

Explanation of Vote by Ambassador Manjeev Singh Puri, Deputy Permanent Representative, on Resolution 2046 on Sudan & South Sudan at the United Nations Security Council, on May 02, 2012

Thank you, Mr. President.

Let me begin by congratulating you and the delegation of Azerbaijan on assuming the Presidency of the Security Council for the month of May. I will like to assure you of my delegation's full cooperation and support. I would also like to thank the Permanent Representative of the United States and her delegation for their able stewardship of the Council during April.

2. Mr President, recent developments between Sudan and South Sudan, including cross-border military operations and damage to economic infrastructures, particularly to oil facilities, have caused us serious concern. These developments have the potential to threaten peace and stability and lead the two countries towards war. This will seriously set back the socio-economic and political developments that the countries require to overcome the effects of decades-long civil war. There is, therefore, an urgent need to avoid war and resolve the outstanding CPA issues peacefully through political dialogue and negotiations.

3. The African Union's High-level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) led by President Thabo Mbeki has been facilitating dialogue between Sudan and South Sudan for a few years now. In its briefings to the Security Council, the Panel has outlined realistic frameworks that it has developed for resolution of various outstanding CPA issues. Serious negotiations based on those frameworks can help the two countries not only resolve the issues but also build an enduring relationship based on mutual cooperation and respect for their independence, unity and territorial integrity.

4. Mr President, India has been consistently supporting the AUHIP in its efforts to facilitate negotiations between Sudan and South Sudan and the resolution of all outstanding issues so that they develop into two economically viable and politically stable states at peace with each other. Our vote in favour of resolution 2046 today is an expression of our support for the efforts of the AUHIP and in line with the request in the African Union Communiqué of 24 April 2012.

5. We hope that the adoption of this resolution will strengthen the efforts of the AUHIP to facilitate a negotiated settlement of all outstanding issues. We urge the two countries to end all hostilities between their military forces as well as by various armed groups operating in the region and urgently resume negotiations under the auspices of the AUHIP.

I thank you.

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