

Statement:

By: Counsellor Mathias J.Jongkor

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Thank co- Chair, on behalf of the youngest country in the world, the Republic of South Sudan; I would like to thank the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for hosting this important Conference on Reclaiming the Protection of civilians under the International Humanitarian law.

And also, I would like to thank the panelists for well done presentation which they have presented to us, and thank the representatives of States and Governmental, Non-Governmental Organizations.

Chair, the Republic of South Sudan went through a hard time with very bad experiences in the human suffering over the last 21 years of war. , When South Sudan took his independence in 2011, she was committed and concerned about the human rights. Therefore she signed and ratified three agreements of Geneva Convention: The prisoners of war, the Refugees Act, and the International Humanitarian Law with its additional Protocol.

In the point of protection journalists, and role of Media, the National legislative Assembly of South Sudan had passed the Broadcasting bill last week and the Media authority bill in the third reading that will be passed in the beginning of the next month. The National Legislative assembly is also working on The Right to access information bill which will be passed very soon.

In regard to the protection of civilians in conflict zone is not easy task, and I want to appeal to the International Community that the Chief of Dinka Abyei was killed in the eyewitness of the UN peacekeepers. They were not been able to defense themselves or protect the civilians.

Right now, there are many challenges, facing the UN peace keeping, one of the challenges, the lack of agreement in the Security Council within the UN, another challenge, the cooperation and respect between States and non-States with International Humanitarian Agencies.

Finally, the Republic of South Sudan will support the Norwegian initiative and outcome of the Conference on Reclaiming the Protection of civilians under the International Humanitarian Law (IHL).

Thank You,

