

MINI DIALOGUE PEACE AND RECONCILIATION

A REPORT

OF

COME LET-US RECONCILE

ON

THE PASTORAL COMMUNITIES

HELD

IN

IBONI-LAFON COUNTY-EASTERN EQUATORIA-SOUTH SUDAN

ON

APRIL 13-16, 2005

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 Introduction

A meeting of 500 pastoral communities drawn from Eastern Equatoria Counties - Kapoeta, Budi, Ikotos, Lafon and Torit representing Buya, Lopit, Logir, Otuho and Toposa communities. The SPLM commanders, Counties Executive Directors, Judges, Public Civil Administrators, Payams chiefs and Community Based Organizations were also invited. The participants gathered at Iboni Town-Lofon County from 13th – 16th April 2005 to discuss the need to address the Kidepo Cluster Conflict in east bank of eastern equatoria.

The report provides key issues of a four (4) days meeting focusing on Security, Peace, Reconciliation & Justice, Governance and Administration, Land, Trade, Services Delivery, Law and Order. The meeting was managed and coordinated by Galcholo Community Based Rehabilitation and CORDA. It was sponsored by Pact South Sudan program.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Geography

Kidepo valley is stretching from Uganda and spread through Budi and Torit Counties of East bank in Eastern Equatoria to Upper Nile. It is an evergreen stretch, which attracts various pastoral communities who live along during the dry season. Access to and control over natural resources such grazing pasture, land, borders and water point for animal has lead to major cause of internal cattle raiding conflict among the pastoral communities. With this type of grassroots fighting, the disruption of life and the erosion of basic services such as education, health, agriculture, water and sanitation have been undermined as a development issue, the communities have are living with high poverty, dependency and tribalism hatred.

3.0 The purpose of mini dialogue peace and reconciliation

3.1 Objectives

To bring Logir, Otuho, Lopit, Buya and Toposa to discuss the conflict caused by raiding, and enable them to identify their potential intervention to reduce conflict and create a better future by coming up with concrete resolutions that will enable them share Kidepo natural resources.

3.2 Specific objective

1. Enable all the key actors from within the affected communities continue peace dialogue and build confidence
2. Enable the Buya, Lopit, Otuho and Pari communities formulate joint agreements and practical action plans foster peaceful coexistence, solidarity and recovery.

4.0 Opening of peace and reconciliation meeting in Iboni

The acting SPLM Secretary for Torit County, Mr. Joseph Abahala officially opened the pastoral community meeting. He warmly welcomes the Lopit, Logir, Otuho, Buya, Toposa and CSOs/CBOs to Lafon County. He invited the Public Civil Administrators (PCA) and participants to introduce themselves and seek proper solutions that have affected the pastoral communities. Mr. Abahala went further to encourage the participants to focus and prepare the future that shall save the children, women and youth from necessary killing in cattle raiding activity.

The Commander Alias Jada was invited to address the participants and promised the participants that his Government is ready to implement the resolutions, which will be formulated from the peace and reconciliation dialogue. The SPLA Secretarial (commissioners) and the chairman have to mandate him in order to take necessary action on cattle raiding activity. Mr. Jada challenges the pastoral communities of putting more interest on cattle rather than focusing on education since the peace has just signed. He told

the communities to keep weapons and should be use for monitoring six (6) year interim period

5.0 Presentation of key issues

The facilitator encouraged the participants to actively participate and bring out their experiences so as to benefit the conference. The participatory methodology learning also encourages sharing and using everyone as a resource. The conference employed group work to help the participants understand the objectives of the conference.

The facilitator moved the forum to open discussion at plenary where the participants openly discussed elements of governance, insecurity, poor administration, land, peace, reconciliation and Justice, service delivery, law and order, legislation, judiciary and executive. The group work divided into different session with different topics to formulate key issues. The exercise was mandated to internalize the function of communities at grassroots levels, public civil authorities and CBOs as complementary and to avoid conflict with each other.

