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National Circular on Adoption and Integration of Agenda for Social Equity 2074

Between:

The Government of the Republic of South Sudan

The European Social Label (EUSL)

Preamble

This Circular is issued pursuant to the Presidential Directive on Strategic Digital Transformation and Social Equity, and in recognition of the Republic of South Sudan's commitment to align national development priorities with globally recognized frameworks for sustainable and inclusive growth.

The Parties acknowledge that the Agenda for Social Equity 2074 (hereinafter "Agenda 2074") constitutes a long-term, multi-sectoral framework designed to complement and reinforce existing global and continental agendas, including the United Nations Agenda 2030, the African Union Agenda 2063, and the European Green Deal.

By adopting Agenda 2074, the Republic of South Sudan positions itself as a pioneer in advancing social equity, digital inclusion, and governance innovation, thereby setting a precedent for regional integration and future alignment through mechanisms such as the proposed COMESA Digitalisation, Education, and Social Agency (CODESA).

This Circular establishes the legal and institutional basis for the mandatory integration of Agenda 2074 principles into national and sectoral planning instruments, financing frameworks, and monitoring systems, ensuring that social equity becomes a measurable and enforceable component of national development policy.

Section 1 – Purpose and Applicability

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Circular is to formalize the adoption of the Agenda for Social Equity 2074 (hereinafter "Agenda 2074") as a national strategic framework and to mandate its integration into all sectoral, institutional, and programmatic planning instruments of the Republic of South Sudan.

Agenda 2074 serves as a long-term governance and development blueprint, complementing existing global and continental agendas while introducing a unique focus on social equity, digital inclusion, and cooperative governance. Its adoption ensures that national policies and programs are aligned with principles of fairness, sustainability, and resilience, thereby strengthening South Sudan's position as a regional leader in inclusive development.

1.2 Applicability

This Circular applies to:

- (a) All ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs) of the Government of the Republic of South Sudan;
- (b) All state and local government authorities responsible for planning and implementation of development programs;



- (c) All projects, programs, and initiatives financed or co-financed by EUSL, development partners, or private sector actors under the Strategic Engagement Agreement; and
- (d) All future national development strategies, sectoral plans, and budget frameworks.

Section 2 – Mandatory Integration into Sectoral Plans

2.1 Integration Requirement

All MDAs shall incorporate Agenda 2074 principles and targets into their respective sectoral strategies, annual work plans, and budget submissions. This integration shall be evidenced by:

- (a) Alignment of sectoral objectives with the 17 Social Global Goals defined under Agenda 2074;
- (b) Inclusion of measurable indicators for social equity, digital inclusion, and governance integrity; and
- (c) Allocation of resources to activities that directly contribute to Agenda 2074 targets.

2.2 Planning Instruments

The following instruments shall explicitly reflect Agenda 2074 integration:

- National Development Plan (NDP) and its subsequent revisions;
- Sectoral Strategic Plans (e.g., Education, Health, ICT, Agriculture);
- Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and annual budgets;
- Public Investment Programs (PIP) and donor-funded project portfolios.

2.3 Compliance Timeline

- (a) All new sectoral plans developed after the issuance of this Circular shall incorporate Agenda 2074 principles from inception.
- (b) Existing plans shall be revised within twelve (12) months to ensure compliance.

2.4 Technical Support

EUSL, through the Digital Transformation Secretariat, shall provide technical assistance, templates, and capacity-building programs to facilitate integration at all levels of government.

Section 3 – Financing Alignment

3.1 Purpose

This section establishes the financial framework for implementing Agenda 2074 within national planning and project execution. It ensures that adequate resources are allocated for integration, compliance, and monitoring, while maintaining transparency and alignment with donor and private sector contributions.

3.2 Digital Transformation Investment Fund (DTIF)

(a) **Definition**:

The DTIF is the primary financing mechanism for digital transformation and social equity initiatives under the Strategic Engagement Agreement.

(b) Scope:

DTIF resources shall cover infrastructure, capacity building, ESG compliance, and Agenda 2074 integration activities.



(c) Governance:

The DTIF shall be managed under a joint oversight structure comprising representatives from the Ministry of Finance and Planning, the Digital Transformation Secretariat, and EUSL, with quarterly financial reporting to the Steering Committee.

3.3 Agenda 2074 Allocation Mechanism

(a) Mandatory Contribution:

All projects and programs financed under the Strategic Engagement Agreement, including those supported by donors and private sector partners, shall allocate **one percent (1%) of their total approved budget** to the Agenda 2074 Integration Fund (AIF).

(b) Purpose of Allocation:

The AIF shall finance:

- Development and dissemination of Agenda 2074 integration tools and guidelines;
- Capacity-building programs for MDAs and local authorities;
- Compliance monitoring and independent audits;
- Public awareness and stakeholder engagement campaigns.

