



Working for a Nonviolent,  
Peaceful and Democratic Society



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## ONAD NEWS LETTER

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### Citizen participation key democratization

#### EDITORIAL:

Peace and democracy are two sides of the same coin! They are inter-related. Participation of citizens and other stakeholders is very important in nurturing democracy and maintaining peace hence preventing violence. Whenever people talk; chances of thwarting violence are enhanced as talking is key in conflict resolution. Town Hall Style Meetings are practical means of exercising democratic governance where citizens, elected and local government officials discuss, identify issues of mutual concern and plan together for the development of their different constituencies. ONAD; in its endeavors to promote peace reconciliation, good governance, democracy and rule of law, organized different meetings in three different Payams where the people got the opportunity to interact with their leaders in a number of issues particularly those affecting them. We hope to continue with these endeavors until we have a country that everyone would want to live in; free of violence of any sort. This issue captures the different aspects and reactions from those meetings and feedback from beneficiaries who participated in our Nonviolence and Peace building projects were carried out previously.

# German Gov't hails the role of Civil Society



“Independence of South Sudan was greatly welcomed and celebrated by both local and international community. The challenge is now for us as South Sudanese to address the root-causes of past conflicts and move towards a meaningful national reconciliation”. Said Mr. **Moses Monday** Director of ONAD, while meeting a high level German delegation led by Personal Representative of the German Chancellor for Africa H.E Gunter Nooke. The meeting which was attended by H.E David Schwake German Ambassador in South Sudan and Marie Lena May, Assistant Personal Representative of the Chancellor for Africa, discussed the role of civil society in general and ONAD in particular in peace building and reconciliation in post conflict South Sudan. The delegation hailed the role ONAD plays in promoting the ideals of non-violence and reconciling communities through dialogue.

The German Government supports ONAD capacity building through GIZ Cooperation.

In 2012 it funded a Peacebuilding project in Yirol West and Mvolo Counties of Western and Lakes States respectively. The project which was sponsored through “IFA” Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations

## THE TOWN HALL STYLE CONCEPT:

Our ancestors gathered around a fire place in a circle not only to tell stories of wisdom and discuss family affairs but also to plan for the welfare of the larger community. In modern societies, citizens and their elected and unelected officials meet regularly to share information, discuss issues of mutual concern, plan and share responsibilities. Such meetings are often conducted in Town halls or what is commonly known as community centers. It's from this background that ONAD's Town hall style meetings were initiated. A town hall style meeting is an informal, interactive and public gathering between the rights holders and duty bearers. It's a space for people in a community, local government and elected officials to get together to discuss issues of development, governance, democracy and peace. Town hall style meetings serve as an important forum to inform citizens about national and local issues. At these meetings, local government and elected officials hear directly from their constituents (citizens) to determine where a community stands on an emerging issue or specific County plan and allow residents to give direct feedback on initiatives undertaken and identify possible solutions to a community's problems. This is how the concept of good governance and democracy is practiced at local government level (County, Payam and Boma) and its in line with Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan 2011-article 166, 6-C which says “encourage the involvement of communities and community-based organizations in the matters of local government, and promote dialogue among them on matters of local interest”. Such an interaction promotes transparency, ensures accountability, strengthens democracy and builds trust between the citizens, local and elected officials to jointly contribute towards the growth and development of their communities and its people.





# Why the Town Hall Style Meetings?

The goal of the Town Hall Style Meeting was to Promote Democracy and Good Governance for sustainable development.

## Activity:

ONAD in collaboration with ICCO Inter-Church Organization for Development Cooperation organized and convened three Town hall style meetings “consultative forums” in Juba, Rajaf and Terekeka. Each meeting lasted for 2-days. The first day basically for introduction to the concept of democracy, Good Governance and Local government Act. Day two was an interaction sessions where citizens, local and elected officials had ample space to make presentations, discuss and made recommendations on the way forward.

Peace is the  
way.....Love  
is the  
Answer



## Target Group:

The target group include; Community and Religious leaders, Youth and Women representatives, local government officials, County Counselors, Members of Parliament in the State Legislative Assembly, National Legislature and representatives of the political parties. Each Town hall style meeting drew 25 participants the total of 75 participants for the three meetings which were organized in Rajaf, Juba and Terekeka.

