Opportunities and Challenges of Peace and Security in South Sudan

1st November 2012

in

Amani Hall

IPSTC

Westwood Park Road

Nairobi, Kenya

International Peace Support Training Centre

Research Department

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1   Executive Summary

This event was the third of its kind to be hosted and organized by the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC). It provided IPSTC's researchers an opportunity to present their findings and to analyse them with a selected panel of participants through plenary discussions.

The symposium was conceptualised on the premise that the best way of enhancing research knowledge is by harnessing the views and suggestions generated through such forum.

The 2011 theme was:

Opportunities and Challenges of Peace and Security in South Sudan

It was dedicated to the prospects for peace and stability for South Sudan and its impact on regional security. It reflected the interest of the international community and of the Government of Japan, which was the main sponsor of this event.

The main objective of the Symposium was to discuss and finalize the findings of IPSTC's researchers to publish eventually four occasional papers.

2   The Symposium Concept

The International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) is a training and research institution whose focus is capacity building at strategic, operational and tactical levels for peace operations within the context of the African Peace and Security Architecture. The Centre endeavours to address the complexities of contemporary UN/AU integrated peace support operations by exposing actors to the multidimensional nature of these operations. The training and research undertaken cuts across the broad spectrum of conflict; from prevention, management and post conflict recovery. The Centre is a key training institution within the framework of the African Peace and Security Architecture through the necessary cooperation with partners from all over the world.

The Research Department of IPSTC undertakes research for two main purposes: a) the design of training curricula to support peace operations, and b) to contribute to the debate towards the enhancement of regional peace and security.

In this context, the Centre conducted field research as part of the 2012 Research Agenda, whose overarching theme is: 'Opportunities and Challenges of Peace and Security in South Sudan". This 2012 edition of IPSTC's Annual Symposium reflects this focus on South Sudan as a contribution to regional security and stability.

2.1   Objectives of the Symposium

The symposium was aimed at fulfilling the following objectives:

- Serve as a platform for dissemination of the results of the research conducted in 2012.
- Consolidating views from stakeholders including but not limited to practitioners, and academia to inform IPSTC's Research Agenda   2012.

2.2   Expected Outcome

The symposium was intended to have three major outcomes:

- To provide critical input to the research products in order to improve substantive output.
- Strengthen networks of collaborations with different organizations, institutions and partners in peace and security.
- Serve as platform for sharing the lessons learnt over the period of research.

2.3   Participants

The symposium brought together distinguished representatives from different Ministries, Institutions of Higher Learning, Regional Economic Communities, Regional Mechanisms, Regional Think Tanks, and Non-Governmental Organisations.

2.4   Venue and Date

The Symposium took place at the International Peace Support Training Centre, Westwood, Karen, Nairobi, Kenya on the 1st November 2012.

2.5   Methodology

During the symposium the key research findings were presented by the respective researchers, and then discussed by two discussants for each paper.

This was followed by moderated plenary discussions.

2.6   Areas of Discussion

The following thematic areas formed the central topics of discussion based on regional field research findings by the IPSTC researchers:

1. Role of Resources in Conflict in South Sudan, by Joseph Mbugua, IPSTC Researcher
2. Transition and Transformation of the South Sudan National Defence and Security Services, by Philip Mwanika, IPSTC Researcher
3. Security and Organized Crime Challenges and Dynamics in South Sudan, by Joseph Mbugua, IPSTC Researcher
4. Reintegration and Post-conflict Reconstruction in South Sudan, by Philip Mwanika, IPSTC Researcher

3   Welcome Address

Brigadier Robert Kabage – Director, IPSTC

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the International Peace Support Training Centre for this annual Symposium. Your distinguished presence is not only proof of your interest in the Research activities of this Centre, but will enhance the success of this Symposium. I wish from the outset to thank you for turning up in good numbers.

As its name suggests – ***Opportunities and Challenges of Peace in and Security in South Sudan*** – and beyond the mere considerations of aspects related to South Sudan, the purpose of this Symposium is to provide a contribution to peace, stability and security of the entire East African region.

As you are aware, the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in 2005 not only meant the end of a 22 years civil war, but also put South Sudan face to face with the tough reality of peace. Beyond the loss of about 2 million human lives, displacement and marginalization of many more, the war had left South Sudan with a poorly educated youth, no working infrastructures, lack of a constructive state authority, simmering interethnic conflicts and endemic criminality. Unlike the expectation of many citizens, the eventual independence of South Sudan on 9th July 2011 did not solve the myriad problems that faced the new state. Tension between the North and South Sudan remained over the oil resources and this at times culminated into military engagements along the border in 2012.

