



# 2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION JUBA ECONOMIC FORUM

26-28 February, 2024

PYRAMID CONTINENTAL HOTEL  
JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN

THEME  
INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT



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## **Executive Summary**

### **Juba Economic Forum - Catalyzing Infrastructure and Economic Development in South Sudan**

The 2nd Edition of the Juba Economic Forum, convened in Juba, South Sudan, from February 26-28, 2024, marked a significant stride towards realizing sustainable development through strategic infrastructure investment. This seminal event, organized by the Central Equatoria Business Union (CEBU), in partnership with the office of the Vice President Republic of South Sudan and Chair of the Infrastructure Cluster, H.E. Gen. Taban Deng Gai, and the government of Central Equatoria State, rallied key figures—government officials, diplomatic missions, development partners, UN agencies, both foreign and domestic investors, chambers of commerce, and private sector entities—around the common goal of fostering economic growth via infrastructure enhancement across transport, energy, and telecommunications sectors with over 480 delegates from more than 10 countries around the world including; Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, Turkey, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya, Somalia, San Salvador, among others.

The forum was primarily aimed at deepening the collective understanding of infrastructure investment's pivotal role in spurring economic advancement in South Sudan. It illuminated how robust energy infrastructure is crucial for energizing economic activities and elevating the quality of life for the populace. Moreover, the discussions underscored telecommunications infrastructure as a backbone for facilitating seamless communication, information exchange, and innovation—all of which are cornerstones for sustainable growth. Participants engaged in thorough dialogues to spotlight the existing hurdles in infrastructure development and brainstormed actionable solutions to overcome these challenges.

A series of comprehensive recommendations and resolutions emerged from the forum, encapsulating a strategic vision for propelling South Sudan forward. Key proposals included establishing investment funds aimed at local businesses, operationalizing special economic zones, and fostering public-private partnerships to catalyze development projects. The forum also emphasized the need for capacity building within both the public and private sectors to effectively implement these plans.

Moreover, the forum's resolutions highlighted the urgency of developing the transport network, including key roads that are vital for economic corridors, and modernizing Juba International Airport to meet international standards. In the energy sector, the emphasis was placed on revising power tariffs and diversifying the energy mix to include renewable sources. The telecommunications discussions focused on enhancing digital connectivity and expanding the fiber-optic network to boost economic opportunities and security.









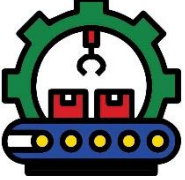
By investing in and prioritizing these infrastructure sectors, South Sudan sets the stage for a more resilient, prosperous, and sustainable future. The Juba Economic Forum has, therefore, established a blueprint for collaborative efforts between the government, private sector, and international partners to turn these visions into reality, ensuring a path toward comprehensive national development and economic resilience.

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# OFFICIAL OPENING AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS.

## Welcoming remarks by the coordinator Juba economic forum



**Welcome remarks by Mr. Thomas Muto Lo'buda, Coordinator of the Juba Economic Forum, Patron of CEBU, and Consultant to the Juba Special Economic Zone, Government of Central Equatoria State.**

In his welcome -remarks, Mr. Thomas Muto Lo'buda, serving as the Coordinator of the Juba Economic Forum, Patron of CEBU, and Consultant to the Juba Special Economic Zone under the Government of Central Equatoria State,

extended a warm welcome to all guests and delegates. These attendees hailed from various countries, both within the region and internationally, gathering for the 2nd edition of the Juba Economic Forum. This three-day event was centered on the pivotal sectors of infrastructure, transport, and energy, themed “Infrastructure Investment for Sustainable Development”.

Reflecting on the progress since the forum's inception, Mr. Muto highlighted the successful follow-up to the 1st edition, held in 2023 under the theme “Inclusive Economic Growth”. He proudly noted a 25% achievement rate in implementing the resolutions and recommendations from the first edition. Notable achievements included the appointment of five private sector committee members to the national economic cluster, under the guidance of H.E. Dr. James Wani Igga, Vice President and Chairman of the Economic Cluster of the Republic of South Sudan. Other significant developments encompassed the establishment of Trade Journalism in collaboration with several key partners, including the National Ministry of Trade and Industry and various media organizations.

Furthermore, Mr. Muto mentioned a Memorandum of Understanding in progress with the National Ministry of Mining, ongoing discussions on the registration of the Juba Stock Exchange alongside its policy development, and the enhancement of CEBU's website among other advancements. These efforts underscored the forum's commitment to fostering sustainable development and inclusive economic growth within South Sudan.



## Welcoming remarks by the Chairman, of Central Equatoria Business Union



Juma Khamis Juma – Chairman, of CEBU officially welcomed all the guests and delegates to the second edition of the Juba Economic Forum. The Chair indicated that this edition of the Forum was aimed at building on what was initiated in the inaugural edition. The Chairman Indicated that the Forum has grown in terms of participants, and has attracted regional and international participation with delegates drawn from more than twelve Countries.

The Chairman expressed his gratitude for the support the government is offering the business people and reiterated his hope that this support will be sustained through the provision of an enabling environment for the economy to grow.

The Chairman noted that the 2<sup>ND</sup> edition of the Forum is being held under the theme: *Infrastructure Investment for Sustainable Development*. He indicated that under this thematic area, the forum was aimed at demonstrating the various Opportunities and Challenges in Infrastructural development.



In his concluding statement, the Chairman thanked all the participants and wished them great deliberations and the hope that will be able to establish fruitful collaborations during the Forum.

## Remarks by the Chairman of South Sudan National Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture.



In his insightful keynote address to the attendees of the Juba Economic Forum, Hon. Losidik Lukak Legge, Chair of the South Sudan Chamber of Commerce and Industry extended his appreciation to CEBU's leadership for their exemplary organization of the event's second edition. This acknowledgment not only highlighted the hard work and dedication behind the scenes but also set the stage for a fruitful discussion on the pivotal role of the private sector in driving economic growth.

He offered his thanks to both the national and state governments for their indispensable support, which was crucial to the forum's overall success. This gesture underscored the collaborative spirit necessary for sustainable development within the region. Despite this positive note, he also voiced a critical perspective on the need for further governmental action to empower the indigenous private sector. He called on the government to allocate the needed resources to support this sector's expansion, indicating that such support is vital for creating a vibrant and resilient economy.

The Chair pointed out concerns regarding the government's current approach to issuing public contracts to the private sector. He suggested a reevaluation of these modalities to ensure fair and transparent practices that encourage the participation of local businesses and foster a competitive market environment.

Moreover, he advocated for significant government investment in infrastructure projects, emphasizing the importance of feeder roads, energy, and agriculture. Such investments, he argued, are foundational to unlocking the economic potential of South Sudan. By improving transportation networks through feeder roads, enhancing energy access, and supporting agricultural initiatives, the government can create a conducive environment for business operations and investment. These actions, in turn, would stimulate economic activities, create jobs, and contribute to the overall goal of achieving sustainable development and prosperity for South Sudan.



### Keynote Address of the Governor Delivered by the Deputy Governor of Central Equatoria State.



### Speech of H.E. Emmanuel Adil Anthony, Governor of Central Equatoria State, delivered by the Hon. Deputy Governor Sarah Nene Redento.

The Deputy Governor of Central Equatoria State conveyed apologies on behalf of the Governor, who was unable to attend in person due to pressing official commitments. In her keynote address, Hon. Sara Nene underscored the critical role of infrastructure in fostering economic development, highlighting it as a foundational pillar. She advocated for collaborative efforts between the state's business community and various stakeholders to attract direct investment and realize net gains in crucial sectors such as health and energy, among others, which present significant business opportunities within the state.

Hon. Nene stressed the importance of avoiding monopolies across all sectors and encouraged support for local entrepreneurs. She called on ambitious business individuals to take the initiative in organizing and networking, urging them to draw insights from the success stories and experiences of others. Specifically, she championed public-private partnerships as vital engines for catalyzing the attainment of sustainable development goals, thereby accelerating positive change. Such collaborations, she noted, would pave the way for shared prosperity and dignity for all involved.



## Official Opening Speech by HE Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan and Chairman of the Infrastructure Cluster



H.E. Gen. Taban Deng Gai, Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan and Chairman of the Infrastructure Cluster, delivered the opening address at the 2nd Edition of the Juba Economic Forum, emphasizing the critical theme of "Infrastructure Investment for Sustainable Development."

In his speech, H.E. the Vice President acknowledged the significant underdevelopment of South Sudan's infrastructure. He highlighted the government's commitment to prioritize infrastructure development, citing completed projects such as the Juba-Bor and Juba-Terekeka roads while noting ongoing construction across the country.

Regarding river transport infrastructure, H.E. the Vice President mentioned the collaborative efforts of the South Sudanese government with the support of both the Egyptian and Japanese governments in river clearing initiatives.

He emphasized the numerous investment opportunities inherent in infrastructural development and assured attendees that the South Sudanese government welcomes investments from development partners to further advance these initiatives.



Some of the approved Infrastructural Projects highlighted by the Vice President as ready for Investment include:

1. Road From *Pagak-Mathiang-Maiwut-Paloch-Malakal-Panrieng-Mayom-Gogrial-Wau* and to *Central Africa Republic*, This road links Djibouti, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Central Africa Republic, Western Sudan, and DRC Congo
2. Road From *Raad-Kapoeta-ikotos-Uganda*, This road links Uganda Djibouti, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Central Africa Republic, Western Sudan, and DRC Congo
3. Railways Connecting South Sudan to Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda
4. Tali International Airport and State Airports
5. Hotels and Motels to support the Hospitality & Tourism
6. RAMCIEL CITY, Earmarked Capital City of South Sudan

During his address, the Vice President emphasized the government's commitment to fostering a conducive investment environment and ensuring the protection of investments through strategic measures. He highlighted the presence of master plans for various projects, ready for implementation pending further action.

