

Full text of Independence Declaration

The following is the full text of the Declaration of Independence of South Sudan as read by the Rt. Hon. James Wani Igga, Speaker of the Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly. It was read at an open parliamentary session (sitting number 27-2011) of the Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly at approximately 1.30pm (local time) on 9 July 2011. The Declaration was read in front of a large assembled audience at the Dr. John Garang Mausoleum in Juba, South Sudan.

SOUTH SUDAN INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

SOUTHERN SUDAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

RECALLING the long and heroic struggle of our people for justice, freedom, equality, human dignity and political and economic emancipation;

CONSIDERING the years of conflict and the immeasurable sufferings of our people resulting from the conflict between North and Southern Sudan;

HAVING RESOLVED to overcome the past and face the future with a renewed sense of hope and in the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation;

APPROVING that the authority of this Assembly and the Government of Southern Sudan emanates from the will of the people of Southern Sudan;

RESPONDING to the popular will of the people of Southern Sudan expressed in the historic January 2011 referendum in which they overwhelmingly voted 98.83% for the secession and the establishment of a separate independent and sovereign state in Southern Sudan in exercise of their right to self-determination guaranteed under the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) 2005, the Interim National Constitution of the Republic of Sudan 2005 and the Interim Constitution of Southern Sudan 2005;

CONFIRMING that the January 2011 referendum was conducted in a transparent manner by the national Government of Sudan in cooperation with the Government of Southern Sudan and the international community and that its outcome was confirmed by all these bodies;

RESOLVED to establish a system of governance that upholds the rule of law, justice, democracy, human rights and respect for diversity;

COMMITTED to contributing to international peace and security, regional stability and the resolution of conflicts through peaceful means in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Constitutive Act of the African Union and international law; and

REMEMBERING AND HONOURING the selfless sacrifices of our martyrs, heroes and heroines who relentlessly struggled and sacrificed for the cause of justice, freedom and prosperity for our people,

HEREBY MAKES the following Declaration:

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF SOUTH SUDAN, NO. 1

We, the democratically elected representatives of the people, based on the will of the people of Southern Sudan and as confirmed by the outcome of the referendum on self-determination, hereby declare Southern Sudan to be an independent and sovereign state.

[Ends]