As a regional Centre of Excellence, this Centre's core mandate is to enhance peace support operations through applied research, training and education of military, police and civilian personnel in all aspects of peace support operations within the framework of APSA. The Centre's activities are multi-dimensional in substance and reflect the complexity of today's peace operations.

With the support of the Government of Japan and UNDP, this yea IPSTC has been actively committed to supporting regional capacities and thus having a role in supporting peace and security consolidation in South Sudan through training and research. The results of the research work done by our researchers, who were deployed to South Sudan this year, is the subject of our today's discussion.

We wish to take advantage of the remarkable diversity and the wealth of experience presented in this distinguished gathering to help enrich the research product and even move a step further in understanding peace and security issues that not only affect South Sudan but the region as a whole. I am confident that your informed contributions will substantively improve the final paper content to be published after this Symposium, and will inform the relevance of our regional efforts of supporting national and international actors in their noble peace-building task in South Sudan and the region. The discussion will be under Chatham house and we look forward to a candid and objective session.

Finally, allow me to seize this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Government of Japan and UNDP for their continuous support to IPSTC's research and training activities for the last two years. We remain committed to improving the quality of our products and value this support.

With these remarks, please join me in welcoming our chief guest, the Deputy Ambassador of Japan to deliver his remarks and declare this Symposium officially opened.

4   Opening Address

Minister Yoichiro Yamada – Deputy Chief of Mission Embassy of Japan in Nairobi

It is an honor to attend this Symposium titled; *"Opportunities and Challenges of Peace and Security in South Sudan"*. I take this opportunity to renew my gratitude to the IPSTC and the UNDP Kenya for their support in this process. We regard the IPSTC as an international focal point in this region for training, research and analysis for a wide spectrum of peace support operations. Japan is proud to be a supporter of the activities of the centre.

In 2005, Kenya played host to the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, which brought an end to Sudan's long civil war. I want to recognize the presence of Lieutenant General Lazarus Sumbeiywo who was the midwife for the CPA. The government of Kenya played a major role in the peace process, conducting this symposium here in Kenya is therefore highly meaningful.

Brigadier Kabage has briefed us on the importance of this Symposium, we will no doubt benefit from the report and ensuing discussions on peace and stability from the newest country in this region.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Japan established Diplomatic relations with South Sudan from July 2011, the date of its independence. Since then, our government has been supporting peace and stability in South Sudan including the participation of our defence forces in AMIS. Big security and development challenges remain ahead of the new country.

The four Papers as will be presented today are products of serious research conducted by IPSTC's researchers. The four Papers topics that are relevant to South Sudan today. For example the paper titled, "Role of resources in Conflict in South Sudan" studies what roles natural resources play in the conflict in South Sudan. Natural resources should be a blessing for the country that produces them, but we are all too familiar with the programmes of resource cuts and blood diamonds. We know well that natural resources trigger serious conflicts. The events of the 20th century developed around the quest for oil.

Apart from oil, South Sudan is also endowed with another critical resource, which is water. These rich blessing can work for or against South Sudan. It is to the interest of all neighbouring countries therefore and indeed the whole world to assist South Sudan to manage their resources rightly. All the four papers discuss the most pressing challenges for South Sudan. They give useful suggestions for discussions.

In conclusion, I would like to commend the work done by the researchers and I wish that this Symposium will stimulate fruitful and useful discussions on peace and prosperity for the Republic of South Sudan.

With these short remarks, I would like to now declare the Symposium officially opened.

5   Presentation of papers (Morning session)

5.1   Role of Resources in Conflict Management in South Sudan

Joseph K. Mbugua – IPSTC Researcher

Sudan was at war for about 22 years since the resumption of rebellion in 1983. The war pitted the Government of Sudan against the southern rebel movements led by Sudanese People's Liberation Army/Movement (SPLA/M). More than 2 million people are said to have been killed while many others were displaced. The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) of 2005 ushered a new era of peace though not without conflicts and challenges. Large parts of South Sudan remained underdeveloped after the conflict, fostering new conflicts among communities and providing a rationale for the subsistence of armed groups in South Sudan.

