



Embassy of the Republic of South Sudan
Paris, France

Date: 12/03/2015

WELCOMING ADDRESS

Mr. Ludovic EMANUALY, President, but also Hon. members of CROISSANCE PEACE:

After sharing few moments of friendship around a cup of tea or coffee, allow me on behalf of my team, (diplomatic, other staff), to welcome you this morning to the Embassy of the Republic of South Sudan in France. The aim is twofold to:

- know physically where we are
- have a first face-to-face contact among us which I hope, will be a harbinger to the continuity of our future relations.

Africa, with its 1.1 billion inhabitants, varied abundant resources and an estimated annual growth rate averaging 6%, is slowly but surely imposing itself as one of the world's major investment destinations. The Republic of South Sudan can't be a notable absentee from this rendez-vous .She has a panoply of arguments to attract interested investors as you will discover in this presentation.

The first slide reminds me of a young Republic with a lot of hopes dawning from its horizon and whose realization can be a daunting task. The Government is measuring up to the challenge. But it wants to count on the contribution of development partners, who may be you, if you so which.

This vast country, (6.5 thousand square kilometre), with a robust economy thanks to its mineral deposit, fossil energy reserves, plentiful arable land, a prolific young (72%), complementary multi-ethnic (65 tribes), population (11.5 million), is a constitutional state with institutions of Government, justice and security.

Yes, security is now becoming our Achilles' tendon as insecurity is being exaggerated by hostile media and other circles.

With this perceived "insecure" environment why risk investing in South Sudan?

First, there is no blatant insecurity in the country, but we can't promise a zero level of insecurity as it doesn't exist anywhere in the world.

Second, South Sudan provides investment climate whether political, legal, economical and safety.

Third, it also has a pro-business regulatory system: tax incentives, duty exemption, investment promotion 2009 act (free repatriation of capital, non-nationalization, protection of intellectual promotion), signature of Regional / International trade agreements.

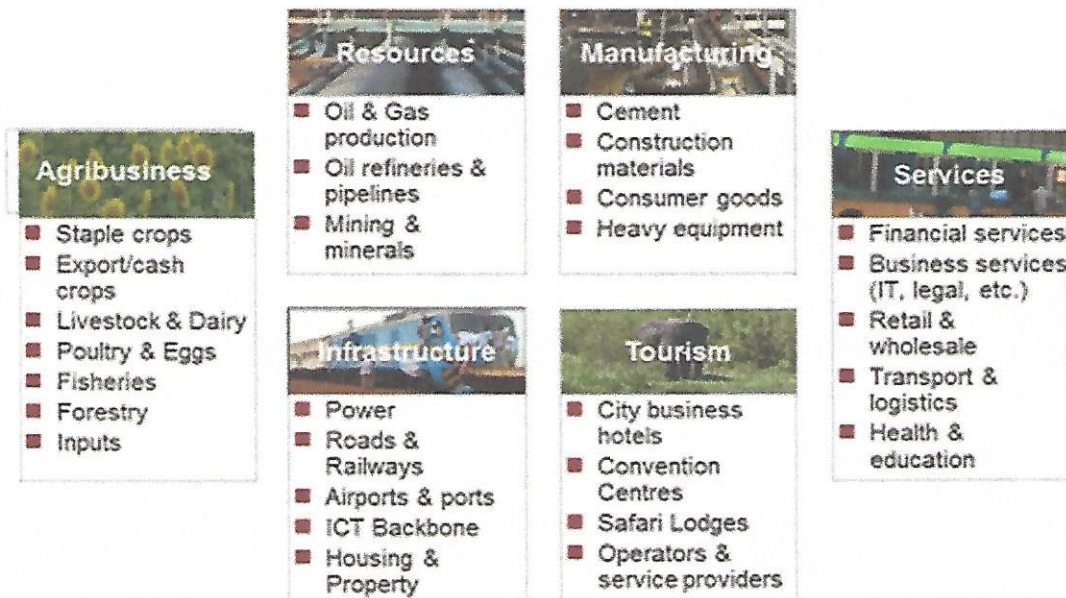
Fourth, the country has doted itself with mechanism to facilitate the work of candidate investors: establishment of South Sudan Investment Authority, (SIA), whose main prerogative are: planning, research and pro-active investment information. To enhance its functionality, (SIA), a one stop shop was created in 2013 which groups under one roof major national investment facilitators from the Ministries of Finance, Legal Affairs and Interior.

Fifth, through the signed conventions, the country places itself at the cross-roads of Regional / International markets: the six neighbours, East African Community (EAC), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), African Growth and Opportunities Act (AGOA), and the European Union (EU).

However besides assurances on security concerns, what is there to motivate investors to risk coming to South Sudan if there are no investment opportunities. Of course they exist. Here, they are.



With a booming economy and very limited supply, the opportunities for investors span all sectors



As the world comes to Paris at the end of the year to attend COP21 and hopefully signs a historical agreement on climate and environment protection, South Sudan wants to embark on a grandiose 21st century development adventure using environment friendly tools. We are confident of your capability to provide that. It is our sincerely wish to see you very soon. Have a nice day.



Ambassador Dr. Andrew Akon Akech
Head of Mission

