United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

Media & Spokesperson Unit, Communications & Public Information Office

PRESS RELEASE

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NEW CONTRACT TO ENSURE JOB SECURITY

The global policy of the United Nations (UN) system on the protection of UN premises is no longer to hire individual contractors. Based on a resolution of the General Assembly of the UN, the current policy is to outsource the protection of UN premises.

In the case of South Sudan, at the request of UN headquarters in New York and following the budget decisions of member states, the decision to outsource to a private company was taken a long time ago. However, following the oil shutdown and subsequent economic difficulties, implementation of this decision was delayed by a year and a half in the interest of South Sudan and the individual contractors themselves.

The new contract, which will enter into force shortly, will absorb all guards and individual contractors currently employed by the Mission. Subject to satisfactory performance, everyone will be employed. There will be no loss of jobs. The guards on strike are individual contractors who were hired on short term contracts and on an interim basis. As their contracts expire, they will be absorbed by the company that has been given the overall contract. The company is fully registered in South Sudan and is partly owned by South Sudanese nationals.

With these new arrangements, the concerned individuals will have better job security, while their salaries will remain above the average in South Sudan.

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