

Press Statement

On the occasion of the World Press Freedom Day 2023

May 3rd, 2023, Juba, South Sudan— Association for Media Development in South Sudan (AMDISS) joins the rest of the world to commemorate the World Press Freedom Day (WPFDD 2023) under the national theme **“Shaping a Future of Freedom of Expression and other Human Rights in South Sudan.”** This theme is arched from the global theme that talks about **“Shaping a Future of Rights: *Freedom of expression as a driver for all other human rights*”**

In 1993, the UN General Assembly proclaimed May 3rd as the World Press Freedom Day. This proclamation marked the beginning of substantial progress towards enabling a free press and freedom of expression around the world.

In this occasion, AMDISS would like to call and remind all media stakeholders especially government institutions with the mandate to protect and promote human rights in South Sudan that it is the press freedom, independent, pluralistic and diverse media as a key to the enjoyment of all other human rights. Freedom of expression is not only a call for journalists but it is a fundamental right to be enjoyed by everyone as prescribed by law.

As media houses in South Sudan continue to work and be the bridge in conveying vital information that educate the masses, we are at the same time acknowledging the challenges of the environment that they are going through in their operation such as difficulties to access vital unclassified information and censorship. While some of the cases have been addressed, we would like to advocate and look forward for more positive change in the quest and conveyance of information.

We call upon all media houses and journalists to maintain the code of conduct and uphold a high ethical standard in the discipline of the journalism practice in South Sudan

South Sudan is undergoing a transitional period that require an open and transparent conversation over many aspects in the country including having a people’s driven constitution-making and these calls for freedom of expression to be enjoyed as prescribed by law without prejudices.

AMDISS is a media advocacy and training organization operating in South Sudan. It brings together member media houses to advance press freedom, freedom of expression, and access to information while building the capacity of journalists to report professionally.

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If you have any questions, or concerns, or require more information about the press statement, you may contact us by email at info@amdiss.org