(c) Collection and Management:

The 1% allocation shall be deducted at the point of project budget approval and transferred to a dedicated sub-account within the DTIF earmarked for Agenda 2074 activities.

3.4 Donor and Development Partner Engagement

- (a) **Alignment with Funding Frameworks:** All donor-financed projects shall incorporate Agenda 2074 compliance as a condition of financing, consistent with AfDB ISS, IFC Performance Standards, and Agenda 2063 principles.
- (b) **Co-Financing Opportunities:** EUSL shall facilitate co-financing arrangements with multilateral development banks, bilateral donors, and private investors to scale Agenda 2074 implementation.
- (c) **Transparency:** Annual financial statements for the AIF shall be published and subject to independent audit to ensure accountability and donor confidence.

3.5 Sustainability of Funding

(a) Long-Term Financing Strategy:

The Parties shall explore innovative financing instruments, including social impact bonds and blended finance models, to sustain Agenda 2074 beyond the initial implementation phase.

(b) Private Sector Incentives:

Corporate contributors to the AIF may receive recognition under the EUSL Social Label Certification Scheme, reinforcing the link between social responsibility and market reputation.

Section 4 – Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) and Reporting Obligations

4.1 Purpose

This section establishes the framework for monitoring, evaluating, and reporting on the integration and implementation of Agenda 2074 across all national and sectoral plans. It ensures accountability, transparency, and continuous improvement in achieving the 17 Social Global Goals.



4.2 MEL Framework

(a) Institutional Responsibility:

The Ministry of Finance and Planning, in coordination with the Digital Transformation Secretariat and EUSL, shall oversee MEL implementation for Agenda 2074.

(b) Integration:

MEL indicators for Agenda 2074 shall be embedded into the national planning and budgeting cycle, ensuring alignment with existing systems such as the National Development Plan and donor reporting frameworks.

(c) Learning Component:

Periodic learning reviews shall be conducted to capture lessons, identify systemic gaps, and inform policy adjustments.

4.3 Reporting Obligations

(a) Quarterly Progress Reports:

All MDAs shall submit quarterly reports detailing progress on Agenda 2074 integration, including sectoral targets, budget allocations, and compliance status.

(b) Annual National Report:

The Government, with technical support from EUSL, shall publish an annual Agenda 2074 Integration Report summarizing achievements, challenges, and recommendations.

(c) Public Disclosure:

Summary reports shall be made publicly available to promote transparency and stakeholder engagement.

4.4 Independent Verification

High-level independent evaluations shall be conducted every three (3) years to assess the effectiveness of Agenda 2074 integration and compliance, with findings shared with development partners and regional bodies.

Section 5 – Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement

5.1 Purpose

This section establishes the institutional arrangements for monitoring compliance with Agenda 2074 integration requirements and outlines measures to ensure adherence without imposing punitive obligations, focusing instead on transparency and reputational incentives.

5.2 Compliance Oversight

(a) Lead Authority:

The Ministry of Finance and Planning shall serve as the primary compliance authority, supported by the Digital Transformation Secretariat and EUSL.

(b) Verification:

Compliance shall be verified through periodic audits of sectoral plans, budget submissions, and project documentation to confirm integration of Agenda 2074 principles and indicators.

5.3 Reporting and Disclosure

(a) Compliance Scorecards:



Annual compliance scorecards shall be prepared for each ministry and published in the national Agenda 2074 Integration Report.

(b) Public Recognition:

Compliant institutions shall be acknowledged through official communications and EUSL Social Label recognition, reinforcing positive incentives for adherence.

5.4 Escalation Measures

- In cases of persistent non-compliance, the Steering Committee may recommend: (a) Technical assistance and capacity-building interventions;
- (b) Conditional approval of future project funding linked to demonstrated integration efforts.

5.5 Regional and International Alignment

Compliance data shall be shared with regional bodies and development partners to position South Sudan as a pioneer in Agenda 2074 adoption, thereby enhancing access to external funding and technical support.

Signatures and Annexes

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned representatives, duly authorized by their respective governments and institutions, have signed this National Circular on Adoption and Integration of Agenda for Social Equity 2074 Agreement in two original copies, each in the English language, both texts being equally authentic.

Signed in Juba, Republic of South Sudan, on [Date].

or the Government of the Republic of South S	udan
Name:	
Title:	
Signature:	
For the European Social Label (EUSL)	
Name:	
Title:	
Signature:	



Annexes

Annex I – Agenda 2074 Summary

Purpose:

Provides an overview of the Agenda for Social Equity 2074, its vision, guiding principles, and strategic pillars. Defines the 17 Social Global Goals under Agenda 2074, modeled to complement SDGs but with a stronger focus on social equity and governance innovation.

Contents:

- Vision and Mission Statements
- Core Principles (Equity, Inclusion, Digital Transformation, Governance)
- Strategic Pillars and Implementation Framework
- Goal Titles and Descriptions
- Alignment with SDGs and Agenda 2063
- Key Indicators for Measurement