Recognizing the crucial role of land availability in investment endeavors, the government revised the lease period for investment land to 99 years, particularly for those interested in contributing to the development of RAMCIEL CITY, envisioned as a smart city.

Turning to the energy sector, the Vice President outlined plans to diversify energy sources, including hydro, fossil fuels, and solar power. He underscored the existence of well-researched investment project blueprints within the Ministry of Energy, poised for implementation.



Summarizing the vast infrastructural investment opportunities within the country, the Vice President highlighted the government's proactive stance in creating an enabling investment environment. He emphasized the readiness of the government to partner with willing investors, recognizing the capital-intensive nature of infrastructural investments and aiming for mutually beneficial engagements.

Concluding his remarks, the Vice President officially declared the 2<sup>nd</sup> Juba Economic Forum open, expressing eagerness to implement the resolutions of the forum for the betterment of the nation.

### A. KEYNOTE SPEECHES

#### Transformative potential of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in driving economic growth and enhancing social welfare.



Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth, the National Minister of Information, Telecommunications, and Postal Services, delivered a keynote speech focusing on the pivotal role of telecommunications infrastructure in fostering sustainable development within South Sudan. Addressing a diverse audience, including stakeholders from government bodies, the private sector, and civil society, the Minister highlighted the transformative potential of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in driving economic

growth and enhancing social welfare.

#### Key Points:

1. **ICT as a Catalyst for Development:** The Minister underscored ICT's status as a primary driver of development, emphasizing its crucial role in enabling progress across various sectors

of the economy. He stressed the Ministry's unwavering commitment to ensuring that the people of South Sudan have access to affordable and high-quality ICT services.

2. **Global Imperatives for Technical Innovation:** Recognizing the global imperative for technical innovation and competitive utilization of ICT knowledge, Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth emphasized the importance of leveraging ICT to gain a comparative advantage in the international arena.
3. **Initiatives for Enhanced Connectivity:** The Minister outlined ongoing efforts to enhance connectivity throughout South Sudan, announcing the imminent implementation of the National Broadband Backbone project. Supported by a grant from the International Development Association (IDA), this project aims to extend internet connectivity to most towns in the country, spanning approximately 2420 kilometers of fiber optics infrastructure.
4. **Empowering Access to Knowledge and Information:** Highlighting the transformative power of ICT beyond mere technological advancements, Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth emphasized its role in facilitating access to knowledge, information, and communication. He emphasized that people are the most valuable resource and stressed the importance of harnessing ICT to empower individuals and communities.
5. **Call to Action for the Business Community:** In a rallying call to the business community, the Minister urged entrepreneurs to seize investment opportunities within the ICT sector. Recognizing the inherent risks involved, he emphasized the necessity for businesses to embrace risk-taking as a fundamental aspect of economic development.
6. **Government Support for Investment:** Demonstrating the government's commitment to fostering a conducive investment environment, Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth pledged support for businesses willing to invest in the ICT sector. He assured stakeholders of the government's dedication to creating an enabling environment conducive to business growth and innovation.
7. **Promotion of Indigenous Investment:** Finally, the Minister stressed the importance of promoting indigenous investment to retain capital within the country and prevent profit flights. Encouraging indigenous investors to exhibit greater risk appetite, he highlighted the potential for local businesses to drive economic prosperity and contribute to national development.

**Conclusion:** In conclusion, Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth's keynote speech shed light on the critical role of telecommunications infrastructure in driving sustainable development within South Sudan. With a focus on leveraging ICT for economic growth, empowering communities, and fostering innovation, the Minister's address underscored the government's commitment to creating a vibrant and inclusive digital ecosystem for the benefit of all citizens.



## Day 1-Key Emerging Issues from Discussions

1. The first edition reported a 25% achievement in its resolutions.



2. South Sudan offers numerous investment opportunities in sectors such as transportation, energy, roads, telecommunications, and infrastructure, which investors are encouraged to explore.
3. There is a pressing need for legal frameworks in the transportation, energy, and infrastructure sectors to facilitate deeper investment.
4. There is a focus on expanding the road network throughout South Sudan, with specific emphasis on completing the Juba-Yambio and Juba-Yei-Kaya roads.
5. The call for digital connectivity throughout South Sudan aims to boost investment opportunities and enhance security.
6. The government is urged to revise the currently high power tariffs to improve the investment climate in the power sector. This includes implementing a new policy on renewable energy and its distribution across South Sudan.
7. The government should fulfill its obligations to pay contractors for goods and services rendered, enabling them to continue their business operations.
8. Investors are encouraged to embrace risk, recognizing it as a fundamental aspect of business.
9. There is a crucial need for sustainable infrastructural development in South Sudan.
10. The forum was well-received, with a call for organizers to maintain it as a pivotal business and investment platform for South Sudan.



## Role of energy infrastructure in fostering sustainable development in South Sudan



**Introduction:** Eng. Jimmy Jake Stephen, Project and Planning Engineer at the National Ministry of Energy delivered a comprehensive keynote presentation on behalf of the Ministry of Energy, addressing the pivotal role of energy infrastructure in fostering sustainable development within South Sudan. His speech covered an array of topics, including an overview of the energy sector, investment opportunities, and challenges, energy policies and strategies, as well as recommendations for sectoral improvement.

### Overview of the Energy Sector:

Eng. Jimmy Jake commenced his speech by providing a sobering overview of South Sudan's energy landscape. He highlighted the country's dismal electricity access rate of only 7% and per capita consumption of 3kWh, positioning South Sudan as one of the most underdeveloped countries globally. With a total installed capacity of 87MW distributed across isolated networks, South Sudan lacks a national grid. Moreover, all existing power plants rely on diesel/heavy fuel oil, proving costly and environmentally hazardous.

**Investment Opportunities and Challenges:** The Engineer outlined abundant untapped energy resources within South Sudan, including major and mini hydropower potential, solar radiation, wind



power, and biomass reserves. Despite this potential, the growth of the electricity sector is impeded by supply constraints rather than demand. Eng. Jimmy Jake emphasized the need for significant investment in energy infrastructure to meet growing demand, particularly as South Sudan serves as a potential market for the East African Power Pool (EAPP). He discussed short-, medium--, and long-term programs aimed at addressing electricity access challenges.

**Energy Policies, Laws, and Regulations:** Eng. Jimmy Jake highlighted government policies and strategies to encourage the development of electricity through renewable resources, the construction of hydropower plants and dams, and the establishment of a national grid. He also underscored the importance of private sector participation in energy development, supported by relevant legislation such as the National Electricity Act 2016 and the Investment Act 2012.

**Investment Opportunities and Potential Projects:** The Engineer delineated various investment opportunities within the energy sector, including the development of the South Sudan Energy Master Plan, electrification of state capitals and secondary towns, utilization of indigenous energy resources, and expansion of regional interconnections.



He presented potential hydro and thermal power projects, transmission lines, and substations, along with associated challenges such as financial availability, technical know-how, and institutional capacity.

**Recommendations for Sector Improvement:** Eng. Jimmy Jake offered several recommendations to enhance the energy sector, including the establishment of a National Electricity Regulatory Authority (NERA), acceleration of electrification plans, measures to increase accessibility and affordability of electricity supply, and development of skilled personnel. He stressed the importance of integrating energy development with national plans and promoting renewable energy technologies.

## **Potential Investment / Business Opportunities in South Sudan's Gas and Oil Sector**



Presentation by Engineer Stanislaus Tombe Bonda, Director General Exploration and Production (E&P) Directorate, Nilepet Corporation

**Background;** the Nile Petroleum Corporation was established vide the section 13 (1) of Petroleum Act 2012 and reiterated in NILEPET ACT 2019 as a commercial wing of the government of South Sudan,

**Nile Petroleum Corporation mandate;** he further stated the mandate of Nilepet in participating in the upstream, midstream and downstream

activities of oil and gas of the petroleum sector on behalf of the Government of the Republic of South Sudan.

**Vision;** A leading and a competitive integrated oil and gas corporation of choice in South Sudan, operating with focus on profitability, environmental sustainability and social responsibility.

**Opportunities;** following the operatorship vision of Nilepet, Engineer Stanislaus outpointed the following opportunities for business for which it seeks partnerships:

A Joint Partnerships to explore awarded, free and relinquished in exploration and producing blocks and Expansion in areas such as refineries; Increase refining capacity of Bentiu refinery and working on transportation of products especially to Juba by barges which will cut cost of transportation and electricity in Juba; planned new refineries in Tharjiath, Akon, Paloch, etc. More fuel storage depots in states capitals in Republic South Sudan, build capability of center to be state of the art to lead in carrying out Exploration & Production studies, drilling workover rigs, production and optimization and gas monetization, Waste Management and Environmental Conservation



## **The critical importance of transport infrastructure in driving economic growth in South Sudan**

Eng. Manyok. S. Chol, Policy Planning and Research Officer, National Ministry of Transport delivered a keynote speech highlighting the critical importance of transport infrastructure in driving economic growth within South Sudan. Addressing various stakeholders from government bodies, the private sector, and civil society, the Engineer underscored the pivotal role of an efficient transportation system in facilitating the movement of people, goods, and services.



