



NGOs condemn the killings of aid workers in Maban

Juba, 6 August 2014

It is with the heaviest of hearts that we remember our colleagues who were killed this week in ethnically targeted violence in Maban County. As an NGO community, we strongly condemn these killings and we offer our deepest condolences to the families and friends of our colleagues who have died. Their senseless deaths, after their tireless efforts to provide aid and assistance to the people of South Sudan and to refugees from Sudan, are simply incomprehensible.

In the eight months since the violence began, the humanitarian community has seen increasing restrictions in providing humanitarian aid, including the intimidation of staff who are vital in responding to the urgent needs, which are increasing across the country. South Sudan is in the throes of a humanitarian emergency. Our efforts to provide assistance are hampered by illegal checkpoints and taxation, looting and extortion which, as famine looms, is unconscionable.

We call for all parties to the conflict to respect international humanitarian law and to allow for the free movement of humanitarian assistance and the safety and security of aid workers regardless of ethnicity.