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JOINT PRESS RELEASE

South Sudan National Police Service Officials Complete Training in Crime Statistics

Juba, 6 November 2015 – The South Sudan National Police Service (SSNPS) held a graduation ceremony for the first crime records training of trainers at Dr. John Garang Unified Police Training Complex, Rajaf, Juba. Forty-eight SSNPS crime records officials, including seven women graduated after a two-week training in crime data collection and analysis. Inspector General of Police (IGP) Gen. Pieng Deng Kuol; Ambassador of Japan Kiya Masahiko; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Deputy Country Director Auke Lootsma; and SSNPS Director of Training Maj. Gen. Henry Danima Odu presided over the graduation ceremony.

Welcoming guests to the event, Crime Investigation Department (CID) Training Director Maj. Gen. Henry Danima outlined the background and implementation of the crime statistics work SSNPS has been developing. "The crime statistics initiative was started with support from UNDP and UNMISS Police (UNPOL) to collect, compile and analyse crime data of South Sudan in order to help SSNPS respond to crime trends," he said. With this support, SSNPS has, since 2011, been collecting, compiling, and analysing crime data from the police stations around the country. The data are analysed and published in the quarterly crime statistics reports. This system of uniform data collection is based on the Penal Code Act of 2008.

UNDP Deputy Country Director Mr. Auke Lootsma congratulated the graduates and commended the SSNPS leadership for their commitment to making this initiative a success. Mr. Lootsma called on the graduates to continue to develop SSNPS' infrastructural capacity to collect data on crime statistics through the entire police chain of command. "This is a crucial system that lays the groundwork for linkages of case management system of the entire criminal justice chain."

Speaking on the occasion, the Inspector General of Police (IGP), Gen. Pieng Deng Kuol encouraged the officials to continue enhancing their skills. "Training is the food for professionalism. Without training, professionalism dies. That is why, even during the crisis, we continued training. You must continue to develop your skills, and train others; or the professionalism of the Police will die." The IGP urged the CID directorate to strategically deploy the graduates to ensure continuity of this systematized work.

UNDP, with funding support from the Government of Japan, has supported SSNPS with information and communication technology equipment, and legal and operational documents for crime records offices at national- and state-level CID offices. In addition, the 14th volume of the quarterly crime statistics report (April - June 2015) was launched at the event.

Japanese Ambassador Kiya Masahiko congratulated the participants, saying "Japan supports the Police, and will continue to support the Police. Security is the mother of everything. Without security, nothing is possible, and you bear a very important role. I hope that through your work, this country will become safer."

The UNDP Access to Justice and Rule of Law project aims to enhance access to justice to the citizens of South Sudan, with special focus on women; reducing case backlog and prolonged and arbitrary detention at the state



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level; ascertaining customary law; and strengthening the capacity of the Police Service, Prison Service, Ministry of Justice, and Judiciary.

End

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