## Methodologies:

In these meetings, ONAD played a role of a facilitator especially in organizing and conducting the Town hall style meetings. The forum was facilitated in a participatory manner which started with formulation of ground rules and principles for dialogue, brainstorming on concepts, discussion groups, presentations and case studies among others.

## Expected Results:

1. Increased public awareness on current development priorities and joint planning
2. Partnerships between community, local government and elected official strengthened
3. Platform to celebrate achievements, discuss challenges, build trust and consensus for development actions and follow up established.
4. Better understanding of Local Government Act and decentralization.

## Economic empowerment of women...a key in addressing Gender Based Violence.....Says Emilia Christine Konga

The acting director in the Ministry of Gender, child and Social welfare, Central Equatoria State department of Gender sees economic empowerment of women as one of the ways for reducing Gender Based Violence in the communities. She made this remarks during a feedback meeting in which ONAD partnered with the latter ministry in a Gender Based Violence Training. She strongly encouraged ONAD to keep the approach of working with the women in the grass roots adding that this will make women to rise up and compete with men in developmental areas such as business among others.

Speaking alongside her was Mrs. Suzan Wasuk Felix who was part of the training team. She stressed that ONAD should lobby for more funds so as to increase its coverage.



Emilia Christine Konga



Mrs.Suzan Wasuk Felix

“.....women are really suffering”....a lot awareness should be done to them to empower them up.....she continued..some harmful cultural practices are affecting women too much in our communities. We should work together and massively make campaigns against these practices such “as women not allowed to eat chicken”...”women not allowed to report their husbands to courts of law” among many others, she concluded.

## A Reverend forgives after attending ONAD's Nonviolence and Inter-faith Dialogue

### Nonviolence works.....

Reverend Andrew Bernard Tiridi says he is no longer a bitter man who used to hate those who wronged him. The man of God revealed this during a follow interfaith dialogue organized by ONAD. "They burnt and demolished our Churches in Khartoum and since then, I lost respect for them and bitterly hated them. Now having reflected on principles of nonviolence and Bible teachings about forgiveness, I opened new chapter. I stopped hating Muslims I don't want them to suffer the way Christians suffered under the Islamic regime in Sudan but rather have freedom to practice their faith in this new nation." Tiridi.

**"Forgiveness means giving up the suffering of the past and being willing to forge ahead with far greater potential for inner freedom "....."**

"It is so painful to forgive but God in the Bible just like Nonviolence tells us to forgive" I decided to let it go.

Since 2011 the Pastor and other Christians and group of Muslims are working together to promote peace. They organize community outreaches and workshops for both Christians and Muslims in Juba.



### We need a minister for local Gov't.....CE officials

The senior inspector of local government and law enforcement officer Sapana Giuaba Jadiya together with the planning and budgeting officer Lino Ladu Cirillo of central Equatorial state called on the government headed by Gen. Salva Kiir to create a ministry in charge of local government for effective administration. "Local government is the third tier of government actually the basis for governance in this country. Unfortunately we neither have a ministry nor a minister at the national level. What we have is a local government board under the presidency" Sapana.

"This board only plays an advisory role to the president therefore we need a ministry to deal with local government because without one our issues are never heard especially at cabinet level"

The duo made the remarks while meeting the ONAD team that had visited them in their offices to comment on the working of local governments in Central Equatorial state. They said that people don't understand the local government Act 2009 because the government has never launched it and its operationalization is still tricky.

"The local government Act 2009 has got 17 chapters which to me are very good in enhancing good governance and democracy. But the problem is that the stakeholders don't know let alone understanding it even some of those in parliament" Ladu



"If this Act was to be operationalised we would have better planning in the country because it emphasizes bottom to top approach to development and planning. This means that it is the locals to identify what their development plans and priorities are; not the other way round where the central government which doesn't know the realities on the ground dictates the planning and development programs"

The local government is made of the Boma or Quarter depending on whether it is in town or village, Payam which are also divided in Blocks in towns and then County or City council or municipality for those in towns.



## State MPS should also get CDF- Wani James

The MP for **Terekeka county South 21 Central Equatorial parliament**, Wani James Pitia said that state MPS should get constituency development funds like their counterparts in the national legislative assembly. Wani who was speaking to ONAD in the comfort of his office at the Central Equatorial headquarters in Juba said that they (State MPS) face challenges when people ask them what they have done like building schools which the National MPS are doing using CDF.