Various causes were and are still attributed to these conflicts. Among the multiplicity of factors that reflect the complexity of South Sudanese reality, resources are a key element of many grievances, questioning the exploitation, lack of equity, marginalization and discrimination. The real impact of resources, whether as a main driver or simply as a trigger, needs to be examined thoroughly and candidly in order to identify sustainable solutions.

Although oil remains the most often cited conflict factor in South Sudan, analysis must go further. Though less strategic in essence, access to pasture, to land, and to water have gained equal importance in the stability equation of South Sudan, and are the root causes of numerous conflicts that may not be featured by international media, but are the main cause of weapons retention and challenge international efforts for disarmament and peace-building.

Many communities have been engaging in cattle raiding and ethnic conflicts based on access to water and pasture especially in greater Upper Nile region. As a result, since 2005, these conflicts brought about more casualties and victims than in Darfur, though not attracting the same attention from the international community.

However, oil remains the most obvious resource the control of which could generate conflicts at strategic level. Most of the oil exported by Sudan is extracted in South Sudan. So far, the South fully depends on the North for oil transport and processing in refineries and facilities in Port Sudan. The recent dispute between the two countries over the use of the pipeline has shown how dramatic the consequences of this dispute can be.

But the impact of this dispute on the domestic situation in Sudan – in the wake of the "Arab Spring" (that had not affected Sudan before) – illustrates the interdependence of the two countries when it comes to exploit oil. What is as a source of conflict can also become a source of peace.

South Sudan is well endowed in natural resources including oil, forests, minerals, wildlife, arable land and water. The country has a population of about 8 million, spread across a land area more than combined area of East Africa. This is a vast area that is difficult to police or manage the available resources. Since resources are distributed in geographic regions occupied by specific ethnic groups, ethnic and regional divisions inform the patterns of resource conflicts. The persistence of armed groups also seems to follow resource distribution, regional and ethnic patterns.

Many conflicts that appear ethnic-based at face value are informed by competition for scarce resources. But the opposite is also true: conflicts over cattle or pasture may hide deeper cultural and ethnic issues that divide South Sudanese societies, which are addressed only superficially. The combination of environmental degradation, drought and migration bring groups into conflicts as their means of livelihoods are threatened. Hence, the lack of incentive to drop weapons combined with a young and still weak governance capacity tend to exacerbate violence. Peace and security requires a deeper approach that addresses the various levels of conflicts. The Government of the Republic of South Sudan is not in a position yet to address security in a

comprehensive and inclusive way across the country, thus opening the door for the emergence of armed groups that worsen the national human security situation.

This research highlights the role resources have played in the various conflicts that plague South Sudan since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreements (CPA), at domestic and international levels. The nature of the resources tends to impact the nature and the level of the conflicts. The study explores these dynamic relationships, in order to identify how resources and other causes can be leveraged into a multiple level and inclusive peace-building process.

5.2   Transition and Transformation of the South Sudan National Defence and Security Services

Philip Mwanika – IPSTC Researcher

The nature and idea of the State and governance across Africa has seen many developments, challenges and opportunities within time. The very notion of the "State" in its Westphalian definition is relatively young in the African continent.

South Sudan, as the newest State in the international community is facing a variety of challenges that combine all the possible complexities of post conflict (re-)construction and State building in a disrupted society. Although the independence and creation of a new State provides opportunities to establish coherent institutions consistent with internationally accepted principles of effective governance and rule of law, it will still have to manage a society with deep rooted traditions and cultures, which is remotely familiar with the notion of the "State" and complex governance mechanisms.

Mainstreaming institutions and mechanisms based on 'international standards' and practices of a modern State faces the challenge of being accepted by all levels of the population. The different sites of governance ranging from foreign security to internal security and law enforcement, within the framework of the rule of law are State attributes South Sudan is establishing, albeit not unilaterally but with great resources and assistance from the international community. However, South Sudan's society and its peoples are still in the recovery stage and this pervades all facets of life cutting across serious livelihood challenges, to infrastructure and security inadequacies. A society, whose youngest generations have grown and been educated in a conflict environment, faces a significant challenge in returning to "normalcy". Adjustment and survival mechanisms that prevailed over several decades have now to embrace alternative livelihood activities that give room to building a sustainable and stable future.