**Background and Ministry's Vision, Mission, and Mandate:** Eng. Manyok. S. Chol provided insights into the establishment of the Ministry of Transport, Roads & Bridges in 2005/2011 and its subsequent division into two ministries through Presidential Decree No. 26/2011. He outlined the Ministry's vision to provide a safe, secure, and efficient transportation system for prosperous South Sudan, along with its mission and mandate to regulate, develop, and manage the transport sector.

He outlined the Ministry's vision to provide a safe, secure, and efficient transportation system for prosperous South Sudan, along with its mission and mandate to regulate, develop, and manage the transport sector.

**Overview of Transport Systems and Critical Challenges:** The Engineer detailed the various transport systems in South Sudan, including inland waterways, air transport, road transport, and oil pipelines, with railways in the planning stage. He highlighted the challenges faced by the sector, such as poor physical connectivity, limited road networks, security concerns, and inadequate funding exacerbated by high maintenance costs due to continuous flooding.

**Efforts to Enhance Investment Opportunities:** Eng. Manyok. S. Chol outlined ongoing initiatives aimed at enhancing investment opportunities in the transport sector. These

include engagements with the World Bank, the development of national policies and master plans, and collaboration with regional bodies like the Northern Corridor Transit Transport (NCTT) Coordination Authority. He also highlighted efforts to develop transport legislation and engage in regional infrastructure projects such as the LAPSSET Corridor.

**Role of the Transport Sector in Blue Economy Strategy:** The Engineer emphasized the Ministry's involvement in the National Blue Economy Strategy for South Sudan, aiming to harness the potential of blue economy sectors to enhance economic growth. He identified key components within the transport sector, such as river navigation, river ports, shipyard industry, maritime security, safety, and marine environment, as critical drivers of socio-economic sustainable growth.



## Investment Opportunities and Recommended Policies in South Sudan's Civil Aviation



Mr. David Loputu Paulino the 1<sup>st</sup> director of corporate planning, South Sudan Civil Aviation Authority (SSCAA), on his presentation during the forum gave an overview of the SSCAA background, investments opportunities and investment policy recommendations.

**Background;** South Sudan Civil Aviation Authority (SSCAA) is a member state of International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), established in 2012 to oversee and regulate the countries aviation industry, airlines companies

and operation, Civil Aviation Authority (SSCAA) is a non-revenue generating agency but a service provider.

**Objective;** the overall objectives of South Sudan Civil Aviation Authority is to provide the efficiency, Safety, Secure, Reliable and affordable and fully integrated Aviation Infrastructure and Service delivery.

**Investment Opportunities;** Mr. David, also stressed out some of the opportunities in Civil Aviation as Aerodrome (Air Ports) Development (Runway, Tower, Fence and infrastructure); Air Navigation System (ANS), equipment, facilitations and personnel (Control of Air Space); Air Carrier (Aircrafts, Presidential Jet, National and Commercial); Service delivery such as Export (domestic animal resources-cows, Sheep's, goats, chickens and non-domestic animal resources-elephant tone etc.); Agricultural product Export (Coffee, Gum Arabic, Fruits, vegetables, crops etc.) encourage light industries; Mineral and Mining Export (Gold, Diamond, etc.)



**Investment policy recommendation;** The director recommended the government of South Sudan to sign Bilateral and Multilateral agreement on Business with various Countries, granting Security for Investors both national and International (air carriers, personnel, equipment, facilities etc.) while he also encouraged the government to look in to Harmonization of Investment policies (to attract more investment), encouraged all Public and organized force to be involve in investment project, he adversely encourage for Civil Aviation Authority engagement in the Air carrier registration on the Aircraft Operation Certificate (AOC) and Aircraft Operation Permit (AOP) and as well engagement with Ministry of commerce and trade to free zone infrastructure (Storage)



## **South Sudan's Economic Benefits Within the Northern Corridor Transport and Transit Coordination Authority.**



Presentation by, Mr. Denis Lewa Muganga, the Director for Private Sector Investment promotion at the Northern Corridor Transit and Transport Coordination Authority

The Northern Corridor stands as a vital multimodal surface transport system, linking the countries of the Great Lakes region to the Kenya Sea Port of Mombasa. Its significance lies not only in facilitating trade but also in stimulating economic and social development among its member nations. The Northern Corridor Transit and

Transport Agreement inked as early as 1985, embodies the shared commitment of participating countries to enhance regional connectivity and foster mutual prosperity.

**Historical Significance and Membership Expansion:** Originally conceived as a means to streamline cross-border transport, the Northern Corridor has evolved into a linchpin of regional cooperation. In 2012, South Sudan's accession to the Northern Corridor initiative marked a significant milestone, further solidifying the corridor's role as a catalyst for economic integration and development.

**Objectives and Strategic Vision:** The Northern Corridor is guided by a set of specific objectives aimed at fostering trade facilitation, economic growth, and environmental sustainability:





1. **Facilitating Trade and Mobility:** The corridor aims to streamline the movement of persons, vehicles, and goods across domestic, regional, and international borders, thereby facilitating trade and enhancing connectivity.
2. **Stimulating Economic Development:** By promoting efficient transport infrastructure and logistics facilities, the Northern Corridor seeks to stimulate economic growth and social development within the territories of its contracting parties.
3. **Transforming into an Economic Corridor:** Through strategic investments and collaborative initiatives, the corridor endeavors to evolve into an economic powerhouse, serving as a conduit for trade and investment flows across the region.
4. **Sustainable Growth Strategies:** Recognizing the importance of environmental conservation, the Northern Corridor prioritizes the implementation of sustainable growth strategies, balancing economic development with environmental stewardship.

**Key Initiatives Towards Trade Facilitation:** The Northern Corridor has embarked on several necessary initiatives to enhance trade facilitation and infrastructure development:

- **Development of Logistics and Trade Facilities:** Initiatives such as Inland Container Depots (ICDs) and One-Stop Border Posts (OSBPs) have emerged to address the evolving needs of trade facilitation, presenting both new opportunities and challenges.
- **Infrastructure Modernization:** Investments in transport infrastructure, including the development, rehabilitation, and modernization of road networks, railways, and weighbridges, are underway to improve efficiency and enhance connectivity along the corridor.

**Djibouti Corridor Transit:** A flagship infrastructural project within the Northern Corridor framework, the Djibouti Corridor Transit aims to establish seamless connectivity between South Sudan, Ethiopia, and Djibouti. By leveraging multimodal transport and logistics capabilities, this initiative seeks to unlock new trade routes and economic opportunities, further strengthening regional integration and cooperation.

## Investment Opportunities in Juba Special Economic Zone

In his presentation, Commissioner General Hon. Robert Beda Tida illuminated the strategic inception and the ambitious goals of the Juba Special Economic Zone, a pivotal project initiated under the leadership of the former Governor of Central Equatoria State, Hon. Clement Wani Konga, through Gubernatorial Order No. 33/2013 in 2013. The foundation stone of this significant venture was laid by H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit on June 1st, 2013, marking a monumental step towards economic transformation. Located in Lokiliri Payam, Juba County, within Central Equatoria State and specifically in Nesitu Boma, the zone is



strategically positioned approximately sixteen kilometers southeast of the major roads leading to Uganda and Kenya, serving as a critical juncture for regional trade routes.

The Juba Special Economic Zone is designed as a cornerstone in realizing the aspirations of Vision 2040, which envisions the development of infrastructure to bolster the agricultural and industrial sectors. Through this development, the initiative aims to achieve food security for

the state via Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), embodying a holistic approach to economic growth and sustainability.

The objectives set for the Special Economic Zone are multi-faceted, focusing on developing essential infrastructure such as storage and processing facilities for agricultural products, attracting investment from both domestic and international sources, and generating employment opportunities for South Sudanese and foreign nationals alike. Additionally, the zone aims to develop social service infrastructures, including education, health, banking, and tourism projects, and establish a logistical hub for goods entering South Sudan from neighboring countries.

The envisioned benefits of the Juba Special Economic Zone are profound and far-reaching. It aims to develop a business center that will house financial, diplomatic, and administrative units, crucial for South Sudan's integration into the global economy. The zone is expected to serve as a gateway, enhancing South Sudan's connectivity with strategic trading partners such as Kenya and Uganda, and establishing modern ports and airports equipped with unique logistical support services. Furthermore, the initiative plans to address middle- and high-income housing needs for South Sudanese and the diaspora, while also laying the groundwork for improved education and health services for the local community and economic zone residents. The establishment of a dam and water reservoir, alongside the zone serving as a pilot project for replication across the Republic of South Sudan, underscores the ambitious scope of this endeavor to reshape the economic landscape of the nation.

## Education, Innovation in Engineering and Technology as a Driving Force for Economic Development .



In a compelling presentation, representatives from Jakama Engineering Ltd & associates ., an international investment company, outlined their comprehensive involvement and impact across several critical sectors. With a keen focus on infrastructure development, the company has positioned itself as a key player in pioneering technology for energy generation, enhancing food security, and steering strategic project development and management. Their scope

of operation is vast and impressive, reflecting a broad and impactful presence globally.

Jakama Engineering Ltd. boasts partnerships with over 200 universities, demonstrating their commitment to innovation and education in engineering and technology fields. Their team is robust, with more than 800 employees spread across three continents, underscoring the company's global reach and its capability to manage and execute projects in diverse environments. This extensive workforce is instrumental in delivering high-quality services and projects, contributing to the company's growing list of over 1,200 satisfied clients.

