

**SPEECH BY HON. DENG ALOR, MINISTER FOR CABINET AFFAIRS, REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN  
DELIVERED ON 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2011 AT THE INVESTMENT SEMINAR HELD AT NEW SUDAN HOTEL, JUBA  
SOUTH SUDAN.**

Your Excellency, Mr. Ryuji Yamane, the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, in the Government of Japan.

Our host, the Hon Garang Diing Akuang, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment.

The Honourable Ministers of the Republic of South Sudan.

H.E Ambassador Wada, the Ambassador of Japan.

Our distinguished delegates and investors from Japan.

Senior Government officers, members of the business community (local and International) all protocols observed.

I wish to take this earliest opportunity to welcome all our foreign guests to South Sudan and indeed thank all the organizers of this noble event.

Since achieving its independence on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July 2011, the Republic of South Sudan has embarked on an intensive programme to advertise itself to the outside world. We want the world to know South Sudan as a Country, as a people, as a culture and heritage and also to know what South Sudan can offer as part of the International community. This forum therefore is a valuable platform for our guests from Japan to learn a lot about our Country.

The Government of South Sudan has put in place structures for achieving socio-economic and political development. One of the key areas the Government has given priority, is the economic sector. The Government of South Sudan is keen to tap on the opportunities presented in the regional, continental and global economic arena. In view of this, South Sudan has opened its doors to investors to come and do business in South Sudan.

South Sudan has 10 states, each with different investment potential in various sectors. This seminar aims at exposing you to and equipping you with first hand information on the various investment opportunities available in South Sudan. It is my hope that after this exposure Japan will place South Sudan as one of its top priority investment destinations.

After so many years of deprivation and suffering, our people must enjoy the peace dividends and must have a secure and decent standard of living. As a Government, we are committed to ensuring that we achieve the Millennium Development Goals and secure the desired living standard for our people. One of the avenues is through private investments. We are therefore committed to creating a conducive environment for our investors to do business in South Sudan. We want to promote our private sector as the key drivers of the economy. But we also want you to help strengthen our local investors. We have put in place a world class Investment law and other laws for partnerships and agencies. We offer

investment incentives and tax exemptions in different priority sectors; and guarantee protection of investor's rights.

As you will be informed by the Ministers, the Government is committed to provision of a safe and secure environment for your people and investments. Security is a priority in South Sudan. We are also committed to good governance both in the public and private sector. We are committed to establishing a transparent regime and corruption free country. Policies, laws and institutions have been put in place to fight this vice.

Conclusion:

This Seminar is very important for both us. It is the beginning our partnership. You will learn more about what we have to offer but we also expect that at the end of the day, we will get to know and satisfy your needs. For this purpose, we have put at your disposal our officers who work in the One Stop Shop to respond to all your needs. South Sudan values Japan as a friend and as partners in the development of our new nation. It is my hope that our cordial relationship will further enhance increased partnership in trade, investment, industry and other sectors. This should also see our people interact more in the socio-cultural field.

As I conclude I wish to once again thank the Hon. Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs in the Government of Japan, and the entire Japanese delegation for making the long trip to South Sudan. I also thank all organizers and participants to this seminar and wish you all a successful and fruitful seminar. Enjoy your stay in South Sudan and feel much welcome. I encourage our business community to take advantage of this Seminar to forge closer business relationships.

It is thus my pleasure to declare this seminar officially open.

Thank you.