

## Human Rights Council-23<sup>rd</sup> Session of Universal Periodic Review UPR Statement of the Republic of South Sudan on UPR of Republic of Rwanda 4<sup>th</sup> November, 215

Mr. President,

South Sudan warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Rwanda to the UPR working group and thanks them for their update.

with satisfication

South Sudan takes note that Rwanda has accepted almost all recommendations of the first cycle.

The reform has been taken by Rwanda to develop institutional framework and enacted and amended of existing laws that emphasize the promotion and protection of human rights inter alia, penal code and law on children rights are commendable steps.

We recognize the tremendous achievements towards empowerment of women by increasing their representation at various levels of the government, and welcome inclusion of women in the development process of the country, for example the modified land law 2005 has ensured guarantee of equality among men and women regarding access, ownership, utilization of land and inheritance.

My delegation acknowledges that Rwanda is hosting refugees from neighboring countries among them South Sudanese refugee despite its small geographical size.

My delegation wishes to recommend the following for the consideration of Rwanda:

- 1. Continue efforts to increase the participation of women in leadership at the local government level.
- 2. Expedite the development of the National Human Rights Action Plan.
- 3. Continue efforts to realize the national development goals as stipulated in Vision 20/20 and Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS II)

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We wish all success to Rwanda in implementing the second cycle of the UPR. I thank you,