The company's achievements in infrastructure are particularly noteworthy, with over 3,700 kilometers of roads constructed across various terrains and countries. This achievement not only showcases their expertise in large-scale infrastructure projects but also their contribution to improving connectivity and facilitating economic growth in the regions they operate. Furthermore, Jakama Engineering Ltd. has been involved in over 400 construction areas, demonstrating their versatility and capability in managing a wide range of construction projects.

Residential and commercial building is another area where Jakama Engineering Ltd. has made significant strides, with more than 2,500 houses and buildings constructed. This extensive portfolio highlights their role in shaping urban landscapes and providing quality living and working spaces that meet the modern needs of communities worldwide.

Through their presentation, Jakama Engineering Ltd. illustrated their integral role in advancing infrastructure, technology for energy generation, food security, and strategic project management. Their global footprint, combined with a solid track record of successful projects, positions them as a leading force in the engineering and construction sectors.



# Unearth Prime Investment Opportunities



In a detailed presentation, the Bros Group of Companies, a distinguished private indigenous entity, shared insights into its diversified investment strategy and extensive involvement across various sectors. With a focus on fostering growth and innovation, the group has directed investments through its subsidiaries into a myriad of industries, encompassing construction, direct private equity, real

estate, agriculture, and foundational industry startups.

Central to the Bros Group's philosophy is a long-term investment outlook, aiming for organic growth through strategic acquisitions in areas where its management team boasts substantial expertise. This approach has enabled the group to carve out a significant niche in its operational sectors, demonstrating a commitment to expansion and excellence.

The company prides itself on maintaining robust relationships with investment structures, funds, and asset managers. By continuously refining its network, Bros Group seeks to unearth prime investment opportunities not only within its home country but also in neighboring nations, across the continent, and around the globe. This global perspective underscores the group's ambition and its capacity to operate on an international scale.

Fundamental to the group's operations are its core values of integrity, quality, creativity, and respect. These principles guide the Bros Group in all its endeavors, ensuring that its business practices and partnerships reflect a commitment to these ideals.

At present, the Bros Group is actively seeking partnerships with both local and international investors for several ambitious projects. Noteworthy among these is the construction of a modern cultural center and shopping mall, dubbed BROS PORTICO BOWMALL, at the Nyakuron Cultural Centre in Juba City. This project aims to blend cultural significance with modern retail experiences, creating a landmark destination in the heart of Juba.

Additionally, the group is spearheading the modernization of the Customs Taxi Park in a Public-Private Partnership with the State Government. This initiative represents a critical step towards enhancing urban infrastructure and improving public transportation facilities, reflecting Bros Group's commitment to contributing positively to societal development and urbanization.

Through its presentation, Bros Group of Companies showcased its strategic investment vision and ongoing projects, highlighting its role as a pivotal player in fostering economic growth and innovation across multiple sectors.





# Public-Private Partnership (PPP) between EZRA Construction & Development Group (ECDG) and the South Sudan Electricity Corporation (SSEC),



In a comprehensive presentation delivered by the Juba Electricity Distribution Company Ltd (JEDCO), the company outlined its foundational structure, operational strategies, and the pivotal role it plays in the electricity distribution sector of Juba, South Sudan. This report summarizes the key points of the presentation, reflecting JEDCO's journey since its inception, its operational vision and mission, the services it provides, and the challenges and strategies it faces in the

pursuit of sustainable electricity distribution.

JEDCO was established in May 2018, emerging from a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) between EZRA Construction & Development Group (ECDG) and the South Sudan Electricity Corporation (SSEC), with share distributions of 52% and 48%, respectively. This partnership was formed to distribute electricity to Juba's residents, utilizing power generated from the EZRA power plant. Officially commencing its distribution operations on November 21, 2019, the company was inaugurated by His Excellency President Salva Kiir Mayardit, marking a significant milestone in South Sudan's infrastructural development.



JEDCO's vision is to be recognized as the national electricity distribution company most admired for its reliable, sustainable services, and competitive pricing in Juba. Its mission focuses on providing quality services that exceed customer expectations, supported by state-of-the-art technology and continuous human resource development. The company prioritizes safety, integrity, excellence, and community engagement, aiming to make a substantial profit for its stakeholders while contributing positively to the community.

The presentation detailed JEDCO's range of services, including safe electricity connections, the installation of prepaid and smart metering systems, network expansion, emergency maintenance services, and innovative payment options. Serving over 40,000 customers, JEDCO's demographic spans residents, healthcare facilities, businesses, and governmental and private entities, with domestic users constituting a significant portion of its customer base.

JEDCO's commitment to corporate social responsibility was emphasized, highlighting its community engagement efforts, training programs for South Sudanese nationals, and internship opportunities for students. The company proudly shared its achievements, such as the significant growth of its customer base, improved customer support, expanded network, and enhanced power accessibility.

Despite its successes, JEDCO faces challenges, including electricity theft, the lack of an Electricity Act, and high rates due to currency devaluation. To address these, the company has embarked on strategic initiatives, notably investing in solar power to reduce production costs. Collaborations with the Ministry of Energy and Dams and other stakeholders aim to develop a load management and tariff scheme analysis, with plans for hydropower energy construction also underway.

This report encapsulates the essence of JEDCO's presentation, showcasing the company's strategic approach to enhancing electricity distribution in Juba while navigating the challenges inherent in such an undertaking. Through its efforts, JEDCO demonstrates a commitment to sustainability, innovation, and community welfare, positioning itself as a key player in South Sudan's energy sector.

### **The Vital Roles and Significance of Standards in Economic Growth**



In a comprehensive presentation delivered by Dr. Kuorwel Kuai Kuorwel, CEO of the South Sudan National Bureau of Standards (SSNBS), the vital roles and significance of standards in economic growth were meticulously outlined. Established initially in 2006 as a Directorate of Grade & Standards under the Ministry of Commerce, Trade, and Supply through a Republican Decree and later becoming a fully-fledged Bureau in

2012 via the SSNBS Act, the agency operates as an independent authority. Currently supervised by the Minister of Trade and Industry, SSNBS is charged with the development of standards, inspection, quality assurance, metrology, testing, and calibration services within South Sudan.

Dr. Kuorwel emphasized the multiple roles and importance of standards, highlighting their critical impact on enhancing consumer confidence, protecting public health and the environment, promoting fair trade practices, ensuring precision in trade, and providing access to technical training and resources. These standards are indispensable not only to industry and business organizations of all types but also to government and regulatory bodies, conformity assessment professionals, suppliers, customers, and all global citizens.



The benefits of adopting standards, as elucidated by Dr. Kuorwel, include the availability of safer, healthier, and more environmentally sound products and services; products with improved quality and reliability; better operational compatibility between products; greater consistency in the delivery of services; improved choice and access to goods and services; lower costs for consumers; and better product or service information.

Dr. Kuorwel distinguished technical regulations and standards, noting that while technical regulations are mandatory and form part of legislation, standards are voluntary and developed through a stakeholder-inclusive, consensus process by a variety of bodies in the public or private sector. Technical regulations aim to ensure the quality of exports, protect human, animal, and plant life or health, protect the environment, prevent deceptive practices, and are often confronted by common issues such as lack of information, high certification costs, burdensome certification and inspection procedures, lack of testing facilities, and stringent technical requirements in key markets.

The consequences of not complying with standards, especially for small enterprises, can be severe, ranging from health risks to consumers, loss of product quality, rejection at borders, inefficient processes, legal actions, reputational damage, and loss of major international buyers.

Standards are determined by various factors, including the characteristics of products, the processes used in their preparation, value addition processes, specific market requirements, and industry-specific needs. Dr. Kuorwel further detailed the importance of standards for sustainable development, underlining their role in economic growth, social equity, environmental integrity, and improving the lives of global citizens.

In South Sudan, over 1800 South Sudanese standards have been developed and adopted, alongside ARSO, ISO, and Codex standards, highlighting the country's commitment to improving quality, competitiveness, health and safety, accessibility, environmental protection, social accountability, risk management, innovation, and overall improvement of global citizens' lives.

## Reviving Yei Coffee Sector



In his keynote speech, Hon. Aggrey Cyrus Kanyikwa, Commissioner of Yei County highlighted that the forum lacked a presentation from the local government. This omission was notable, as local government is the level at which most operations are executed and their impact is most directly felt. The Commissioner emphasized that a nation's economic growth hinges on its citizens' engagement in productive activities.

He pointed out the critical need for South Sudan to boost its production for both local consumption and export to other countries. He also underscored the efforts of both national and local governments to foster a conducive business environment. In this light, there is an urgent call for the private sector to invest across various economic sectors, including agriculture, manufacturing, and finance.



For a growing economy, the engagement of local or indigenous entities is vital to ensure continuity and sustainability. The Commissioner noted that South Sudan's economy

currently suffers from extensive foreign involvement, urging the local business community to alter this narrative.

An assessment reveals that South Sudan possesses considerable production factors, such as human resources and land. However, the country faces a significant challenge: the scarcity of capital. This gap underscores the need for investor participation.

In conclusion, the Commissioner affirmed that both the Republic of South Sudan and Yei County are open for business, presenting multiple opportunities, particularly in agriculture. With abundant land and favorable farming conditions, crops such as coffee, rice, maize, and pineapples thrive. Moreover, Yei is rich in minerals, including gold, platinum, and diamonds, inviting investors to introduce advanced technologies for mineral extraction.

