Statement attributable to Mr. Ashraf Qazi, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to Sudan, welcoming announcement of Abyei Administration appointments.

The United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) welcomes yesterday’s Presidential decree appointing Arop Moyak Mony Toc of the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM) and Rahama Abdelrahman Al-Nour of the National Congress Party (NCP) as Chief Administrator and Deputy Administrator respectively of the interim Abyei Area Administration in keeping with the provisions of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and in accordance with the Abyei roadmap agreement of 8 June.

SRSG Qazi congratulates the SPLM and the NCP on the decision. He encourages the two parties to continue to move ahead with implementation of the remaining roadmap provisions so that those displaced by May’s fighting can soon return in safety and dignity to resume their lives in a secure environment.

These steps include:

• Final withdrawal of the forces of the two sides from the area
• Full deployment of Joint Integrated and Joint Integrated Police Units (JIU/JIPU)

In addition, SRSG Qazi calls upon the donor community to come forward with contributions for the reconstruction of Abyei.

UNMIS and the UN humanitarian community stand ready to assist.