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South Sudan Launches Labour Market Report

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BY JUSTIN JADA JOSEPH AND ALNOUR ANGO, 29 JUNE 2012

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PRESS RELEASE

Juba — The Republic of South Sudan held a one day seminar on world day against child labour under the theme "South Sudan Human Right and Social Justice Let end Child Labour".

The occasion also marked the launch of the South Sudan's labour market report which includes general labour, youth and child labour market situation in South Sudan.

In his opening remarks yesterday at Regency Hotel in Juba Mr. Kwong Danhier Gatluak, the Deputy Minister of Labour Public Service and Human Resource Development expressed concern that as an emerging nation, South Sudan has a greater and urgent need to increase access to employment opportunities, develop its human resource capital especially among the youth as well as addressing unethical and indecent employment and labour practices such as child labour.

He further called for decent work in the Republic of South Sudan and applauded the commitment of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), European Union (EU) and other Development Partners for their continues support in addressing issues of child labour in the nation.

The report on labour market situation indicates that over 90 percent enter the labour force with less than primary education. This situation requires urgent need of a second chance to learning opportunities through establishment of vocational training centres (VTC) across South Sudan. Kwong acknowledge the importance of the VTC and should not be overlooked.

In the same occasion the deputy minister of Higher education and Instruction Madam Rebecca Joshua Okwaci, assured the gathering of the strategic plan to address, raise awareness and sensitise children to enrol in education programmes.

According to Valentino Kenyi Pitya, Minister of Labour Public service and Human Resource Development Central Equatoria State, to address issues of child labour and other component mention in the labour market report in South Sudan, advocacy for more action to eliminate child labour especially the worse form of it.

"Establishment of strong Institutions, National Bureau of Statistic and the support from the National Steering Committee on Child Labour should be made available in the ten states of South Sudan," Kenyi Pitya explained.

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