

## THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN LAKES STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY RUMBEK OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

Our Ref: RSS/LSLA/OS/LSR/50.A.1

Date...22/10/2013.

TO ALL THE HON. MEMBERS, LAKES STATE LEGISLATIVE-RUMBEK.

Subject: SUSPENSION OF THE ASSEMBLY BUSINESS FOR ONE WEEK.

Dear Hon. Members,

In accordance with the provisions of Article 99 (2) (f) of Lakes State Transitional Constitution, 2011 and Reg.20 (1) of Lakes State Legislative Assembly Conduct of Business Regulations, 2012,

And with the consultation I made this Morning with H.E. the Governor of Lakes State about the looming crises in the State Legislative Assembly,

I hereby suspend the operations of the Assembly for ONE WEEK until the Governor and the SPLM State Chairperson come.

This is with effect from today, 22/10/2013.

Thanks.

22/10/2013

Rt. Hon. John Marik Makur, Speaker, Lakes State Legislative Assembly,

## Copy:

- 1. H.E. acting Governor, Lakes State,
- 2. SPLM Secretary, Lakes State,
- 3. Chief Whip, Lakes State Legislative Assembly,
- 4. Commissioner of Police, Lakes State,
- 5. Hon. Clerk to the Assembly, LSLA,
- 6. File.

Legislative Assembly

22<sup>nd</sup> October 2013

Hon. John Marik Makur,

Speaker,

Lakes State Legislative Assembly - Rumbek.

## <u>Subject: MEMBERS RESPONSE TO SUSPENSION OF THE LAKES STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY</u> <u>FOR ONE WEEK BY THE SPEAKER</u>

Reference to the above mentioned subject, your decision to suspend the House for one week does not hold due to the following reasons:

The article you quoted in the Lakes State Transitional Constitution 2011, does not give you powers to suspend the assembly. These are powers of the governor as here under;

1. Article 99 (2) Lakes State Transitional Constitution 2011, quote "the governor of the state shall perform the following functions .....(f) 'Convene, summon, adjourn or prorogue the state legislative assembly in consultation with speaker;

This means it is the governor to consult you and take such an action but not you taking the powers of the governor.

- Regulation 20 (1) of the conduct of Business Regulation 2012, only gives you powers
  to suspend or adjourn the House during the sitting as quoted below;
   "The speaker may, during a sitting, suspend a sitting or adjourn the House"
  - (a) The House has not been sitting since 17<sup>th</sup> October because you simply avoided the ABC meeting and there was no agenda to be discussed.
  - (b) You resisted sitting with ABC and turned the matter to be a security issue by presenting the assembly business in the state security meeting last Friday. This shows that you defied the law first by evading the process of the House and also unlawfully suspending the House outside the chambers.
  - (c) You exaggerated your removal to be a security matter in the state when in fact the House is peacefully and procedurally withdrawing its confidence on you due to gross abuse of powers and continued polarization of state politics. This is explained by huge physical display of police force in the assembly premises yesterday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2013, your presentation of assembly crisis( as you put) in

- the security meeting and your copying of the police commissioner when the commissioner is directly answerable to the governor.
- (d) Since thirty four members have signed the withdrawal of confidence in you and you were voted in by the same, you have lost the status and powers of speakership.

The House has on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2013, tabled a motion for your removal, which is why you are now acting in defiance of the constitution.

The fact that motion for your removal is in progress does not give you ground to abuse your constitutional powers by taking the powers of the governor and misquoting the Conduct of Business regulation (you signed in to law) as the basis for evading the due process of your removal.

We are therefore obliged to make it very crystal clear that your suspension of this assembly does not hold since it has no force of law as indicated.

We the members of this assembly deem the House normally functioning according to our Conduct of Business Regulation 19 (2) quote "subject to regulation (4) herein below, the assembly shall sit on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays"

Thanks,

Attached is the list of members who have signed.

Copy:

Acting governor

SPLM State Secretary

Clerk to the Assembly

File,

List of the members of Lakes State Legislative Assembly that have endorsed the motion for the removal of, Hon. John Marik Makur, the Speaker of Lakes State Assembly:

S/no.	Name	Party	Signature
1	Hon Helling Nyshol Ris		HOURB
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20	" WILLIAM MANYUON WANTER	SPLM	Sk
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