Moving from local mindsets to engage national goals requires more than will. In a society that is divided by local interests, political aspirations, resources contestations, ethnic diversity, historical rivalries, and lack of communication infrastructure, generating the very idea of a Nation that shares the same objectives and the same aspirations is a challenge.

As many cultures understand security as one of the main "common denominators" that connects and unites the various components of a Nation – which was, as a matter of fact, the very starting point of the Westphalian concept of the "State" –, the establishment of a Security Sector supported by effective rule of law and governance seems to be the "passage obligé" for an emerging State. Yet, the reluctance of the international community to address "security" and its preference to engage the "aspiration for peace" as a unification factor tends to pose an additional challenge to this young Nation.

The vast array of sites of governance in South Sudan have a common thread, which is the predominance of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A). In order to make an agreement achievable, the CPA itself was crafted around the idea of only one group – the SPLM/A – representing South Sudan. This allowed stopping the war, but tended to ignore the complex societal reality of South Sudan. Even today, in the mind of some people, the SPLA remains as a "faction". Even the official denomination change from SPLA to South Sudan

Armed Forces (SSAF) was not made visible through new uniforms or insignias, thus maintaining the change perceived as cosmetic.

Lack of confidence and absence of effective and perceptible security, has led to the persistence of armed groups in parts of the country thus creating additional barriers to national build-up. The planned reduction of forces – asked for by the international community and budgetary constraints – tends to work adversely against more diversity within the military. In other words, the missed opportunity to use security and the Security Sector Reconstruction as a starting point for national consensus is jeopardized and – as a paradox – tends to feed resentment and mistrust among the population.

This study will therefore have a focus on the transformation of the South Sudan defence and security sector. It sought to examine the creation, reform and/or transformation of institutions and norms/ doctrines that are primarily within the defence and security attributes of the State. It is with this context in mind that the analysis will have a keen investigation of how internal dynamics and social development impacts on the unifying effect of a national professional security system and process.

5.3 Summary of Plenary Discussions (Morning Session)

5.3.1 Role of Resources in Resource Conflict Management in South Sudan

The symposium discussants and the entire participants made suggestions, comments and raised questions on pertinent issues of peace and security in South Sudan based on the papers presented. There was a feeling that institutions and development partners and researchers should provide analysis of the conflict situation but South Sudanese should be the ones to make decisions on the way forward. The conflict in South Sudan revolves around the issue of state and nation building. Nationhood is yet to be attained at the territorial level; it currently is still at the ethnic level.

For this conflict to stop and for the country's resources to be well managed, a number of measures must be taken:

1. The GOSS must take effective control of its entire territory
2. Resources must be well managed and shared equitably
3. An effective and well managed government must be put in place
4. Enhancing peace building and reconciliation among the populace
5. Resolving the whole aspect of entrenched ethnicity
6. Transformation of the security sector to advance human rights and the rule of law.

A number of suggestions for improving the paper were presented:

- Improving general copy editing of the paper for enhanced communication
- Clarifying the title to be in line with the subject matter
- Clarity in the statement of the problem
- Enhancing primary data through quoting sources /interviews
- Streamlining the papers for enhanced logical flow and thematic coherence
- Clarifying the research methodology and conceptual framework
- One standard of referencing for all the papers
- Quoting more African authors where it is appropriate

6   Paper Presentations (Afternoon Session)

6.1   Security and Organized Crime Challenges and Dynamics in South Sudan

Joseph K. Mbugua – IPSTC Researcher

Despite the signature of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005 and its subsequent independence in 2011, South Sudan remains plagued by violence and lack of State authority. Criminality, ethnic rivalries, and rebellion are some of various expressions of violence that affect a structurally vulnerable population. Understanding the complexity of the drivers of violence is the key to effective peace building and to national development.

The multiplicity presence of violent groups complicates the fragile security situation in the country. Since 2005, there have been thousands of deaths, destruction of property and displacements associated with violence. This has caused severe strain on the meagre national resources, diverted national focus away from development activities and delayed reconstruction and post-independence political and economic stabilization.

Typology and patterns of violence in South Sudan have become complex and intricate. Though violence is found all over South Sudan, it seems to be more concentrated in the Upper Nile, Unity and Jonglei States, where oil and other natural resources are located, close to the border between the North and South Sudan and where inter-ethnic tensions are paramount.