## **Day 2-Key Emerging Issues from Discussions**

1. The Government of South Sudan should consider establishing an Investment Fund to finance local business enterprises, trade initiatives, production, economic research, and innovations. This would enable South Sudanese entrepreneurs to compete with foreign investment and trade effectively.
2. There is a pressing need for the establishment of One Border Stop Post to streamline cross-border trade and enhance efficiency in customs procedures.
3. It is essential to establish a One-Stop Shop and conduct a mapping of investment opportunities across the country to provide a centralized platform for investors and facilitate informed decision-making.
4. The delayed enactment of Civil Aviation Laws is hindering the development of the aviation sector and needs urgent attention.
5. The lack of autonomy of South Sudan Civil Aviation is impeding its effectiveness and requires immediate reform.
6. There is a need for comprehensive investment information to be made available to prospective investors to facilitate informed decision-making.
7. Harmonization of tax levies is necessary to create a conducive business environment and prevent discrepancies across different regions.
8. South Sudanese businesses should offer strong competition to foreign businesses by taking risks and embracing innovation to drive economic growth.
9. The Policy on Public-Private Partnership is at the draft stage and should be expedited, and spearheaded by the Ministry of Investment.
10. Plans are underway by the Ministry of Investment to engage the private sector and business community for their input in policy formulation and decision-making processes.
11. Harmonization of investment policies being developed is crucial to avoid conflicting regulations and ensure coherence in the investment framework.
12. Incentives such as tax breaks and cuts should be provided to encourage capital investments in South Sudan and spur economic development.
13. The yearly renewal of the Investment Certificate should be re-evaluated to streamline administrative processes and reduce bureaucratic hurdles for investors.
14. The Juba Special Economic Zone idea, which is currently 11 years behind schedule, needs to be actualized to unlock its potential for economic growth and development.



15. Maintaining existing roads, such as the Juba-Nimule Road, is imperative to ensure efficient transportation networks and support economic activities across the country.

## **B. SECTORIAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS**

### **Africa's Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Dynamics.**



In a compelling keynote address by the Vice President of South Sudan and Chairman of the Economic Cluster, Prof. James Wani Igga, the spotlight was on "Africa's Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Dynamics" and the critical role of FDI in fostering infrastructure investment for sustainable development across the continent. Prof. Igga offered an insightful analysis, underpinned by comprehensive data and strategic remedies aimed at enhancing infrastructure and economic growth within the African context.

Prof. Igga began by delineating the landscape of FDI inflows across Africa, highlighting Northern Africa as the most popular recipient, capturing 34.3% of FDI. This dominance is attributed to the region's oil industry and a resurgence in privatization programs, alongside policy initiatives geared towards efficiency improvements. The largest investors in this region are from the US, UK, and Germany. Central Africa follows with 26.8% of FDI inflows, whereas Western Africa, led by Nigeria's oil industry, attracts 18.3%.



South Sudan, despite facing upheavals and challenges, possesses significant potential for FDI inflow into its oil sector. However, the country's capacity to attract and benefit from FDI is hampered by several challenges. Prof. Igga emphasized the global recession and its potential long-term impacts on FDI inflows into Africa, along with the continent's struggle with poor and underdeveloped infrastructure. Infrastructure, as Prof. Igga noted, is crucial for facilitating business activity, encompassing communication, transportation, distribution networks, and energy supply systems. The underdevelopment of these infrastructures significantly affects South Sudan's FDI inflows.

To counter these challenges, Prof. Igga proposed a comprehensive set of remedies aimed at bolstering South Sudan's infrastructure investment for sustainable development. These remedies include the need for political stability and favorable investment policies, comprehensive business environment reforms, the adoption of an open market access system, and the devolution into decentralized state governments. Additionally, favorable tax treaties, investment promotion, and protection agreements, along with leveraging potential markets from millions of people, serve as foundational pillars for general investment improvement. Prof. Igga also highlighted the importance of improving infrastructure, cultivating an emerging pool of skilled workforce, and activating the Ministry of Wildlife and Tourism's activities to enhance the country's attractiveness to FDI.

In conclusion, Prof. Igga underscored the imperative for African countries to implement strategic programs that utilize petroleum and mining revenues to invest in physical and

human capital. Such investments are essential for supporting broader economic growth and development, paving the way for a sustainable and prosperous future for Africa. This address not only sheds light on the current FDI dynamics in Africa but also charts a path forward for countries like South Sudan to harness FDI for their infrastructural and economic development.

### **Investment’s Legal and Procedural Framework aimed at Fostering Growth to attracting both Local and International Investors**



In a keynote speech delivered by Hon. Dr. Dhieu Mathok Diing, the Minister of Investment, a comprehensive overview of South Sudan's investment policy was presented. The focus was firmly placed on how the Republic of South Sudan is steering its investment landscape through a structured legal and procedural framework aimed at fostering growth and attracting both local and international investors.

The foundation of South Sudan's investment strategy is built upon two primary legal frameworks: the Investment Promotion Act of 2009, with its latest amendment in 2024, and the Investment Promotion Regulations of 2012. These frameworks underscore the country's commitment to nurturing a favorable investment climate. The Ministry of Investment plays a pivotal role in this process, overseeing every phase of investment promotion, including research, planning, outreach, aftercare, and offering additional investor services. This comprehensive approach ensures a supportive environment for investors throughout their investment journey in South Sudan.



A notable initiative introduced by the ministry is the One Stop Shop Investment Centre (OSSIC). This center is designed to streamline and simplify the process of setting up a business in South Sudan, providing a team of investment promotion officers dedicated to assisting investors. These officers help evaluate investment opportunities and identify optimal locations for projects, thereby significantly reducing the bureaucratic hurdles and facilitating smoother entry into the market.

In alignment with the National Development Strategy Plan (NDSP) and collaboration with various partners such as the African Development Bank (AfDB), UNDP, East African Community (EAC), and the Northern Corridor, the Ministry of Investment is undertaking strategic projects. These projects include mapping investment opportunities throughout the

country, reviewing policies and strategies for investment promotion, learning from best practices for One Stop Shop approaches, establishing Free Zones Areas, enacting property rights legislation, conducting the second National Economic Conference in May 2024, and developing a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Policy Framework.

The speech also highlighted several sectorial opportunities that are ripe for investment. These sectors encompass a wide range of industries crucial for the economic development of South Sudan, including agriculture and agri-business, physical and social infrastructure, natural resource mapping for economic use, forestry, medium and heavy manufacturing industries, and sectors related to transport, telecommunications, media, ICT, and AI. Additionally, there are significant opportunities in the financial services sector, including commercial banking, insurance, property management, and financial institutions, as well as in the pharmaceuticals, chemicals, and medical industries.

Hon. Diing's speech eloquently laid out the strategic vision and ongoing efforts of the South Sudanese government to create a conducive environment for investment. By detailing the legal frameworks, institutional support structures, and sectorial opportunities, the Minister of Investment invited local and international investors to explore the diverse and promising avenues for investment in South Sudan. This initiative reflects the government's dedication to leveraging investment as a catalyst for sustainable economic growth and development.

### **Role of Road Infrastructure in the Nation's Economic Development.**



In a detailed presentation, Hon. Simon Mijok Mijak, National Minister of Roads and Bridges, provided an insightful overview of South Sudan's geographical, demographic, and historical context, alongside the critical role of road infrastructure in the nation's economic development. South Sudan, a landlocked country in Eastern Africa, gained its independence in 2011, becoming the newest sovereign state in the world. With a young population of over 12.2 million people, the country is predominantly inhabited by

Nilotic, Nilo-Hamites, and Bantus peoples, with Christianity, Islam, and indigenous faiths as the main religions.

Minister Mijak underscored the significance of road infrastructure as a fundamental pillar of economic growth, echoing the World Bank's sentiment that "Roads are the arteries through which the economy pulses." He emphasized that the Ministry of Roads and Bridges, along with its agencies, plays a crucial role in driving the nation's economic prosperity. The success of this sector is contingent upon several factors, including political leadership commitment, resource availability, zero tolerance for corruption, transparent procurement, and impartial implementation of road projects.

Highlighting a new policy direction initiated by President Salva Kiir Mayardit, the Minister pointed out the use of oil proceeds for road infrastructure development. This approach has revitalized the ministry's activities after years of stagnation due to oil shutdowns, internal conflict, and fluctuating oil prices. Road transport, accounting for over 80% of all land transportation, emerges as a vital component of South Sudan's socio-economic development.





The Ministry's mandate encompasses developing and maintaining an efficient and safe road and bridge network across all states, with the vision to create a prosperous South Sudan through a secure and efficient road network. The mission focuses on serving the nation by constructing high-quality, cost-effective roads and bridges, aiming to ensure accessibility and minimize transport costs.

South Sudan's road network spans over 40,000 km, classified into national, state, rural, and urban roads. Despite significant challenges such as inadequate resources, insecurity, and climate change effects, the ministry has embarked on upgrading over 5,000 km of roads to asphalt standard, funded by oil proceeds, with further procurement for maintenance and rehabilitation underway.

The presentation delved into the economic implications of road infrastructure, highlighting its importance for agriculture, market access, and overall economic development. The "Oil for Infrastructure Policy" was a key focus, detailing projects funded by crude oil proceeds, including major highways and urban road networks, which have demonstrated substantial progress and positive impacts on the economy and people's lives.

However, road development in South Sudan faces challenges such as financing, security, community demands, material scarcity, importation costs, climate change, and encroachment on road reserves. To address these issues, Minister Mijak proposed several recommendations to the Juba Economic Forum. These include inviting international and regional investors to invest in road infrastructure, calling upon development partners to resume funding for feeder road projects, mobilizing national resources, reigniting nationalism and patriotism, and coordinating economic development activities across various ministries. Additionally, the creation of a road maintenance fund was suggested to preserve the investment in road infrastructure.