“We cannot pretend to be helping our people because we don’t have the resources to do so. We represent big areas and some of them very remote. These people look up to us to extend services unfortunately we can’t because we don’t have money in terms of CDF. I think we should also be incorporated in this program” Wani

The MP also added that it is even very difficult for them to visit their areas to solicit people’s views because of lack of enough facilitation.

“It is our role as representatives of the people to explain to them what is happening in the country and also get their views. But this is very hard; that’s why when we get opportunities from organizations like ONAD we take on them happily.” Wani

He also called upon ONAD to take these awareness campaigns to other parts of the country so that all people benefit from them equally.

“We have great ideas that we would like to share but we are always constrained financially. We would like to see these meetings taken to other parts of the country so that our people benefit equally” Wani.

## Lets’ Walk the Talk.....says Juba County Chairman



The chairperson of Juba County, Mareallo Andrea Farjala said that the time for talking is over; that leaders should put in practice what they preach.

“If leaders were to implement what they say, this country would be a better place for all of us to stay in. Organizations like ONAD have always preached nonviolence but there has been minimum impact. We need to follow up on some of these issues and put them into practice” Mareallo.

Mareallo also said that, they are still struggling to operationalize the Local government Act 2009 which stipulates that all positions in the local government like commissioners councilors among other must be held democratically; but not through appointment like it is now.

“The process must begin at the Boma level up to the county but the major challenge we are facing is that we don’t have money to carryout different activities like elections. But when the financial position of the country improves we must respect the Laws that we pass” Mareallo.

Mareallo also took a swipe at MPs who abandon their constituencies and only remember them during elections saying this is not good for good governance and enhancement of democracy.

“Mps must organize meetings like those which ONAD held to speak to their people about the issues concerning them but not people looking for them and also only waiting for elections to go back to the people”

He thanked the management of ONAD for doing what literally would have been their work and hence called on other organization to borrow a leaf; saying nation building is a responsibility of everyone.

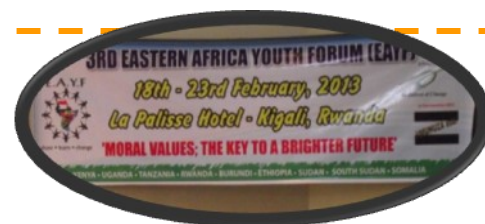
Juba County has got 12 payams represented by 39 councilors although all of them are appointed.



“I killed people from the neighbouring tribe”, Confessed a participant after attending nonviolence and trauma healing workshop. “I was a youth leader and I led inter-communal violence in 2011 that took place between Counties of Yirol West and Mvolo”. My own brother was killed in that conflict. I was later arrested and put into jail. While in Prison, I suffered psychologically as I knew I will eventually be hanged. Fortunately, I was granted amnesty on the eve of independence in July 2011”. He said, adding. “Although, I was discharged, I still did not feel free as the memories of the past keep coming back.

The trauma healing workshop organized by ONAD was my space for healing. I stopped blaming myself and decided to handover my gun to the local authorities and joined peace teams. I want to live the rest of my life as a peace worker and I don’t need gun to protect my cattle.”

The now peace ambassador who prefers to remain anonymous says that People often view nonviolence with mixed feelings. “Normally few people appreciate it at first; others question whether or not it will work in our highly militarized and violent context. While others feel it can work in a less violent society but not in South Sudan.” South Sudan has been violence ridden country for a long time as a result of two civil wars with Khartoum regime of 1955-1972 and 1983-2005 which finally came to an end by the signing of the comprehensive peace agreement in 2005 that culminated into the referendum on self determination and eventual independence in July 2011.



You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty. ....

### Let's learn from Rwanda on how to transform our country

I had a privilege to participate in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Eastern African Youth Forum held in Rwanda 18-23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2013. I was invited as a guest speaker to talk on democratization in Africa with focus on the role of youth. When I got the invitation I was excited. First because, I wanted to know the perspectives and follow up the commitment of the youth in the Region to nonviolently and democratically transform Africa. Second, I had never been to Rwanda before. But I heard and read about the sad events of genocide which took place in that country.

So, I looked forward to the visit to personally learn from Rwanda's experience after 1994 genocide.

I generally like working with the people and working with EAY has greatly inspired me. It's a two way learning experience! I not only mentor and empower the youth, but I learn from them as well. Most youths I talked to struggled to raise funds for their tickets and participation fees. That was a real common challenge that many participants faced. Yet they made it to the conference and that is what youths need to celebrate.