Organized crime is the youngest form of violence in South Sudan, but its interaction with other forms of violence has developed since the signature of the CPA. Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) units located in remote areas engage into some trafficking activities in order to compensate the delayed payment of salaries; armed groups that used to be supported by Khartoum, have to find new ways to sustain their rebel activities, etc.

But more importantly, the disruption of the traditional governance structure at local level combined with the sudden influx of money in South Sudan have triggered an increase in illegal and criminal activities. The changes asked for by the international community cannot be followed by a radical change of mind-sets and culture in such a short time. The traditional structures that were vital for maintaining social bond and integration have been undermined by new value systems advanced by some returnees and the international presence. Traditional social control mechanisms that existed until the CPA faded, allowing the creation of gangs among youngsters. Further, the "absence of war", the absence of law, and the perspective of "easy money" has attracted individuals from the region into semi-legal or illegal business, thus generating tensions between South Sudanese population and some foreigners, translating into violence.

The challenge of violence diverts national attention away from critical development needs. The connection between armed groups, ethnic conflict, resources, criminality and political fractionalization has created a complex problem.

The capacity for detection and management of organized criminality is still very low. Both the SPLA – now referred to as South Sudan Armed Forces (SSAF) – and the South Sudan Police Service (SSPS), lack adequate capacity to address organized criminality and provide security within the country. The lack of infrastructures tends to undermine effective governance and law enforcement. The Judiciary institutions are not prepared and suited to dispense justice quickly and fairly to the aggrieved parties, thereby generating a sense of impunity. Although efforts have been made with international support to create a legitimate and law compliant correction system, the lack of adequate infrastructure and trained personnel prevents to make it fully effective. Correction institutions are still based on the old model of punishment and incarceration. They do not offer educational skills for later rehabilitation and reintegration such as carpentry.

Organized criminality tends to have ramifications beyond national borders and to affect the whole region. Although South Sudan is a new comer in the area of organized criminality, it contributes to provide an extended

space for criminal organisations of the East African region. At regional level, organized criminality becomes a more complex problem to deal with.

This paper explores the emergence of organized criminality, its impact on the local economy, and its contribution to insecurity. It studies the impact of international presence as a multiplier for criminal behaviour and examines the effectiveness of measures proposed by different actors for sustainable peace and security in the country.

6.2   Reintegration and Post-conflict Reconstruction in South Sudan

Philip Mwanika – IPSTC Researcher

Attaining or realising stabilization in a post conflict context requires policy makers to manage multiple competing social and economic challenges. In a post-war environment, the synchronization between the return to peace and the construction of a new environment is a major challenge. Since building peace requires more resources and time than stopping war, peace-building remains often stalled by lack of resources. Whereas reconstruction after short war or conflicts can rest on remaining structures and institutions, the problem is more complex after protracted conflicts where structures, institutions, and skills have disappeared: beyond the technicalities of reconstruction, a whole society needs to be reconstructed.

South Sudan Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) process is a case in point, where disarmament and demobilization processes that were informed by the need for stability outpaced the economic recovery and job creation processes and tends to push the recently demobilized combatant into illegal and sometimes violent activities thus denying the society the benefits of peace dividends.

Given the history of the prolonged armed conflict in Sudan (South Sudan) and the offshoots of conflict – namely, the refugees, internally displaced persons, disrupted local economies and livelihoods, and a huge number of ex combatants and armed civilians – one would question whether this is the ripe moment for the "R" component of the DDR to be put into play. Reintegration is a complex issue that requires not only the availability of "jobs" but also to have matching expertise to run the emerging economy. After 22 years of war (and 6 years of peace), South Sudanese population still shows a deficit in skills and education that would be the *conditio sine qua non* for starting a new economy.

Despite efforts of the South Sudanese authorities and the international community, Southern Sudan is still a highly armed society and violence remains endemic. This situation elicits a great deal of concern related to the "enabling" environment for the "R" to take centre stage in the polity.

Provided the local social and economic situation in South Sudan, what form or architecture of reintegration should concerned stakeholders adopt to actually provide a positive momentum to genuine State-building and reconstructing of society? This is linked to a more general consideration in relation to the timeline conundrum between peace building and effective reconstruction – the latter being largely defined by the state of reintegration, economic and social systems or dilemmas faced. These are the guiding questions of this study.

As an essential component of a DDR process, "Reintegration" of former combatants remains a cornerstone of post-conflict reconstruction and is an indicator for effective peace-building.