The transformative effect of road and bridge development on South Sudan's socio-economic landscape was highlighted through examples such as the completion of the Luri Bridge and the Juba-Bor Highway, which have significantly reduced travel times, increased safety, and boosted economic activities, particularly in the fisheries industry. These developments have facilitated access to markets, improved the delivery of healthcare and education, and generated employment opportunities, showcasing the direct benefits of improved road connectivity on the lives of South Sudanese citizens.

In conclusion, Minister Mijak's presentation illustrated the pivotal role of road infrastructure in fostering economic growth, enhancing social equity, and ensuring environmental integrity in South Sudan. Despite facing numerous challenges, the strategic use of oil proceeds for infrastructure development, coupled with the proposed recommendations, outlines a promising path toward achieving a prosperous and interconnected South Sudan.



## C. PANEL DISCUSSIONS

### TOPIC 1: Challenges and Opportunities in Transport Infrastructure

The first discussion moderated by Dr. Jacob Dut Chol Riak, focused on a comprehensive overview of the transportation sector's current state. Hon. Mawa A. Moses, the Central Equatoria State Minister of Roads and Bridges outlined the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for urban development and infrastructure enhancement. His analysis delved into the pressing issues faced by the sector while also shining a light on the potential avenues for progress and improvement.



One of the primary challenges highlighted by Hon. Mawa Moses is the encroachment of improved roads by vendors. This phenomenon not only restricts the flow of traffic but also undermines the structural integrity and purpose of these roads, impacting overall urban mobility. Additionally, physical obstructions across the city further exacerbate traffic congestion and pose safety risks to both pedestrians and drivers. Another significant challenge is the limited resources available for expanding tarmac coverage within the city. This limitation hinders the ability to enhance and extend the road network, which is crucial for supporting urban growth and development.

Despite these challenges, Hon. Mawa A. Moses also pointed out substantial opportunities that could revolutionize the city's transportation infrastructure. There are promising public-private partnership opportunities to construct an international airport, an endeavor that could significantly boost the region's connectivity and economic prospects. Moreover, similar partnership opportunities exist for building car parks, which would address the critical need for organized parking solutions in the city. These developments would not only alleviate some of the current transportation challenges but also contribute to a more structured and efficient urban landscape.

Hon. Mawa A. Moses's insights highlight a balanced view of the obstacles and potential solutions within the transportation sector. By addressing these challenges through innovative approaches and leveraging public-private partnerships, there's a clear path toward improving urban infrastructure and fostering sustainable development.

**Panelist 2:** Hon. Gloria Philemon Baime, Chairperson of Committee on Transport, Transitional National Legislative Assembly (TNLA)

During a panel discussion, Hon. Gloria highlighted the multifaceted challenges and opportunities facing South Sudan's transport and infrastructure sector, with a particular focus on aviation. The discussion shed light on significant obstacles that have hindered the development and efficient operation of the country's airport infrastructure.



Key challenges identified include the non-implementation of already passed laws related to transport and infrastructure, which has been a major setback. The state of the airports, particularly the Juba airport and others across the states, was pointed out as being in poor condition, suffering from a lack of maintenance. This has been exacerbated by the exclusion of Western Equatoria from infrastructural developments, highlighting a geographical disparity in infrastructure investment. Another issue is the control of airport taxes, which is currently managed by the Ministry of Finance rather than the Civil Aviation Authority, complicating the financial and operational oversight of aviation activities. Additionally, the bill on Civil Aviation is still pending, creating a legislative gap in the governance of the sector. The panelist also noted that South Sudan's airspace is controlled by Sudan, which, amid ongoing conflict, makes the use of lower airspace inconvenient and poses significant logistical challenges.

Despite these challenges, the panelist pointed out several promising opportunities that could significantly improve the aviation sector in South Sudan. A notable development is that South Sudan is on the verge of being awarded control of its airspace, a crucial step towards autonomy over its aviation operations and strategic planning. Furthermore, there's an emerging partnership between the Aviation Authority and the business community, aimed at improving the conditions of the Juba airport and other state airports. This collaboration is expected to bring about significant improvements in airport infrastructure and services, enhancing the overall quality and safety of air travel in and out of the country.

The panelist's contribution effectively underscored the complexity of the challenges facing South Sudan's aviation sector while also highlighting the potential for substantial improvements through strategic partnerships and governance reforms. These developments are crucial for enhancing connectivity, fostering economic growth, and integrating South Sudan more effectively into regional and global air transport networks.

Capt. Key Azaria from the South Sudan Civil Aviation Authority provided a detailed examination of the aviation sector's current landscape in South Sudan, focusing on both the prevailing challenges and the promising opportunities that lie ahead.

A significant challenge faced by the aviation sector, as highlighted by Capt. Key Azaria is the lack of civil aviation laws. This legislative gap hinders the regulatory framework necessary for the sector's orderly and safe operation. Another major issue is the inability of South Sudan to register aircraft, a limitation that impacts the nation's sovereignty over its aviation assets and complicates the operation of a national airline. Additionally, the deployment of overused aircraft poses a risk to passenger safety and undermines the reputation of the country's aviation services.

Despite these challenges, Capt. Key Azaria identified several opportunities that suggest a positive trajectory for the aviation sector. South Sudan is home to experienced aviation personnel, a vital asset that can be leveraged to enhance the sector's growth and development. Air travel is recognized as a major opportunity due to its potential to connect various parts of the country, making the expansion of the aircraft fleet a pressing need to meet the demand for accessible and reliable air transportation.



An exciting opportunity lies in the establishment of a South Sudan-owned airspace control tower. This initiative would mark a significant step towards autonomy in airspace management and control, enhancing the country's capabilities in aviation safety and operations. Furthermore, the availability of qualified personnel to ensure the proper implementation of safety standards for newly introduced aircraft is a critical component in maintaining high safety standards and fostering trust in South Sudan's aviation services.

Capt. Key Azaria's contribution underscores the importance of addressing the current challenges through legislative reforms and strategic investments in aviation infrastructure. By capitalizing on the available opportunities, South Sudan can significantly improve its aviation sector, ensuring safer, more efficient, and more accessible air travel for its citizens and visitors alike.

**Panelist 4:** Yanga Samuel Mikaya, Deputy Governor Central Bank

The Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of South Sudan, during the panel discussion, shed light on the intertwined challenges and opportunities facing the country's infrastructure and economic sectors. He emphasized the critical intersections between infrastructure development, economic stability, and investment climate in fostering national growth.

A prominent set of challenges identified revolves around inadequate infrastructure, including the lack of well-developed roads, airports, and waterways. Moreover, the economy faces significant hurdles due to inflation, which escalates the cost of investments, further straining the country's economic climate. Additionally, a noteworthy challenge is the reduced revenue from oil, attributable to a decline in production.

Despite these challenges, the Deputy Governor highlighted key opportunities that can pivot South Sudan toward a brighter economic future. Central to this vision is the creation of an enabling environment that facilitates investment. By addressing the infrastructural and economic barriers, South Sudan can attract both domestic and international investors, driving growth and development. Another significant opportunity lies in the oil sector. With strategic investment aimed at increasing oil production, South Sudan can harness this vital resource to boost its economy. This not only has the potential to increase national revenue but also to stimulate various other sectors of the economy through enhanced energy supply and the creation of related industries.

Engineer Jimmy Jake Stephen from the National Ministry of Energy, presented a focused analysis of the energy sector in South Sudan, pinpointing the critical challenges it faces, alongside identifying substantial opportunities for growth and development. His insights illuminate both the



financial and logistical hurdles that need to be overcome, as well as the potential pathways to energizing the nation's future.

The challenges within the energy sector, as outlined by Engineer Jimmy, center predominantly on the financial aspects of energy infrastructure development. A significant barrier to progress in this sector is the high cost involved in energy sector investments. These elevated costs directly contribute to the high costs of production, which, in turn, necessitate high tariff costs for energy consumers. Such financial challenges not only impede the expansion of the energy infrastructure but also limit access to affordable energy for the populace, posing a critical obstacle to economic development and quality of life improvements.

Despite these challenges, Engineer Jimmy highlighted promising opportunities that exist within South Sudan's energy sector. With only 7% access to power among the population, there is a vast and untapped potential for investment in energy infrastructure. This low level of energy access underscores a significant demand for expanded energy services, presenting a critical area for development and investment.

Furthermore, renewable energy represents a significant opportunity, particularly solar harvesting. South Sudan's geographical position and climatic conditions make it ideally suited for solar energy production. The harnessing of solar energy not only provides a sustainable and eco-friendly energy source but also offers a solution to the challenges of energy access and infrastructure development. By investing in renewable energy technologies, South Sudan can leapfrog traditional energy development pathways, reducing dependence on costly and environmentally damaging fossil fuels.

### **Additional Comments**

The Honorable Minister of Investment elaborated on the legal framework guiding corporate shareholding structures within the country, alongside discussing a significant development in the energy sector aimed at enhancing power production.

The Minister detailed that the current laws accommodate diverse shareholding compositions based on the scale of companies operating within the nation. Specifically, large companies are permitted to have 100% foreign shareholding, offering international investors the opportunity to fully own and operate businesses. In contrast, medium-sized companies are required to maintain a minimum of 31% national shareholding, ensuring local participation and benefits from such ventures. Furthermore, indigenous companies are mandated to have 100% national shareholding, emphasizing the importance of local ownership and control over businesses directly impacting the local economy and community.



