



Oral Statement: Item-4 Enhanced ID on South Sudan's Human Rights

## Mr President,

The Lutheran World Federation highly commends this enhanced interactive dialogue on the human rights situation in South Sudan, and thanks the Minister of Justice of the Republic of South Sudan for his contribution. We also appreciate the national dialogue initiative aimed at ending the war so as to ameliorate the dire humanitarian situation. There is no military solution to this crisis. Only a political settlement will bring an amicable end to the violent conflict in South Sudan.

Mr. President, the need for national reconciliation in South Sudan to end the vicious cycle of spiralling violence has never been more urgent. But a meaningful national dialogue and reconciliation will be difficult to achieve where there are people dying, starving, hiding, or on the run. As such we call upon all parties to the conflict to take concrete steps to create a conducive environment for national dialogue and reconciliation by bringing an immediate end to the on-going violence and facilitating unhindered access of humanitarian assistance to the affected communities across the different parts of South Sudan.

We also appeal to all conflict stakeholders to collectively redouble their efforts to address the root causes of the conflict through peaceful dialogue and genuine national reconciliation process, whose hallmarks should be based on truth telling, the acknowledgment of guilt, the recognition of grievances, and public apology for and acceptance of responsibility for past mistakes.

Mr. President, credibility and legitimacy are key to ensuring that the national dialogue and reconciliation process is supported by all parties to the conflict, including ordinary citizens. This could be attained by depoliticizing the process and increasing transparency in the formation of an independent, inclusive and credible body to preside over the national dialogue and reconciliation process.

Finally we call upon the regional actors together with the international community to commit more moral and material support to genuine, holistic and inclusive national dialogue and reconciliation process in South Sudan.

I thanks you Mr. President.