The DDR process in South Sudan had a slow start after the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). Further, efforts of the international community in the transition period that followed the signature of the CPA focused at disarming militias, rather than constructing new structures to reintegrate former combatants. Efforts were put on the "DD" components by both the municipal South Sudan authorities under the auspices of the *South Sudan Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration Commission (SSDDRC)*, and by international partners coordinated by the *Integrated United Nations DDR Unit (IUNDDR)*. However, analysis of events and the state of affairs in South Sudan tends to show that the "R" (Reintegration) component of the process requires strategic attention.

Violence is still part of the daily life in many parts of the country, and a still highly volatile environment is observed. Resources and centrifugal forces continue to shape violence and remain central factors of South Sudan's political landscape. Today, most important for the "Reintegration" stage are the development of education, of infrastructures, national construction projects, incentives for business creation led by a clear national strategy.

At the moment, South Sudan's national question is overshadowed by several interlocking conflicts that all involve struggles for rights, economic opportunity and matters of 'low politics'. Local level grievances tend to put the national questions in the background and tend to promote a piecemeal approach to larger issues.

How South Sudan addresses these questions, and addresses the dilemma between stability and reconstruction by combining traditional solutions with internationally accepted processes is the subject of this study.

6.3   Summary of plenary session

Aspects addressed related to clarity in terms of the research methodology applied in the paper. It was noted that to produce a good research paper there is need for a very clear Methodology in terms of who the target audience is and also a succinct stating of what one is seeking to actually investigate. It was also noted in this plenary session that the paper contained a large component of secondary sources which could have better been directed to the literature review section of the paper. It was also advised that in order to capture the field work analysis of the paper, the author needs to incorporate more directly the verbatim responses from the interviews. Referencing this information within the footnotes does not bring out the field analysis succinctly and there in need to incorporate this more clearly in the body of the work itself. In essence of the substantive content of the paper, it was noted that there is need to focus more on the post-independence state of affairs in South Sudan. As much as pre-independence events are important, there is need of providing more analysis of the different scenarios that might be deducted in the current focus period of South Sudan. In terms of citations and referencing, it was noted that there was need of ordering the style well and having a standard format all through.

It was also argued that there is need of providing an overview of the historical background of the subject matter. This would introduce the problem to the audience and situate the debate in a clear form. The main reason why the Government of South Sudan is slow in its transformation of the SPLA into a professional force, it was noted, should be addressed so that scenarios of possible ways forward are built from this. It was also noted that within the paper it would be more suitable to adopt the concept of "Construction" of institutions and the state-since this might be more applicable to a country that is basically starting from scratch. A focus on the role of regional neighbours' roles and possible engagement in transforming the SPLA to a professional force ought also to be considered in the paper.

6.3.1   Security and Organized Groups Challenges and Dynamics in South Sudan

Suggestions / comments

- More clarity on organized crime including bringing out cases or examples.

- Issues of power struggles and the whole aspect of armed militias is still a very strong component in South Sudan conflicts.

- More clarity on relationship between organized crimes and political violence

- The role of women in security and organized crimes and participation in peace and security?

6.3.2   Discussants Feedback for the paper "Reintegration and Post-conflict Reconstruction in South Sudan"

The plenary addressed aspects of definition of terms related to the paper. It was argued that as a first priority in the arguments of the paper, there is need of defining the specific conflict that the paper is situated within. This would then be opened out within the "post-conflict" context of South Sudan. An analogy was provided of the contentious conflict aspects that were the main drivers of the war of liberation in South Sudan and how it affects society in the post conflict context. It was also noted that there could be different lenses within which "post-conflict reconstruction" could be considered in the paper. The lenses cut across the perception changes or transformation of society tom material and technical aspects of reconstruction. A need for clarity on what should be "reconstructed" within the argument of the paper is important. This exercise, it noted, would then open up the discussion on the "reintegration" stage. The analysis of the reintegration situation in South Sudan also touched on the role of the international community and interests related to the exercise.

