

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 9 May 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the communiqué of the twenty-fifth extraordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) on the situation in South Sudan, in which the IGAD Heads of State urged the parties to the conflict to comply fully with the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement signed on 23 January 2014. In the same communiqué, the Heads of State requested the Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council to provide all necessary support for the deployment of a Protection and Deterrence Force as part of the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism established under the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement. Thereafter, I received a letter dated 8 April 2014 addressed to me by the Chair of IGAD, Mr. Hailemariam Desalegn, Prime Minister of Ethiopia, in which he recalled the request by IGAD for Security Council and African Union Peace and Security Council support to the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism and further requested the support of the United Nations for the deployment of the Mechanism.

Further to the IGAD communiqué of the twenty-fifth extraordinary session, dated 13 March 2014, and the letter of 8 April 2014 from the Chair of IGAD, the United Nations, in coordination with the African Union, has consulted IGAD on the type of support required for the deployment of the Protection and Deterrence Force. On 5 May 2014, the United Nations received a proposal from IGAD outlining the concept of the Protection and Deterrence Force for the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism.

The Secretariat is presently examining this proposal and in the coming days should be in a position to provide recommendations to the Security Council.

As you are aware, Mr. Salva Kiir, President of South Sudan, and Mr. Riek Machar met today, 9 May 2014, in Ethiopia, where they signed the Agreement to Resolve the Crisis in South Sudan. The United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) may be called upon to provide security for the monitoring and verification teams already deployed in Bor, Bentiu and Malakal.

Pending the decision of the Security Council on the request of IGAD, I request the Council to consider endorsing the provision by UNMISS of security to the monitoring and verification teams on an interim basis and within its existing capabilities.

(Signed) BAN Ki-moon

