



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council meeting on South Sudan
5 February 2025**

Greece's Statement delivered
by HE Ambassador Evangelos Sekeris,
Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations, New York

Thank you Mr. President,

Allow me to congratulate China for assuming the Presidency of the Security Council for the month of February and wish you every success. I would also like to express my appreciation to SRSG Mr. Hayson, Major General Gituai and Mr. Yakani for their comprehensive and extremely interesting presentations.

South Sudan stands at a crossroads, facing political instability, a deteriorating humanitarian crisis, and a fragile peace process. We remain skeptical the with government's decision to extend the transitional period by another 24 months. This extension must not be another missed opportunity. A well-structured roadmap toward the December 2026 elections is essential to restoring public trust and ensuring a credible transition. This process must be transparent ensuring the meaningful participation of civil society, political actors, and marginalized communities, including women and youth.

Mr. President,

Allow me to highlight three key points:

First, the humanitarian and security situation remain deeply concerning, with the ongoing war in neighbouring Sudan further exacerbating displacement, food insecurity, and instability. The influx of refugees from Sudan, the circulation of illicit arms, and the recruitment of combatants pose additional threats to South Sudan's stability. Greece calls for unimpeded humanitarian access, enhanced protection for aid workers, and immediate measures to address conflict-related sexual violence and gender-based violence and the heightened vulnerabilities of displaced populations, particularly women and children.

Second, we encourage South Sudan's leadership to take decisive steps toward the full implementation of the peace agreement. This includes the deployment of unified security forces, credible voter registration, the establishment of independent electoral bodies, and a clear framework for conducting free, fair, and peaceful elections in 2026, ensuring the full, equal, meaningful and safe participation of women. Further delays and lack of

tangible progress will only deepen mistrust and risk further instability. Equally important is respect for fundamental freedoms, civic space, and political pluralism.

Third, we strongly support UNMISS in its efforts to advance the peace process, protect civilians, facilitate humanitarian operations and strengthen the rule of law. The Mission's work in constitutional development, electoral preparations, and community peace dialogues is essential for stability. We commend its role in disarmament, demobilization, reintegration, and gender-focused initiatives, which are crucial for achieving sustainable peace.

Mr. President,

Before closing, let me underline that the leaders of South Sudan bear primary responsibility for securing peace and stability. We encourage them to demonstrate tangible progress in implementing the 2018 Revitalized Agreement, particularly in security sector reform, political inclusivity and the preparation of free and fair elections, to ensure lasting peace and stability.

Additionally, regional and international cooperation remains vital in addressing the spillover effects of the Sudanese conflict and reinforcing efforts toward stability in South Sudan. Greece supports the African Union, IGAD, and the Kenya-led Tumaini mediation initiative, as all African led initiatives, and encourages all stakeholders to remain committed to inclusive dialogue and diplomatic solutions.

Finally, Greece reaffirms its unwavering commitment to the sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity of South Sudan. We stand in solidarity with its people and pledge our continued support for their aspirations for peace, security, and sustainable development.

I thank you.