INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD)

PEACE, PROSPERITY AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION

IGAD SOUTH SUDAN OFFICE (ISSO)

REF: IGAD-SSO/047/2018

1st March 2019

Gen. Thomas Cirillo Swaka
Chairman of the National Salvation Front (NAS)
Addis Ababa

Dear General,

Re: Invitation to a meeting in Addis Ababa

1. It will be recalled that the IGAD Council of Ministers at its 66th Extraordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, directed me as the IGAD Special Envoy for South Sudan "to reach out to the South Sudanese stakeholders and any warring groups who are not signatories to the R-ARCSS to join in its implementation; otherwise, they shall be labelled spoilers of the peace process".

2. Pursuant to the above-mentioned directive of the IGAD Council of Ministers, I held the first and second urgent informal consultative meetings with you in Addis Ababa on 11th December 2018, and 25th February 2019 as one of the leaders of the non-signatory groups.

3. As agreed in our meeting of 25th February 2019, I am hereby writing to kindly invite you and your team to a meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 8th March 2019. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss substantive issues regarding the possibility and modalities of you rejoining the R-ARCSS and the peace process. Please take note of the following principles that will guide the framework of our discussions.

    a. No renegotiation or reopening of the R-ARCSS;
    b. IGAD recognize the old groups/parties as at the HLRF. Any new group/formation will not be admitted into R-ARCSS, except through the R-ARCSS framework;
    c. The R-ARCSS 2018 and its PCTSA has subsumed the CoHA 2017 and therefore, no party can claim adherence to CoHA without being bound by

R-ARCSS 2018;

d. A non-signatory to the R-ARCSS cannot claim adherence or protection by CoHA, in as far as the actions are inconsistent with PCTSA under R-ARCSS;
e. Any group unwilling to join R-ARCSS and whose activities impede its full implementation shall be considered as a spoiler and held accountable; and
f. Any activity attributable to forces allied to a non-signatory group shall be deemed duly authorised by the leadership of that group.

4. I would like to urge you to declare a unilateral ceasefire as a demonstration of your commitment to the upcoming deliberations as well as to prevent further suffering of affected populations.

5. In light of the above, I would like to invite you and your team to a meeting on 8th March 2019 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

6. I would be much obliged if you could confirm your availability latest by 5th March 2019.

Sincerely,

Dr. Is – l Wais

Amb. Ismail Wais
IGAD Special Envoy to South Sudan