Additionally, the Minister highlighted an imminent boost to the country's power infrastructure with the nearing completion of a solar panel plant. This plant, poised to be integrated into the national grid once the government completes the necessary payments, promises to significantly increase power production. The enhanced energy output is expected to influence energy prices positively, potentially making power more accessible and affordable for the populace and businesses alike.



## TOPIC 2: Innovation in Energy Infrastructure

During a comprehensive panel discussion featuring distinguished experts from various sectors, several critical themes and strategies for advancing South Sudan's economic and energy sectors were articulated. The discussion encapsulated a vision for growth, innovation, and collaboration aimed at fostering national prosperity and sustainable development.



Engineer Stanislaus Tombe Bonda, Director General Exploration and Production (E&P) directorate, Nilepet Corporation, outlined an ambitious plan for Nilepet, highlighting the company's intent to increase its shares in oil mining firms and diversify its product range to include gas and engine oils. A significant component of Nilepet's strategy is to evolve into an operator by 2027, with plans to ramp up investment in production and refining capacities to achieve this goal.

Mr. Meron Tekie Ezra, CEO of EZRA Group of Companies, emphasized the importance of automating its network to eliminate bypasses and establishing alternative, more affordable power production sources. This initiative aims to reduce energy tariffs, making power more accessible to a wider audience.

Mr. John Bosco Kalisa, CEO of the East African Business Council, stressed the necessity of confidence-building within the South Sudanese business community to foster external engagement. He advocated for the conception of national prosperity through innovation and the creation of an enabling environment. Mr. John also highlighted the critical role of embracing renewable energy, building capable institutions, and ensuring investment protection to attract and safeguard capital investments.

Amb. Thiik Giir Thiik, the CEO of the South Sudan Chamber of Energy and Minerals discussed the significance of conducting environmental impact assessments and the need for policy enactment to support sustainable practices. With only 7% electricity access nationwide, he pointed out the immense potential for competition and innovation, particularly in the renewable energy sector, to lower energy tariffs.

## Other Contributions

Contributions from other participants underscored the importance of collaboration within the South Sudanese business community, the need for banks to begin offering loans, and the establishment of well-defined public-private partnerships in the energy sector. These partnerships should clarify the roles of government and the private sector, including mechanisms for sharing risks and gains. Additionally, there was a call for improved policies to ensure that investment durations allow service providers to recoup their investments fairly and for enhancements in human resource development and the academic system.

Together, these insights and recommendations paint a comprehensive picture of the strategic directions needed to propel South Sudan forward. By addressing the challenges of infrastructure, investment climate, and energy access through innovation, policy reform, and collaboration, South Sudan can pave the way for sustainable economic growth and development.

## TOPIC 3: Future Trends in Telecommunications Infrastructure

In a panel discussion moderated by Mr. Parek Toby Maduot, which focused on the future trends in telecommunications infrastructure, experts from various facets of the telecommunications sector shared insights on current challenges, legislative frameworks, and strategic initiatives needed to propel South Sudan's telecommunications infrastructure forward.



The first panelist, Chair of the Specialized Committee on Information, Communication, Technology and Postal Services - TNLA, Hon. John Agany Deng, highlighted the committee's role in aiding with legislation around telecommunications and providing oversight. He pointed out that while necessary laws are in place, the executive branch has not been implementing these legislative laws as required, emphasizing the need for the actualization of these legislative pieces to foster telecommunications development.

Hon. Napoleon Adok, the Director General of the National Communications Authority (NCA), painted a picture of South Sudan's telecommunications landscape, noting the country's struggle with establishing basic telecommunication infrastructure. He stressed the low connectivity levels due to underdeveloped infrastructure and how businesses rely on this connectivity for effective and efficient communication. Napoleon underscored the urgency for a law on cybersecurity to protect

investors' privacy and the establishment of a sovereign internet exchange point within the country to enhance national control over internet traffic.

Mr. Athiei Awol, the CEO of Digitel, a 100% indigenous telecommunications company, shared his company's experience operating in five states and one administrative area for three years. He called for the implementation of 5G networks, microwave solutions, and fiber optics to meet the growing demand for high-speed connectivity. Additionally, Awol emphasized the need for a specialized college in telecommunications to train individuals in fintech and related technologies, underlining the importance of education and training in accelerating digital transformation.

The fourth panelist, Mr. Denis Lewa Muganga, the Director for Private Sector Investment promotion at the Northern Corridor Transit and Transport Coordination Authority discussed the importance of harmonizing policies across member states to facilitate seamless telecommunications services. He also highlighted the need for training, capacity building, experience sharing, and the promotion of private sector investment and technology innovation, including fintech, to foster a conducive environment for the telecommunications sector's growth.

Collectively, the panelists underscored the critical need for legislative implementation, infrastructure development, cybersecurity measures, educational initiatives, and policy harmonization to drive the future of telecommunications in South Sudan. These discussions reveal a comprehensive vision for bolstering the telecommunications infrastructure, paving the way for enhanced connectivity, digital innovation, and economic growth in the region.

#### **TOPIC 4: Integrating Transport, Energy, and Telecommunications for Holistic Development.**

In a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Jacob Dut Chol Riak, focused on the integration of transport, energy, and telecommunications for holistic development, distinguished panelists from various sectors provided insights into the current state and prospects of these critical areas within South Sudan



Hon. Dr. Cosmas D'Wolson Wani, Secretary and Chief Executive of the National Petroleum and Gas Commission highlighted the commission's pivotal role in providing policy guidance, coordinating government agencies to encourage direct investment, and approving business agreements for the Ministry of Petroleum. These efforts are crucial for fostering an environment conducive to growth and development in the energy sector.



Mr. Kennedy Lodiong, Secretary General of the Manufacturers Association of South Sudan, shared that the association comprises 80 members from significant manufacturing companies, including those in beer, juice, mattresses, water processing, and bottling. He pointed out that manufacturers are the largest non-oil revenue taxpayers but face challenges due to unaffordable energy prices and a lack of local raw materials, which hinders the expansion of the manufacturing sector.

Mr. Yemane Binega, the Secretary General of the Eritrean Business Community Chamber, emphasized the importance of promoting unity among business community members, protecting investors' rights, and encouraging investment in agricultural activities. He also stressed the need to ensure security and stability for the business community and aspiring investors, which are fundamental for economic development.

David Loputo Paulino, 1st Director of Corporate Planning of the South Sudan Civil Aviation Authority, outlined the current efforts towards airspace authorization, which could potentially generate up to \$30M in monthly revenue for South Sudan once the airspace management is handed over. Challenges include all operating aircraft being foreign-registered, the lack of enactment of a draft act to regulate the Civil Aviation Authority into law, and insufficient funds to operationalize airport developments. The panelist also highlighted the redundancy of qualified human resources and the high cost of landing charges due to numerous levies. Emphasizing the importance of autonomy for the Civil Aviation Authority, they noted that a successful airspace audit could secure South Sudan's control over its airspace and the associated revenues.

This panel discussion shed light on the interconnectedness of the transport, energy, and telecommunications sectors and their collective impact on South Sudan's holistic development. Addressing the challenges and seizing the opportunities within these sectors are pivotal steps toward fostering sustainable growth and development in the region.

## **TOPIC 5: Public-Private Partnerships in Infrastructure Development**

In a panel moderated by Mr. Parek Toby Maduot, discussions revolved around the pivotal role of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in accelerating infrastructure development across roads, telecommunications, and energy sectors. Panelists from diverse backgrounds shared insights into the complexities, challenges, and strategic approaches required to foster effective PPPs in South Sudan.





The Executive Director of South Sudan Roads Authority (SSRA), Hon. Engineer Kenyatta Warille, emphasized that PPPs involve the private sector investing in public goods, traditionally funded fully by the government. Highlighting the efficiency of the private sector compared to the public sector, the panelists argued that PPPs could bring about improved efficiency in public projects. However, this requires sound administration, an enabling legal and regulatory environment, public education on PPP benefits, attention to risk management, and capacity building for both private and public sector players. The lack of current PPP frameworks results in low capacity among government representatives, underlining the need for capacity building as the government seeks to engage more in PPPs for infrastructure development.

HW Flora Gabriel Modi Mayoress of Juba City Council pointed out that the Central Equatoria State (CES) has a Master Plan for developing infrastructure, roads, and water systems but lacks the finances to implement these plans. She called for engagements with capable investors rather than brokers and highlighted efforts toward the harmonization of taxes to create a more conducive environment for PPPs.

Suleiman Hassan, a representative of the Somali Bureau of Standards asserted that PPPs are crucial for fast-tracking economic growth. Trust was identified as a fundamental element in any business engagement, and with South Sudan experiencing exponential economic growth, the same success could be mirrored in public goods development through effective PPPs. Additionally, the emphasis was placed on the importance of establishing quality standards for public goods.

Other contributions to the discussion called for the harmonization of taxation and clarity in investment levels. The Northern Corridor Secretariat was urged to enhance the government's capacity concerning PPPs, including negotiation, contract structuring, and monitoring of PPP concessions.

The panel collectively underscored the transformative potential of PPPs in bridging the infrastructure development gap in South Sudan. By fostering collaborations between the government and the private sector, leveraging the efficiency and innovation of the latter, and ensuring robust frameworks and trust are in place, South Sudan can significantly advance its infrastructure, thereby supporting its broader economic growth and development objectives.

