



Republic of South Sudan (RSS)
Office of the President

June 2nd, 2014

**Editor-in-Chief,
Sudan Tribune,
Juba.**

Subject: A right of Reply to the Article titled "Kiir's Legal Advisor wants VP Igga appointed chief Negotiator."

Dear Editor-in-Chief,

I write to your end in regards to the above captioned subject, which appeared on the online edition of *Sudan Tribune* dated 1st June, 2014, which was allegedly written by me in confidence to H.E. the President.

I take issue with the article which alleges *inter alia* that, I had advised H.E. the President to appoint H.E. James Wani Igga, the Vice President of the Republic, to be the Chief Negotiator in the ongoing talks in Addis Ababa, apparently to woo the Equatorians in favor of the current Government under the leadership of H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit.

The letter further alleges that I have suggested Ministerial Positions and possible names of candidates from the Greater Equatoria Region in order to increase their numbers in the Government, with the view of appeasing them.

In view of the foregoing, I wish to categorically state that at no material time did I ever author such an Advisory letter to H.E. the President.

On the face value of the letter in question, a casual glance shows that the letter does not bear my signature nor the official letter head and seal of the Presidential Advisor on legal Affairs; moreover, the same was not dated. Therefore, one is left but to wonder as to why *Sudan tribune*, a reputable newspaper would go ahead and publish the same without confirming its veracity.

It is imperative to point out that, this is not the first time *that Sudan tribune* has published unfounded articles against my person as a Presidential Advisor on Legal Affairs and or the President.

On one such occasion you falsely published an article to the effect that, the Presidential Decrees issued had cited wrong provisions of the Constitution, and this was justified when you issued a correctional article dated July 26th, 2013, and I quote verbatim **"It turned out that the copy of the constitution relied on for the story was a draft version and not the final one creating this unfortunate and completely unintended situation"**.

By the same breadth, you had published another false article to the effect that H.E. the President had approved \$600 million for a plot of land in favour of National Security Service, which was not true in its entirety, just to mention but a few articles which you falsely published.

Therefore, as much as I subscribe and protect freedom of expression as espoused by the Constitution, you are expected to exercise

journalistic ethics and not to publish articles that are construed to be malicious and defamatory.

In light of the foregoing:-

- (1) I strongly demand that the source of the article in contention be revealed to me.**
- (2) I demand unreserved apology, and which must be published.**
- (3) Otherwise I will be left with no option but to take legal action against *Sudan Tribune*, and I have copied my Advocate on this reply for any further necessary legal action.**

Have the assurance of my highest regards and consideration.



**Telar Ring Deng,
Presidential Advisor on Legal Affairs,
Republic of South Sudan,
Juba.**



Cc:

**Hon. Yohannis Yor Akol Ajarwin
Advocate and Commissioner for Oaths**