

Statement of Hon. Josephine Napwon Cosmos, Minister of Environment and Forestry at the High Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development in New York on the 18th July 2022.

President of Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
President of the General Assembly
UN Secretary General
Excellencies
Honorable Ministers
Ladies and gentlemen

Good afternoon,

The attainment of the sustainable development goals by 2030 will be difficulty in South Sudan because of the internal conflict, the impact of climate change, the COVID 19 pandemic, the global economic crises has impacted the livelihood of our people.

More than 2 Million people have been internal displaced due to the impacts of climate change such as floods and droughts.

The theme “Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels” is timely but in the situation of South Sudan, many human development indicators are yet to be improved. It’s important to note that SDGs 6 on clean water and sanitation, SDG 7 on affordable and clean energy, SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure, SDG 11 on sustainable cities and communities, and SDG 17 on partnerships for the Goals remain a priority for South Sudan.

At the moment, the lack of a national monitoring and reporting framework for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) coupled with high costs and risks involved in collecting data with limited resources for establishing strong data and monitoring ecosystems, makes it impossible to establish baseline data for over 70% of the SDGs indicators.

Mr. President,

South Sudan is committed to the following;

1. Strengthening the institutional capacity and enabling environment towards achieving SDG 6
2. Policy and strategic planning for safe clean water supply (safely managed drinking water 70% and 50% sanitation)
3. Scaling up climate action- South Sudan commends declaration on deforestation and land use with a plan of planting 100 million trees in 10 years from 2020-2030. In our efforts to curb deforestation,
4. South Sudan intends to generate 3000 megawatts of power from hydro, solar, wind, geothermal and natural gas to reduce on the use of fossil
5. Investing in water infrastructure in order to provide quality water for all. Last week, with support from our friendly people of Japan, South Sudan inaugurated phase one (\$47.8 Million) Water urban supply plant that will provide clean water to 400,000 people
6. Investing in youth, women empowerment and engagement
7. Strengthening partnerships and cooperation with development partners, private sector, Civil Society organizations, and communities at large.

Finally, all these commitments require financial support, capacity building and technology transfer to embark on a Sustainable Development trajectory in South Sudan.

I thank you all