



## Republic of South Sudan

*The President*

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December 24, 2018

Dear Brother and Honorable Prime Minister,

It is exactly seven years since I had the pleasure and the excitement to meet you in Jerusalem, few days before Christmas and only few months after the birth of The Republic of South Sudan as an independent nation.

Israel has always supported the South Sudanese people. Our independency would had never been obtained without you. Throughout history we have overcome similar struggles and we share the same values. We are grateful of having you as a friend and we do all our best to support Israel wherever we can, in the international arena.

Over the years, Israeli companies and Israeli businesspersons are pursuing joint venture projects with our country, in the fields of infrastructure, agriculture, water conservation, advanced technologies and more. They share the risks and the many challenges that we face as a young African nation, but their efforts usually bear fruits and bring them lucrative financial results.

The "Green Horizon" national agriculture project, managed by "Global Group" and General Israel Ziv is an outstanding example for mutual success. It is aimed to improve the food security situation and to develop the country's agriculture infrastructure by introducing modern farming techniques, irrigation systems etc. It operates four farms in the country, employs hundreds of people and feeds thousands more. The project is supervised by the Ministry of Agriculture with a government liaising officer as a permanent member of the project headquarter. We take great pride in this project and its success.

Unfortunately, the continuation of the "Green House" project was put at danger as a result of the announcement that was made by the US Treasury Department on Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> which imposed sanctions on General Ziv and Global Group, allegedly for trading and supplying armament and weapons to the Government of South Sudan and to other parties in the country.

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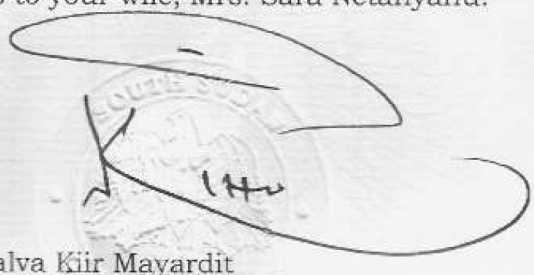
Following this announcement, I ordered my government to conduct an immediate internal inquiry, headed by our Minister of justice, to examine those allegations. I can assure you with full responsibility that we found no evidence that support these allegations. To the best of our knowledge these allegations are baseless and unjust. Global Group has never supplied any kind of armament or weapon to the Government of South Sudan, and to the best of our knowledge also not to any other party in the country. Global Group has no presence in the oil regions and does not supply services over there.

Those politically motivated sanctions, imposed by the US Government on Global Group and General Ziv, will lead inevitably to the termination of the "Green Horizon" project. Shutting down the project at this time, will affect the daily lives of thousands of people, create suffering and hardship, will directly contribute to instability, and will negatively affect the current recovery of our fragile economy.

Your assistance in helping to resolve this important matter will be highly appreciated.

I would like to use this opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year. Please send also my regards to your wife, Mrs. Sara Netanyahu.

Sincerely yours,

  
Salva Kiir Mayardit  
**President**  
**Republic of South Sudan**

Hon. Benjamin Netanyahu,  
**The Prime Minister of Israel,**  
**Jerusalem**

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*The President*

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