



## SOUTH SUDAN DOCTORS' UNION

*Excellence in Health Service Delivery*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
JUBA, 23 May 2021.

### **CONDEMNATION OF THE KILLING OF TWO MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS AND CALL FOR ACTION**

The South Sudan Doctors' Union (SSDU) is deeply saddened on the killing of our member, Dr. Louis Edward Saleh in Ganyiel village in Unity State. The entire medical fraternity sympathizes with and sends condolences to his family and relatives. Dr. Louis, a medical staff working at Ganyiel PHCC under IRC was killed in cold blood within the facility on 21 May 2021. Last month, Ms. Amono Anna Clara, a nurse working in Torit Hospital was shot dead along Torit road. The SSDU strongly condemns these brutal killings of health professionals who dedicated their lives to serve communities in Unity and Eastern Equatoria States.

In the recent months, several humanitarian and health workers have been threatened, beaten, arrested, detained, tortured or killed in Lakes State, Ruweng Administrative Area, Northern Bahr el-Ghazal and Western Bahr el-Ghazal States. The entire medical fraternity is disappointed in State authorities for their silence and ignoring repeated calls for protection of health workers. The SSDU and allied professionals will not tolerate violence against health workers at your watch.

The SSDU and its entire membership are giving a 72-hour ultimatum to State authorities to investigate the killings and bring culprits before a competent court of law. If nothing happens within this period, all doctors and allied professionals are prepared to lay down their tools and go on strike to demand for justice and protection of health workers.

The SSDU further calls on the Presidency to intervene by holding accountable any State authorities who violate the rights of health workers, and urge the government (RTGoNU) to enact laws that protect the rights of health care workers in the country.

Finally, the SSDU will consult with all doctors, NGOs and authorities on options to boycott/withdraw from any State or community that shows hostility towards medical professionals, and to agree on new Terms and Conditions for deployment of health personnel to provide services at community levels. To the communities that we serve, health professionals are not your enemies but life savers. Protect us as we discharge our duty of care to every man, women and child.

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*The South Sudan Doctors Union (SSDU) is a professional body that brings together the Medical Doctors, Dentists & Pharmacists in South Sudan. We envision South Sudan where everyone has access to decent and quality health care. Our mission is to enhance national efforts and protect the rights of every doctor in order to have meaningful contribution towards effective health service delivery in South Sudan.  
You can always reach out to us through the contacts provided below.*