5.1 Local governance

The local governance in eastern Equatoria has been weak institute which has torn community social cultural apart. Governance of natural resources management of water resources, pasture, and land has not been transform to satisfy human need in the Counties. Local governance needs to restructure in building working institution of civil administration at the Counties level. The priority will be to establish Kidepo cluster peace committee and the group will work out modality of equitable access to sharing natural resources, which will foster the harmony between pastoral communities.

5.2 Administrative governance

Administrative governance concerns to a large relationship between branches of a government, such as administrative authorities because of the functions

of administrative authorities are conferred and defined by status. Parliament exercises some control over the exercise of government functions.

In determining what good administration is an obvious criterion of success is provided by the level of communities satisfaction with the administrative machinery. Administrative governance therefore regulates power, procedures and acts of public administration. It applies to the organization, power, duties and functions of the public of government.

5.3 Land

Land is considered to be the main natural resource that belongs to the community and clan. In the eastern Equatoria the communities concerns are that land evokes deep sentiments and can be a very explosive matter if not handled with proper care. In fact, Kidepo cluster has been one of the root causes of cattle raiding conflict among the pastoral communities for so many years. There is a need to demand clear policies on land reform, land use for grazing, land tenure through bordering mapping documentation.

In this context, the communities of Eastern Equatoria were in the view that proposed land mapping should conduct arbitration of land claims in accordance with competent customary laws and practices prevailing at Boma and Payam level. Furthermore, there was a need to form land committee comprises of civil authorities and village elders. With this form of committee, conflict among pastoral communities will be reduce and natural resources might be share equally

5.4 SECURITY

The participants who are mostly pastoral communities in the Eastern Equatoria demand their protection from government in the South Sudan. The security structure reviewed was found to be weak and it is the most requirement element in the communities. The security that caused poor management is manifested from cattle raiding, necessary killings and

robberies. Participants gave their views that framework of selling and buying guns or ammunition or traders who attempt to sell light weapon to the rural communities should be arrested.

The seven (7) groups have handled the exercise and came up with common problems identified that prevent the pastoral communities from enjoying peace at grassroots levels.

5.5 Indicators and causes of poor system that lead to conflict in the communities

1. Poor Administration and management at Counties level
2. Lack of cooperation and networking between civil authorities at Payams level
3. Unclear set up of responsibility at administrative/village elders
4. Tribalism, jealousy among pastoral communities
5. High dowries in marriage that encourage youth to cause conflict through cattle raiding
6. Failure in government to provide service to the communities
7. Increased levels of livelihood insecurity
8. Lack of quick response during raiding from civil authorities, and civil society organizations
9. Lack of history in land mapping to share natural resources among the communities along Kidepo valley
10. Village to village land dispute

6.0 RECOMMENDATION AND RESOLUTION

6.1 GOVERNANCE

1. Traditions/customary values/practices traditional authority should exercise governance under local authority chiefs
2. There is need to involve grassroots communities in the enactment of laws at boma level

3. Government should improve efficiency in the system of administration through leadership training at Counties level
4. Civic education should be implemented in the communities
5. Enhance peaceful co-existence and cooperation between the pastoral communities
6. Formation of Kidepo peace committee for networking to reduce conflict in Kidepo cluster
7. Government should know the needs of the communities and priorities e.g. resources such as water, pasture for cattle grazing
8. Government be diplomatic, transparent and provide guideline, and direction for the communities.
9. Appoint qualified judges in Counties and Payams levels

6.2 Land

1. Clarify community internal boundaries through formation of land committee comprises of local civil authorities and village elders
2. The constitution should establish that customary land rights are private property rights with full respect and protection of land irrespective whether or not individual or village clans own them
3. Formation of technical committee to solve Lofon land dispute e.g. logwana waati, Lohobohobo,
4. Community-to-Community consultation before the cows are allowed to grass on other community land

6.3 Peace, Reconciliation and Justice

1. Encourage intermarriage in the communities so as to bring peace
2. Encourage business trade with different communities to bring peace
3. Sharing resources and information
4. Formation of Kidepo peace committee
5. Traditional peace institution should be supported