Discussions touched on the need to first undertake a definition exercise of main variables in the paper. This cut across a definition of reintegration, and also disarmament and demobilization. It was noted that reintegration is theoretically, not only preceded by disarmament and demobilization but its success is contingent on the efficacy of the "DD". It would be from such an exercise that the paper could be in a position to also explain why there is need of reintegration and also the target beneficiaries of the same. Another aspect of consideration was the need to provide a clear analogy of the "context" of the environment within which reintegration and reconstruction takes place. The analysis of the context was to the extent that reintegration occurs in the realm of peace building and human security. It is also a politically driven. It came out from this plenary session that the government of the day is the principle stakeholder in reintegration processes. Reintegration also reflects the structure of government with administrative units (within a federal structure) coordinating in order to address the process. It was however noted that as South Sudan is emerging from conflict situations, the governance structures are still weak and/ or in practical terms absent. Thus, other stakeholders are also involved in reintegration activities. There was provided in the plenary a picture of possible challenges and impacts of reintegration. In the discussions it was noted that the paper should in general also provide a picture of the "DD" component so that the reintegration debate is holistically approached and understood.

7   Remarks by Honorary Guests

7.1   Ambassador Colonel Richard Matibo

Director/Advisor of Kenya –South Sudan Liaison office

Amb. Colonel Matibo gave a brief background on the functions of the Kenya/South Sudan liaison office. With regard to capacity building and technical assistance; he expressed concern as the general populace; including Members of Parliament still do not seem to understand the achievements being made in South Sudan.

Right from the onset, the Kenyan government passed a policy that it will move together with South Sudan with regards to moving the country towards development. From 2005 to June 2012, the Kenya – South Sudan Liaison office has spent over USD 10 million on capacity building and technical assistance through various forms including attaching the GOSS cabinet to their counter parts in Kenya including training of government civil servants within Kenya School of Government. Judges including the Chief Justice and Deputy Chief Justice are also being attached to the Kenyan courts. A Kenyan Judge is currently assisting with Judiciary reforms in South Sudan.

The Liaison office is also mandated to assist investors such as banks to setup their business in the country

7.2   Mr. William Deng Deng

Head of the South Sudan DDR Commission

Mr. Deng's presentation gave a historical background of the DDR in South Sudan, which came about as a result of the CPA and the complexities involved in the running of the government taking into consideration the makeup of the officials and the challenge of lack of infrastructure in the country.

The presentation also focused on the impact of DDR on the East African Region, with regard to Human Security, Hampering regional investment prospects, and proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW).

7.3   General Lazarus Sumbeiywo

Sudan Peace Mediator

In his remarks General Sumbeiywo thanked the Director and Staff of IPSTC, the researchers and all the discussants for their interventions. He affirmed that indeed the Symposium was good evidence that indeed we were headed somewhere.

General Sumbeiywo then gave a background of his involvement in bringing peace into Sudan and took into cognizance the complexities of how South Sudan came to be, including the CPA and how it was crafted.

With regard to the Papers presented by the IPSTC Researchers, General Sumbeiywo wished to see the mention of the animosity of the 4 tribes (which ones?) within the country and the impact this has had in the country. With regard to the country's police service, a key challenge being experienced was that at least 70 per cent of the staff are illiterate. This fact brings about a myriad of challenges such as the fact that, i) they cannot carry out proper investigations, ii) Do not know the rights of the citizens.

He concluded his remarks by stating that it is not right for the international community to prescribe solutions for the GOSS, instead the government should make clear how it would want to be supported and what it wants to achieve.

8   Closing Ceremony

Brigadier Robert Kabage – Director, IPSTC

Gen. Sumbeiywo Sir, fellow Symposium Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This has been a great day for IPSTC. Thank you for your open and candid contributions. I can confidently say that we are now better informed on opportunities and challenges for Peace and Security in South Sudan.

As you have observed during the discussions, a lot still remains to be done to not only enhance peace and security consolidation in South Sudan, but in the entire region.

We appreciate the contributions that you have made during this Symposium as regards the Papers from our Researchers. Your suggestions and concerns will go a long way in adding value to the final products of our research efforts. The occasional Papers that will finally be published will hopefully contribute to the development partners understanding of priorities for peace and security in South Sudan. We will share the products with you.

It is our hope that we shall also undertake a thorough research on peace and security in Somali next year to inform peace and security consolidation in that country.

IPSTC takes great pleasure in forging partnerships with peace and security research institutions in Africa and the rest of the world. It is my hope that this forum has provided you with an opportunity to exchange notes and build a basis for future collaboration.

On this note, we look forward to enhancing our cooperation with all of you in the future. I now declare this Symposium officially closed and I wish to welcome all of you to an informal reception in our Peace Banda.