

Press Release

NGO Humanitarian Aid workers call for the return of 10 missing aid workers and the end to attacks on Aid workers in South Sudan.

Juba 27 April 2018: Ten humanitarian aid workers from national NGOs, international NGOs and UN agencies went missing outside southern Yei town while conducting a humanitarian needs assessment mission. This is the latest in a series of incidents that have directly targeted aid workers in the last two weeks. Other incidents in the very recent past have resulted in the death of aid workers.

The NGO community is deeply concerned about these heinous acts and calls for the immediate release of the ten humanitarian colleagues and their safe return to their families.

The South Sudan Humanitarian Response plan for 2018 affirms that **4 million people** have been displaced since the conflict broke out in 2013 including 1.9 million internally displaced people, with over 85 per cent estimated to be women and children. The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) projects that in the absence of all forms of humanitarian assistance in May–July 2018, an estimated 7.1 million people (63% of the population) will face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse acute food insecurity, of which 155,000 are estimated to be in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) and 2.3 million are estimated to be in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).

In order to prevent the already dire conditions deteriorating, aid workers must be facilitated to deliver humanitarian assistance safely and without any threat or risk to their lives.

NGOs condemn all forms of attack against humanitarian aid workers and appeal to parties to the conflict to not lose sight of those most affected by the ongoing crisis in South Sudan including vulnerable women, children and elderly people. All parties must support the efforts of humanitarian aid workers to save lives and alleviate suffering for dignified human beings in the world's youngest nation.

For more information, contact:

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