On the other hand, I not only mourned while in Kigali Genocide Museum, but had inspirations from the people of Rwanda too. The testimonies of victims and perpetrators of genocide in Unity and Reconciliation village, how people love their country, leaders and do not look at the outside world as the only source of support; were great encouragement to me. Furthermore, the cleanliness of the Kigali City, level of unity and national cohesion and high spirit of team work, women holding about 56% of seats in the national legislature which is perhaps the highest in the world, was heartening.

I kept on asking myself what are the reasons behind Rwanda miracles after genocide? Based on my consultations and research with the people and local leaders, I came with conclusion that the secret for the success of Rwanda was first, because its ordinary people who are the driving forces behind the success of the country, secondly because of the critical role of the government which prides itself in being the government of the people. I think these are important lessons that our people should emulate so that South Sudan also becomes a model country.

## Hon. Mary Nyiyom: hails CDF for developing communities

The Woman MP for Terekeka County, in the national legislative assembly, Mary Nyiyom has hailed the constituency development fund for being the cornerstone for development in their areas. The MP who was speaking to ONAD at her office said that they have managed to build schools and water sources out of the money that is provided for by the government through CDF.

"We managed to build four schools in Terekeka and also dug three water sources unfortunately for the water we didn't succeed in getting it because the areas which we excavated had very little water" Nyiyom.

The MP explained that in their County there is a system through which the CDF is properly utilized depending on the people's priorities.

"We have a committee in every Payam and Boma; they are the one who develop the projects that they want to be tackled in a given financial year. We only got a setback by the austerity measures that the government implemented; this in a way hindered some of our projects but we hope we will catch-up"

Every MP gets a minimum of 650,000SSP depending on the number of people in their constituencies.

The MP also hailed ONAD for organizing the town hall meeting in Terekeka to explain to the people the Local government Act which she said went a long way in enhancing their knowledge. However she said that similar meetings should be carried out and also target the women who she said are the most vulnerable in the community.

"Some of our women think that their only role is to get married. This is wrong. We must sensitize our people especially the mothers on the need to send their girl children to school because education is the key to women empowerment" Nyiyom. The MP was among those who attended the ONAD organized meeting in Terekeka County.

**"Even if you are a minority of one, the truth is the truth.".....Mahatma Ghandi**



Mr. Stephen Wani Machar

## Don't be used to cause violence- Wani Machar tell Youth in the RSS.

The chairperson of the information committee of the Youth parliament, Stephen Wani Machar cautioned youth not to be used in causing violence and havoc in the country but rather engage in nation building.

"We are the leaders of tomorrow we must not be used in destructing our own country. Let us join hands to build a prosperous country" Machar.

Stephen Wani Machar the youth MP for central Equatorial state, while speaking to ONAD on the sidelines of the Town hall meeting organized in Juba County, said that they face challenges like limited funds to carryout their activities but reiterated their commitment to sensitizing the youth about good governance, democracy, nation building and the rule of law.

"We want to train our youths in different skills so that they participate in building a prosperous South Sudan. We got financial assistance during the elections where we travelled the whole country and we rallied our youths. We hope to do the same when we get money." Machar.

"We want ONAD to reach others parts of the country which you never reached in the previous meetings. Awareness is very key; but in the subsequent meetings we should converge the youth from different states so that they can share experiences and then become ambassadors of change when they go back to their respective states."

The youth parliament which is under the ministry of Parliamentary and cabinet affairs is also fought for by the Ministry of Youth and sports. The parliament is made up of representatives from each of the 78 counties of South Sudan. However even at state level, there are four youth members of the state parliament.

They are also in the process of making a constitution which will see the age for those regarded as youth lifted from 16 - 25 to 18- 35 in conformity with the national constitution. They also plan to have 25 % threshold reserved for women as a way of affirmative action.

## ONAD joins the world to mourn Howard Clark and Nelson Mandela

Birth and death are not two different states, but they are different aspects of the same state. There is as little reason to deplore the one as there is to be pleased over the other. ....Mahatma Ghandi



"If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy. Then he becomes your partner." ..... Nelson Mandela

ONAD deeply regrets the passing of **Howard Clark** which occurred on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2013. He was since 2006 the Chair of War Resisters International "WRI" of which ONAD is a member. He earlier worked for many years as Coordinator of WRI in London before moving to live with Yolanda Juarros Barcenilla in Spain. Our condolence to his wife Yolanda and the two children; Ismael and Violeta. He was a committed peace worker! His family, ONAD and WRI have lost him but not the movement he has invested his life into. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Similarly, ONAD joins the world to mourn the passing of **Nelson Mandela** on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013. Mandela's long walk to freedom was a great inspiration to the founding members of what is today known as ONAD. His wisdom will continue to inspire future generations and I quote "If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy. Then he becomes your partner. Nelson Mandela".