6.4 Security

1. Effective enforcement of the law and order in the community

2. Conduct civil education to empower community to know their responsibilities in providing security at villages level
3. Arrest criminal that break the law
4. Selling & Buying of ammunition be discouraged
5. Hold regulate meeting to provide peace stability in the communities
6. Train intelligence agency
7. Information & dissemination of urgent news through reporting

6.5 Law and Order

1. Judges to follow customary laws
2. Law be honoured and protected by the communities
3. Compensation of lost lives and properties

6.6 Service delivery

1. Establish markets centers at Boma level
2. Government should encourage the creation of cooperative
3. Rehabilitate basic school, secondary, vocational institution and universities
4. Establish primary health at payam level and hospital
5. Establish communication media
6. Resources centers
7. Water and sanitation
8. Food security by providing communities with good seeds
9. Training Ox-plough

PARTICIPANTS LIST

S/No	Name	County	Organization	Position
1	Major Siro Akume	Lafon	SPLM	Lt. Col Major
2	Commander Alies	Kapoeta	SPLM	
3	Mr. Julius	Kapoeta	SPLM	Exec. Director
4	Nartisio Loluke		SPF	CDM
5	Ceasar Oliha	Ikotos	SPLA	
6	Ceasar Oromo	Lafon	SPLA	
7	Jackson Miyang	Ikotos	SPLA	
8	Clement Lopeyok	Budi	Galcholo	Administrator
9	Jacob Otwari	Torit	SPLA	
10	Michael Okwali	Torit	SPLA	
11	Ukech Alak Ukech	Lafon	SPLA	
12	Joseph Abahala	Torit	CANS	
13	Tulio Hatiri	Torit	CANS	
14	Philip Oriho Ohitai	Lafon	AIF	Administer
15	Francis Ohasa	Lafon	CANS	
16	Marino Ohide	Lafon	CANS	
17	Simon Leju	Lafon	CANS	
18	Fidele Oriho	Lafon	CANS	
19	John Omiluk	Lafon	Education	
20	Mary Ojingamoi	Kapoeta	Education	
21	Akwan Iko	Kapoeta	„	
22	Mary Lopir	Kapoeta	„	
23	Rosina Elia Ohitai	Kapoeta		
24	Margeret Lotanyang	Kapoeta		
25	Rosalia Ihure	Lofan		
26	Mary Longokwo	Kapoeta	TDA	
27	Mary Celeste	Kapoeta	GTZ	
28	Lucy Saina	Kapoeta	NCA	
29	Piya Aurelio	Kapoeta	TBS	

30	Oromo Barnaba	Lafon		
31	Kamiru Otwari	Lafon		
32	Adelio Kau kowa	Lafon		
33	Darius Ukelo	Lafon	KSC	
34	Arkajilo Lopeyok	Lafon	CANS	PCA
35	Severino Mose	Torit		PCA
36	Julious Akim	Lafon	SPLA	
37	Joseph Auro	Lafon	SRRC	
38	Polito Oliha	Lafon		
39	Anthony Ochuho	Lafon		
40	Andrew Odongi	Torit	CANS	P.A
41	Clementina Itwari	Torit	SRRC	W.A
42	Pio Anja severino	Torit	IRAD	
43	Lonjino Rex Olum	Lafom	SRRC	
44	Pasquali Ajana	Lafon	CANS	Chief
45	Clement Afira letta	Lafon		
46	Albano Ubur	Lafon		
47	Tobia Lokide	Ikotos		
48	Julius Lotubai Erot	Kapoeta	SPC	Chief
49	Andrea Lopeta	Kapoeta	CANS	Chief
50	Lokwan Lowi	Kapoeta	SPF	Elder
51	Peter Logie	Kapoeta	Peace	Elder
52	Arkanjilo Lokwam	Budi		
53	Lomana Loporomoi	Budi		
54	Albeno Erum	Lafon	CANS	Chief
55	Austin Ahaji Pio	Lafon		
56	Lodoviko Oriho	Lafon		
57	Savio Esiak Oliha	Lafon		
58	Adelio Otwari	Lafon		Police
59	Adelino Oling	Lafon		
60	Akulino	Lafon		
61	Akulino	Lafon		

