STATEMENT

Yesterday, July 20, 2012, the AUHIP received a letter from the Chief Negotiator of the Government of the Republic of South Sudan, Mr Pagan Amum, in which he laid a complaint that the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) had attacked SPLA units in the South Sudan State of Northern Bahr el Ghazal.

Today, July 21, the AUHIP received the response of the Minister of Defence of Sudan, Gen Abdelrahim M. Hussein, who also made a verbal presentation in which he denied that the SAF had attacked SPLA positions. He stated that the SAF had attacked a column of the Darfur JEM rebels, within the territory of Sudan.

The AUHIP has informed the Parties that it will immediately take steps to establish the truth concerning the matters referred to above.

It further reminded the Parties of their commitment to end all hostilities between their countries and to solve all the outstanding matters through peaceful means.

The Parties confirmed their determination to honour these commitments.

The Parties agreed to continue their negotiations without interruption, bearing in mind that, as confirmed by the AU PSC Roadmap and UNSC Resolution 2046, they meet under the auspices of the AUHIP.

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