

**SPEECH BY THE RT HON JEMMA NUNU KUMBA, SPEAKER
OF THE
TRANSITIONAL NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN ON THE
147TH IPU
ASSEMBLY IN LUANDA, ANGOLA.
23rd – 27th**

**Under the Theme: “Parliamentary Action for Peace, Justice and
strong Institutions (SDG 16)**

Mr. President of the IPU

The President of 147th IPU Assembly,
The Secretary General of the IPU.

Colleagues the Speakers and heads of delegation

Delegates,

Development Partners,

Distinguish Guests, ladies and gentlemen

It is indeed again a great honor for me to address this distinguished global audience of the 147TH IPU Assembly on behalf of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly of the Republic of South Sudan. On the onset, allow me to join the rest of the speakers in congratulating the Rt. Hon. Speaker of the Republic of Angola, Carolina Cerqueira and the Secretariat of IPU for tirelessly preparing and hosting this marvelously and historic 147th IPU Assembly in Luanda, Angola.

Madam. President,

Hon. Delegates

The relevance of the theme of this assembly, **“Parliamentary Action for Peace, Justice and strong Institutions (SDG 16)**, cannot be overemphasized. The world is increasingly witnessing the untold suffering of millions of people across the globe as a result of the absence of peace in its broad sense and definition, injustice DUE TO weak institutions of governance. Peace, Justice, strong and effective institutions have symbiotic relationship and are key for democratic governance and sustainable development.

In fact peace, justice and strong institutions are a necessity for the rest of the SDGs for them to be realized. Parliaments representatives of the people are therefore key and better placed to have collective voices in their respective states to champion for and collaborate with the executive arm of government on the issues of peace, justice and strong institutions for effective governance and service delivery to their citizens.

Injustice and lack of tranquility in many instances have weakened trust and bond between the people and their governments. Accordingly,

parliamentary action for peace, justice and strong institutions are needed to rebuild the bond of trust between the people and their public institutions to enable prevalence of peace, security, social co-existence and justice for all. This will only be achieved through public participation in legislative processes and other government projects.

The Assembly of the Republic of South Sudan has amended and enacted numerous legislations that safe guard peace and has enshrined the provisions of public consultation and participation in its legislation such as the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan.

As a post conflict institution, the main mandate of the TNLA is to oversee the implementation of the peace agreement signed in 2018, review and enact laws that will ensure the smooth implementation of the peace agreement and facilitate the country's post war reform agenda. In the last two years, the parliament has amended most of the security laws to confirm with the security reform programs stipulated in the agreement. The parliament has Enactment several legislations that promote transparency and accountability in the public institutions to enhance people's confidence in the people's parliament and the executive. Such laws include; Public Finance and Accountability Act, Anti-Corruption Act, Constitutional making process Act, the Elections Act, Political Parties Act, and other related legislations. On this note I wish to inform this August audience that, the implementation of the peace agreement is on track. The government and the president, H. E. Gen. Salva Kiir Mayardit is committed to holding elections at the end of the transitional government next year 2024. Elections serve as the only mechanism that can allow the people of South Sudan to choose their leaders and representatives who will deliver services that reflect their needs and enhance trust and confidence building.

On the issue of gender, the National Assembly constitutes 33.7% of Women representation as well as in the leadership of the assembly including the speaker. We have 22% of women in the executive including a vice president and a deputy governor the Central Bank. The TNLA is line with the policy of IPU in relation to the issues of young parliamentarians. In this regard, the parliament has amended its rules of procedures to include the young parliamentarian caucus as part of the structures of the parliament. The establishment of this body is at its final stage.

Madam President

Dear colleagues

Prevention of violence at the regional and the global levels require collective roles by the leaders and the public to maintain social peace as a precondition of good governance. The safety of the world and maintenance of global peace and security across the world need continues political dialogue as the gateway for a peaceful world.

Since our last meeting in Bahrain, new conflicts have emerged. Sudan, a close neighbor is now facing an unprecedented conflict that has resulted in massive destruction and loss of lives. Thousands of people have been displaced both internally and externally. The influx of refugees and returnees to the RSS has created a serious humanitarian crisis in the country. This requires external support to enable the country manage this humanitarian crisis. Our President, Gen. Salva Kiir Mayardit, the president of the Republic of South Sudan is currently taking a lead in mediation and bringing the warring parties in Sudan to a negotiating table to find a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

We pay tribute to all those who have lost their lives, the women and children who are victims in the wars zones in Sudan, Ukraine, the Middle East. We call upon all the waring parties in these conflicts to give dialogue a chance and seek peaceful solutions. In the *great lakes Region, we will continue to explore ways and means of restoring peace, security and subsequent development to the region through Parliaments of the Partner states.* I comment H. E. Jaoah Lerocho for his efforts to restore peace in the eastern DRC through the agreed Road Map, as well the peace efforts led by H. E. Uhuru Kenyata through the East Africa Joint Peace Keeping arrangement.

Madam President,

Hon. Colleagues

To conclude, I wish to thank and congratulate the outgoing President of the IPU Mr. Pacheco for his able leadership and his ardent support for inclusivity specially the women and youth. As we look forward to electing a new and female speaker from the African Continent, I urge all to exercise this democratic process with respect, absolute objectivity and maturity. The women are happy and proud that the leadership of the IPU at this time is going to the women from the African continent.

Let us all be our brothers and sisters' keepers. Together, we can change the world to be a better place and a shared future for us and the generation to come.

Thank you.

Obligardo.