

UNMIS Press Statement

14 December 2009

Statement by the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Ashraf Jehangir Qazi

The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Ashraf Jehangir Qazi today congratulated the National Congress Party (NCP) and Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) on reaching agreements allowing for the adoption of critical legislation governing the Southern Sudanese Referendum, Abyei Referendum, and Popular Consultations. He also commended both CPA partners for their commitment to bringing about a productive working relationship and positive environment for the peaceful and successful implementation of the CPA.

"The road ahead may be long, but this major step forward should make the journey easier", said Mr Qazi

Mr. Qazi urged the Government of National Unity to make the most of this agreement by implementing the legislation with all due haste, and in particular by moving as quickly as possible to appoint both the Southern and Abyei Referendum Commissions. He also expressed hope that the latest developments facilitate NCP-SPLM agreements and understanding on other outstanding CPA issues, including the national elections and the disputed census results, the national security bill, and post-referendum arrangements as early as possible.

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