

Sudan and ILO sign Memorandum of Agreement on Technical Cooperation By ILO/CRISIS

On June 15, 2007 the RO Director Regina Amadi-Njoku signed on behalf of the ILO a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS). The agreement addresses the post-war recovery and reconstruction in Southern Sudan between ILO and GoSS to effectively consolidating the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) signed in January 2005.



The MoA allows for the provision of capacity-building and technical assistance to the Ministry of Labour, Public Services and Human Resources Development of GoSS in the areas of vocational training, employment services, labour administration and labour law.

Executive Director of the Employment Sector, Mr. José Salazar-Xirinachs remarked that “The key challenges of the CPA in recovery and reconstruction include sustainable return, reintegration and resettlement of displaced persons, restoration of human capital, creating and rebuilding public institutions, reconstruction of physical infrastructure and building up the human resource base.” ILO’s extensive expertise in these technical areas is fundamental for the successful implementation of the CPA.

The CPA, which brought end to Africa’s longest running civil war, created a new political structure with the Government of National Unity (GoNU) and the GoSS. As stated in the CPA, Sudan follows the model of *one country, two systems*. This model provides major opportunities to implement peace through development in a decentralized environment.

The ILO did started supporting the CPA in late 2005 by identifying the needs of the Sudanese constituents. The SRO Cairo, ILO/CRISIS and various HQs technical units have provided support to the two Ministries of Labour, Public Services & Human Resources Development in both Khartoum and Juba for submitting proposals for their respective Multi-Donor Trust Funds (MDTFs).

The agreement renews ILO’s technical cooperation with Sudan: In the 70’s and 80’s, ILO carried out cooperative development projects along the Nile, the Vocational Training Centre in Juba, and labour-intensive construction projects in Darfur. It is hoped that the launching of technical cooperation activities with GoSS will pave the way for another agreement with the GoNU for the rest of Sudan.

The ILO will be deploying Federico Negro from ILO/CRISIS, a socio-economic reintegration expert, to Juba, Southern Sudan. Federico will facilitate the

implementation of the MoA and will engage in resource mobilisation for technical Cooperation projects that are already in advanced stages in the areas of Employment-Intensive reconstruction, cooperative development, women entrepreneurship development, and vocational training. Although base in Juba, Federico will also contribute for the advancement of ILO's activities in the rest of Sudan.