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Press Release No. 1/07**On the second Anniversary the of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, UNMIS Hails Achievements Made and Calls for Doubled Efforts to Tackle Remaining Challenges**

9 January 2007, Khartoum, Juba: The United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) congratulates the people of the Sudan on the occasion of the second anniversary of the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA).

UNMIS joins the Sudanese people in celebrating this second anniversary. Head of Mission Mr. Tayé-Brook Zerihoun represented the United Nations in the celebration ceremonies held today in Juba.

UNMIS commends the Parties to the CPA for the important achievements of the last year, including the maintenance of the ceasefire; the establishment by the Government of National Unity, the Government of South Sudan, and the States of the legislative framework envisaged in the CPA; the investment of time, energy and resources in development and reconstruction projects, and continued efforts to help refugees and the displaced return to their homes.

There are daunting challenges ahead as implementation of the CPA enters a new, more complex phase that will require the redoubled commitment of both the Parties and the international community. Some priorities are clear: The redeployments of the armed forces must be completed on time. The Joint Integrated Units (JIUs) must be fully formed and become operational. The final remnants of the Other Armed Groups must be either integrated or dissolved as stipulated in the CPA. The status of Abyei must be resolved, and the demarcation of the North-South boundary must begin in earnest. Electoral legislation must be adopted and the Electoral Commission established to prepare for the mid-term elections. Finally, more must be done to ensure that people across Sudan receive the tangible dividends of peace and development.

Peace is a process that demands the commitment of all Sudanese, and that will take time, resources, and courage. UNMIS remains committed to assisting the Parties to the CPA and the people of Sudan in meeting these challenges and achieving a full, effective, and timely implementation of all aspects of the CPA.

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