## Give us more copies of the constitution- Commissioner Magwi County

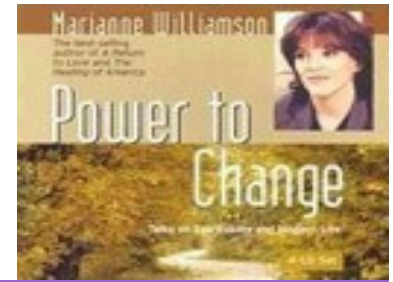
The Commissioner of Magwi County Eastern Equatoria State, Francis Opeka Okeny appealed to ONAD to supply his residents with more copies of the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan, which he described as the mother law of the country. In a consultative meeting organized by ONAD seeking people's views on the permanent constitution, it was discovered that only seven out of thirty three participants had read the Transitional constitution let alone seeing it. Those who attended the meeting who included members of political parties, civil society and the faith based communities had the opportunity to get free copies of the constitution which was availed with financial support from Diakonia and material support from NDI National Democratic Institute for International Affairs based in Juba. The two consultative meetings held in Magwi and Nimule in March 2013 ended up with citizens giving recommendations which were submitted to the National Constitution Review Commission for consideration in the permanent constitution.





# The power of words

## 8 Minute Deep Meditation....M. Williamson



"Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous? Actually, who are you *not* to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others."

Anger and intolerance are the enemies of correct understanding.....Mahatma Ghandi

When the power of love over comes the love for power, the world will know peace.....Jimmy Hendrix

"Let the beauty we love become the good we do".....because Beyond right and wrong, there is a field. I will meet you there. ....Rumi

Citizens and Mps Must continue dialogue for peace and development says Hon. Mary N.



My interaction with citizens and Local government officials in Terekaka County during ONAD's town hall style meetings was really great! What I like the most was how the meeting was facilitated and the openness of participants in discussion of issues of mutual concern. "Every citizen and community has the right to bring and discuss issues that affect them and we can team up to address the issues collectively". "This country wants active citizens who can not only discuss politics under trees and tea places but also channel their issues in an organized way. By doing so, we can contribute voluntarily to our community development" Hon. Mary Sadia.

The MP said this in a follow up conversation with ONAD after the meeting in Terekaka. "I have been receiving more community representatives from my Constituency a sign of trust and mutual cooperation for better engagement." She added.

### About ONAD:

ONAD is acronym for Organization for Nonviolence and Development (formerly known as SONAD), was founded in 1994 at the peak of civil war. It started as an initiative of South Sudanese University students among internally displaced persons. It was legally registered in 2004 with the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and re-registered in 2006 with the Ministry of Legal Affairs and Constitutional Development, Government of Southern Sudan in Juba as a voluntary non-profitable organization. ONAD works for "a nonviolent, peaceful and democratic Country". The organization since 2006 has been carrying out peace-building and democratization program through training and consultancy in;

**Nonviolence and Peacebuilding,  
Governance and Civic Education,  
Community Empowerment and Gender,  
Organizational Development,**

The organization operates in five states of South Sudan including; the Greater Equatorial and Lakes States. ONAD has also carried out number of activities in Jonglei and Unity States.

Locally ONAD is member of South Sudanese Network for Democracy and Elections (SSNDE) a nationwide network of more than 75 registered-recognized non partisan civil society organizations that operates in ten States of South Sudan. ONAD further works closely with South Sudan Peace & Reconciliation Commission (SSPRC), South Sudan Human Rights Commission (SSHRC), and Bureau for Religious Affairs office of the President and other relevant Government Institutions.

Regionally, ONAD is a member of the Coalition for Peace in Africa (COPA) based in Nairobi and benefits from its annual regional trainings in peace building and democratization in Africa. Internationally, ONAD is a member “with branch status” of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation (IFOR) based in Alkmaar, the Netherlands and War Resisters International (WRI) based in London, UK. In addition to our networking, ONAD organizes exchange programs for the youth, women and leaders between South Sudan, Sweden and India and between South Sudan, Kenya and Ghana on peace, gender, nonviolence, governance and democracy.

