

14 July 2011

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Joseph Deiss,
President of the 65th Session of the General Assembly,
at the Flag Raising Ceremony Marking the Admission of the Republic
of South Sudan as a New Member of the United Nations**

Mr. Vice-President,
Mr. Secretary-General,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today is a beautiful day for the Republic of South Sudan and for the United Nations. From now on, the community of nations, gathered in the General Assembly, will count one more Member, its one hundred and ninety-third Member.

The independence of South Sudan and its admission to the United Nations is a remarkable achievement. A long-standing conflict has been stopped and grievances put aside. This stands for an example for peaceful settlement of conflict, for peace, and cooperation between countries for the benefit of their people.

From now on, the flag adopted for South Sudan will float as high and as proud as any other flag here in New York and around the world. I thank the Republic of Mauritius for making space today to the flag of the youngest Member of the United Nations. This is a symbolic gesture, which expresses the solidarity and the friendship that must prevail among nations. The best interest of all of us is in cooperating and living in harmony. The United Nations always stands ready to support countries in this endeavor. In particular, our Organization is eager to continue its close and long-term partnership with Sudan and South Sudan and support the two partners in implementing peaceful solutions to the outstanding issues for the peace process.

In joining the United Nations, South Sudan shows that it shares the values enshrined in the UN Charter. South Sudan will enjoy the same rights and the same responsibilities as any other Member state. I am confident that its youngest Member will contribute to promoting the objectives of the United Nations of bringing peace, security, prosperity, friendship and cooperation among peoples.

Peace, prosperity and success in the future, these are my wishes for the Republic of South Sudan and its people and I extend them again a warm welcome to the United Nations.