UNMIS WELCOMES DINKA NGOK-MISSIRIYA AGREEMENTS

The United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) welcomes the agreements reached on 13 January between the traditional leaders of the Dinka Ngok and the Missirya, assisted by key Government leaders, which are crucial to ensure a peaceful coexistence of Missiriya pastoralists and their herds in the Abyei area.

The key agreements include the establishment of mechanisms for facilitating the peaceful implementation of the movement of Missiriya pastoralists and their herds throughout the Abyei area; payments and compensation for persons killed and livestock lost in various security incidents in 2010; and ensuring the safe passage of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) returning to Southern Sudan and Abyei through Northern Sudan, in particular through Southern Kordofan State.

UNMIS applaud the wisdom, vision and courage demonstrated by the leaders and their commitment to move away from conflicts towards the resolution of their differences. It is hoped that these agreements between the Dinka Ngok and the Missiriya will also provide positive momentum for the 17 January meeting in Kadugli between the Ministers of Interior of Government of Sudan GoS and Government of South Sudan GoSS, focusing on further security issues.