## D. CLOSING SESSION



In his closing remarks at the Juba Economic Forum, Hon. Dr. Dhieu Mathok Diing, the National Minister of Investment, and Hon. Emmanuel Adil, the Governor of Central Equatoria State, provided insightful reflections and commitments towards fostering economic growth and development in South Sudan.

Hon. Dhieu Mathok Diing emphasized the importance of the resolutions made during the first and second Juba Economic Forums. He stressed the need for these resolutions to be availed and discussed comprehensively to ensure a significant level of implementation. The Minister expressed the Ministry of Investment's readiness to support the CEBU with the implementation of these forum resolutions for the country's growth. Furthermore, he highlighted that the Ministry is actively working on policy frameworks to create an enabling environment for investment within the country, underscoring the government's commitment to facilitating economic development.



HE. Emmanuel Adil Anthony, Governor of Central Equatoria State, echoed the sentiments of support and commitment to the forum's resolutions. He proudly mentioned the launch of the JUBA MASTERPLAN, a strategic initiative developed by South Sudanese human resources aimed at guiding the capital's development. The Governor encouraged investments in agriculture and value addition as key strategies for economic diversification and growth. He acknowledged the critical

role of good infrastructure, particularly roads, in improving trade and service delivery. Adil reiterated the government's dedication to creating an enabling environment for businesses, including the promotion of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) and strategic investments by the business community. Additionally, he called for the inclusion of women in economic activities to enhance their capacities and capabilities, highlighting the government's approach to inclusive economic development.



In the conclusive session of the 2nd Edition of the JUBA ECONOMIC FORUM, H.E. Gen. Taban Deng Gai, the Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan and Chairman of the Infrastructure Cluster, provided a comprehensive overview of the strides being made towards enhancing the country's infrastructure and economic development.

Gen. Taban Deng Gai highlighted the importance of not only formulating good resolutions but also ensuring their concrete implementation.

He committed himself to closely following up on the execution of these resolutions to guarantee their impact on South Sudan's progress. A significant development noted was the impending control over their airspace, a milestone that promises to significantly boost the country's revenue.

This achievement is expected to foster development in aviation infrastructure and operations, as underscored by the planned implementation of the Juba Airport Masterplan, which has been delayed due to financial constraints. Additionally, the Vice President announced that the construction of the Juba-Nimule Road is at the approval stage, signifying another critical infrastructure development aimed at improving connectivity and facilitating trade. Recognizing the pivotal role of agriculture in the nation's economy, Gen. Taban Deng Gai underscored the urgent need to prioritize agricultural development as a fundamental aspect of enhancing food security and fostering economic growth.



With these remarks, Vice President Gen. Taban Deng Gai officially closed the 2nd Edition of the JUBA ECONOMIC FORUM, marking a significant moment of commitment towards advancing South Sudan's infrastructure, aviation sector, and agricultural development. His leadership and dedication to following through on these resolutions signify a hopeful trajectory for South Sudan's path toward sustainable development and prosperity.

## **E. RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

As a culmination of collaborative efforts and discussions, the Juba Economic forum has put forth a comprehensive list of resolutions and recommendations aimed at spurring sustainable development across various sectors in South Sudan. These resolutions embody a collective vision for the future, focusing on key areas such as investment and finance, transport and infrastructure, agriculture, energy, telecommunications, legal and policy framework, business and trade, along with general recommendations to foster a resilient and prosperous economy.

### **Investment and Finance:**

1. The government should establish an Investment Fund to finance local businesses, trade initiatives, and innovation.(South Sudan Development Bank)
2. The R-ARCISS Agreement has already mandated the establishment of the Youth and Women Funds, which should be operationalized, and the necessary resources allocated to them.
3. Consider targeted tax and non-tax incentives for capital investments in critical strategic sectors such as manufacturing, building materials, agribusiness, mining, logistics, education, and healthcare. These incentives should be widely publicized for greater impact.
4. Operationalize the Juba Special Economic Zone initiative, which is 11 years behind schedule.
5. Revise the yearly renewal process of the Investment Certificate, which has been identified as a burden by investors. A longer timeframe of 3-5 years would be less cumbersome.
6. The government should consider establishing a semi-autonomous South Sudan Development Agency that will implement and regulate the national development agenda.

### **Transport and Infrastructure:**

7. Expedite the extension of the road network across South Sudan, especially the completion of the breadbasket corridors of Juba-Yambio and Juba-Yei Roads and similar economically viable road networks.
8. Ensure that the roads being constructed integrate critical amenities such as health and public safety facilities such as traffic police stations, and public health facilities.
9. Establish One-Stop-Border-Posts at all international border points to facilitate trade, investment, and optimal movement of goods and people.
10. Expedite the completion of the rehabilitation of Juba-Nimule Road, as a critical entry point for goods into the country. Also, expedite the completion of the Juba-Nadapal Road to ensure an additional pathway.
11. Expand and renovate Juba International Airport to international standards.
12. Develop legal frameworks in the transport sector to deepen investment opportunities.

13. Prioritize sustainable infrastructural development in South Sudan and modernize the transport infrastructure to incorporate new digital technology and tools.
14. Fast-track the Master Plan to transform the city of Juba into a modern metropolis that is sustainable, livable, and thriving.

### **Agriculture:**

15. Initiate and finance agricultural clusters across the whole country to ensure speedy expansion of the sector.
16. Provide incentives for importers and investors in the agricultural sector.
17. Establish an agricultural development fund targeting smallholder farmers, as the best solution to achieving food security.

### **Energy:**

18. The government should revise power tariffs, which are currently the highest in the world, to enhance the investment climate and ease the crushing burden on the people.
19. Diversify the energy mix to incorporate more renewable power solutions and provide the enabling environment to attract investments into the sector.
20. Develop a comprehensive legal framework for the energy sector to attract and secure investments.
21. Urgently enact specific policies and regulations on renewable energy and make provisions for it across South Sudan. This is critical given the current global trend of phasing out fossil fuels as energy sources.

### **Telecommunications:**

22. Enhance digital connectivity across South Sudan to spur investment opportunities and improve security.
23. Foster the development of telecommunications infrastructure as a priority for investment, especially by expediting the expansion of the fiber-optic network across the whole country to address affordability challenges.
24. Incorporate telecom infrastructure development into ongoing road transport development across the country.

### **Legal and Policy Framework:**

25. Accelerate the enactment of Civil Aviation Laws and ensure the autonomy of South Sudan Civil Aviation.
26. Harmonize investment policies and ensure that they are investor-friendly.
27. Make elaborate investment information available to prospective investors, including the establishment of one-border posts and utilizing innovative digital and social media platforms.
26. Advance the policy on Public-Private Partnership, which is in the draft stage.

### **Business and Trade:**

29. Support SMEs as the best way to achieve financial inclusion and shared prosperity.



30. Engage the private sector for their input on investment-related policies.
31. Urge South Sudanese businesses to offer strong competition to foreign businesses by taking risks.
32. Encourage the Government of South Sudan to pay contractors promptly for goods and services rendered.
33. Create a one-stop shop for mapping investment opportunities across the country.
34. Harmonize tax levies to create a predictable tax environment for businesses.
35. Turn the resolutions of the Forum into a White Paper to be signed by the chair of the JEF and endorsed by the Vice President for the Infrastructure Cluster to be presented as a policy document by the Cabinet.

### **General Recommendation:**

36. Urge investors to take risks, as it is the essence of business.
37. Continue the Juba Economic Forum as a business and investment platform for South Sudan.
38. Invest in R&D as a national development priority.
39. The government should support the development of the tourism and hospitality industry as one of the priority sectors of the economy.
40. There is a need to create an enabling business and investment environment to support the growth of local investors to enable them to compete effectively with international investors.
41. The Procurement Act should be revised and updated to take into consideration new dynamics in the economy and promote local content development.
42. The government should consider enacting policies to discourage the importation and use of plastic bags while encouraging environmentally friendly disposable bags.
43. Development of inland waterways should be considered as a key priority in the transport sector to enable low-cost movement of goods and people along the Nile.
44. Railway development should also be prioritized, especially along the LAPSSET Corridor, with adequate planning and capacity development ahead of time.
45. Goods and services imported or traded within the country should meet international standards.
46. Emphasis on human capital development should be enhanced, ahead of demand, in all priority sectors of the economy, to provide a critical mass of expertise in all key areas.
47. Implementation of the Master Plan for the Juba International Airport should be fast-tracked to upgrade the airport and its attendant facilities to international standards, with proper zoning and placement of all amenities.
48. The government is encouraged to create a center for training at professional, technical, and trade levels to produce competent human resources to support innovations and investments.

**Signatories for endorsement of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of Juba Economic Forum resolutions and recommendations.**



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Hon.Kenyatta B. Warille,  
Executive Director,  
South Sudan Roads Authority  
On behalf of the National Government



.....

Hon. Fred Lako Raymond,  
Minister,  
Ministry of Housing and Public Utilities  
Central Equatoria State  
On behalf of the State Government



.....

Mr. Juma Khamis Juma,  
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Central Equatoria Business Union (CEBU)  
On behalf of the Private Sector

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## Vote of thanks

Thanks to the Technical Team who worked so hard during the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of Juba Economic Forum, that made it a successful event. Your voluntary dedication is truly appreciated.

Your insightful efforts and valuable inputs to the Juba Economic Forum had positively brought a success to the objectives and mission of the forum as an important initiative geared towards the infrastructure development of the Republic of South Sudan.

Mr. Thomas Muto Lo'Buda

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