition), to expedite and complete dialogue on the formation of a transitional government of national unity within sixty days.

The talks are expected to finalize the modalities for the implementation of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement between the warring parties that was re-affirmed on 9 May 2014. Negotiations will also begin on a new political dispensation, to include the parameters of a transitional governance agenda and arrangements for a transitional government of national unity.

The talks will - for the first time - bring delegates from SPLM Leaders (Former Detainees) and representatives of political parties, civil society and faith-based organizations to the negotiation table alongside the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and the SPLM/A (In Opposition).

The talks will be conducted in a participatory and round-table format, in accordance with the 9 May 2014 Agreement to Resolve the Crisis in South Sudan. ###