**Philosophy:**

ONAD is founded on the belief and conviction that just, peaceful and democratic societies can be achieved by people who are conscious and aware of their civil and political rights. ONAD is dedicated to the cause of nonviolence. To ONAD, this means commitment to justice and peace without the use of force that destroys or causes injury to enemy or his/her properties.

**Vision:**

ONAD’s vision is a nonviolent and peaceful society where every person has access to basic rights.

**Mission Statement:**

ONAD works with vulnerable people in South Sudan to promote nonviolence and peaceful Co-existence through trainings and advocacy.

**Core Values:**

1. Peaceful social change:
2. Equity and social justice:
3. Team work and responsibility:
4. Diversity
5. Spirit of voluntarism
6. Learn from others in humility

**Networking:**

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**Membership.**

ONAD is a democratic organization open for anyone who supports its values, vision and mission statement.

**Finance.**

We finance our operations and programmes with membership and subscription fees, consultancy fees and get donations and support from individuals and international organizations such as the Swedish International Cooperation Agency (SIDA), Interchurch organization for Development Cooperation (ICCO), National Endowment for Democracy (NED), Mennonites Central Committee (MCC), Adam Smith International (ASI), UK and others.

**Management:**

The management is composed of the General Assembly who is the highest governing body in the organization. It comprises of all registered members and meets once every year to approve reports, policies and plans. The board of directors is the supervisory body that oversees the affairs of the organization and meets after every two months. The secretariat implements the programs of the organization on day to day basis and reports to the Board of Directors.







**Hon. George Bureng.**

I am a member for permanent constitution review committee of South Sudan as National MP. Since 2005 we passed three important documents, (transitional, interim

and referendum) laws, and policies. A constitution is an agreement between the people and the state. The permanent constitution has been drawn from the current constitution with clear roles in legislative, executive and judiciary. A person should be only in one of these arms of government. The government is currently adopting the decentralized system of government but most of the citizen prefer federal system. But we are still gathering more information from the grassroots which system will be better from the three (federal, central or decentralized) the public opinion will be brought to conference committee. All citizens of South Sudan are to participate fully in this process of formulating a permanent constitution.



**Hon. Peter Duku Wani: MP for Kator and Rajaf Payam.**

People expect their MPs to visit them regularly. I have a population of about 45000 people who voted for me and so in most cases I expect the people to come to me as their member of parliament. However they shouldn't forget that we are not rich people. MPs are not paid a lot of money, yet they have numerous problems. I personally can do many things if I am supported by my community, the church and other organizations should also support members of parliament when they have a motion to raise in parliament. On the issue of the oversight, we have been seen as opponents when it comes issues of accountability. If an MP succeeds to lobby and build a school, he should be appreciated so let us also look at the positive things than only the negative ones. I know that there are always challenges but we need to overcome challenges. We also fight hard on the issues of corruption for example I was one time driving to Nimule and I was asked to pay some money but the receipt which I was issued had no seal; but because I was rushing I had to pay this money, as soon as I came back I went on air and spoke about it clearly. This should be the case to every one of us therefore, ONAD should empower the local communities on their democratic rights especially religious institutions. I thank ONAD once again for this training and urge them to continue doing the same work.



**Hon Nadia James Hakim: Terekeka West**

I have been a women representative of the county since 2005 but now I am a representative of Tali and Tindilo 24 (Terekaka County), in the Central Equatoria state parliament. We are reviewing laws, bills & documentation for implementation of it by everybody, for effective representation we proposed to visit our constituencies every three months but due to bad roads, sometimes we are constrained. We question the county of lack of development because they have development fund/grants. We demonstrated in Tali about the state of roads and now at least something has been done to improve them.

I don't know how much I have to thank the Organization for Nonviolence and Development (ONAD) for this wonderful opportunity of meeting my people, but all I can say go ahead with the good work you are doing..." Together we can make South Sudan a better place for all.



**Hon Mary Shadia:**

I am not directly elected MP but rather I came through the women list. We are the voice of the communities, law makers under the signature of the governor, oversee the executive, pass bills and, policies, and review budget for development of the state and counties.

I thank ONAD for providing me the space through this Town Hall Style meeting for interacting with the people I represent in the parliament. I look forward for more meetings of such kinds.





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