



URGENT RELEASE

THE GROWING TENSION OVER LAND DISPUTE BETWEEN TWIC AND NGOK COMMUNITIES IN WARRAP AND ABYEI ADMINISTRATIVE AREA RESPECTIVELY

September 2nd, 2026 – In the past few days, discussion over ownership of an area along River Kiir was resuscitated and since then Twic and Ngok communities from Warrap State and Abyei Administrative Area, have unfortunately escalated this discussion, which was effectively temporarily put to rest by youth, women, chiefs from the same communities in 2024.

The National Civil Society Coalition is disappointed, alarmed and worried that this rising tension may escalate to a confrontation. To avoid this unpleasant trajectory, we are:

- 1) We are appealing to the governments of Warrap and Abyei Administrative Area to jointly investigate the genesis of this dispute and arrest the situation before it escalates further.
- 2) Urging community members in both Warrap and Abyei Administrative Area to refrain from any divisive statements/discourse online and offline and resist political incitements and influence.
- 3) Calling on UNMISS, UNISFA and other peace partners to reconvene a joint community dialogue involving youth, women, chiefs, sub-national civil society groups, and local authorities to chart an amicable way out of this dispute and establish a sustainable framework for coexistence among the sisterly communities in both Warrap and Abyei Administrative Area. This was done before; in 2024 and 2025 and we believe it can be done again and now.

The National Civil Society Coalition will continue to closely monitor the situation and cautions political elites about inciting peaceful communities against each other for selfish gains – as such will not be tolerated.



ABOUT US: *National Civil Society Coalition (NCSC) is an umbrella of grassroots Civil Society Networks, drawn from the South Sudan's 10 States and 3 Administrative Areas, with the aim of enforcing an inclusive and vibrant civil society, capable of effectively contributing to the national conflict transformation and state building agenda.*

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