62	Ohude	Lafon		
63	Fanse Afore	Lafon	CORDA	Education
64	Amedeo Tiyana	Lafon	SRRC	
65	Arkanjilo Mana	Lafon		
66	Simplico Odwa	Lafon	CANS	Administrator
67	Risio Otwari	Lafon	BC	
68	Valerio Abiye	Lafon	B/A	
69	Karrado Atilio	Lafon		
70	Elizabeth Onurato	Lafon		
71	Dominic Kilanga	Lafon		
72	Teresa Atilio	Lafon		
73	Hercules Okiro	Lafon		
74	Martin Lomoru	Budi		
75	Leusio Higobee	Budi		
76	Aleso Akoi	Lafon		
77	Jisio Okeny	Lofan		
78	Atilio Okunlang	Lofan		
79	Wilson Haworu	Torit		Nurse
80	Ferid Obuma	Torit	CANS	Chief
81	Tandesio Oliaba	Lafon	LPC	
82	Philip Omido	Lafon		
83	Joseph Oya	Lafon	ACHW	
84	Cirako Juma	Lafon		
85	Gabriel Otuduha	Lafon		Chief
86	Pete Olia Odume	Lafon		
87	Cipriano Oswaha	Lafon		
88	Kamilo Ohisa	Lafon		
89	Elizabeth Onurato	Lafon		
90	Dominic Kilega	Lafon		
91	Tereas Atilio	Lafon	CORDA	
92	Hon. Felix Siro	Torit	SPLM	HAM/CPS
93	Solomon Ochuho	Torit	Court	Judge

94	Samuel Ohia	Torit	SPLA	
95	Rumeo Liwa	Torit	SPLA	
96	Santino Ukoo	Lafon	SPLA	
97	Faustino Ranga	Lafon	SPLA	
98	Andrew Uwar	Lafon	SPLA	
99	Victor Oriho	Lafon		Chief
100	Gilberto Efil	Lafon		Chief
101	Lino Atmonok	Lafon		Chief
102	Leone Osuru	Lafon		Chairman
103	Martin Kolong	Lafon		Chief
104	Alfred Okito	Torit		P/Chief
105	Metodio Oliaha	Torit		Administrator
106	Martin Apala	Lafon	SRRC	
106	Aliardo Ohidong	Lafon		Chief
107	Louis Osuru	Lafon		
108	Jokondo Opongi	Lafon		
108	Paul John	Lafon		Chief
109	Joseph Oyoo	Lafon	Vet	
110	Luka Ukelo	Lafon	PLC	
112	Albano Omoyang	Lafon	SRRC	
113	Masmina Hulula	Lafon	W/group	
114	Atunita Akim	Lafon		
115	Bibiana Agurung	Lafon		
116	Ruslba Iyafa	Lofan		
117	Ihuro Mariam	Lafon		
118	Anyese Genaro	Lafon		
119	Lino Kennedy	Budi	Kimotong payam	PCA
120	William Loki	Budi	CANS	Ex-director
121	Angilo Lomoi	Budi	URCOS	Pastor
122	Lazaro Lohino	Budi	CANS	Admt
123	Faustino Lazaro	Budi	CANS	Admt
124	Peter Logoro	Budi	Galcholo	

125	Teresa Imiri	Lafon		
126	Aujemia Okiko	Lafon		
127	Susan Adilia	Torit		
128	Paska Tom	Lafon		
129	Ebeit Zabit	Lafon		
130	Anjinia Ihiju	Lafon		
131	Arkanjilo			
Lopit dancers				200
Buya dancers				40
Otuho dancer				100
Toposa dancer				29
Participants total				500

