Civil Society Coalition on Natural Resources (CSCNR)

December, 2018
PREAMBLE:

The CSCNR Charter is intended to be the institutional document that guides the activities of CSCNR in South Sudan. The Charter promotes the vision, mission and values of Coalition as well its advocacy strategy. The document shall also serve as the CSCNR’s Governance Manual by outlining the principles, governance structure and functioning of CSCNR, in order to ensure effective advocacy efforts and adherence to the principles and values of the campaign by CSCNR members in the Country.

1. Vision

A South Sudan in which all the citizens equitably benefit from its natural resources

2. Mission statement

Promote sustainable, transparent and accountable natural resources management that benefits the South Sudanese people through empowering communities and positively influencing policies.

3. Core Values
   a. Transparency – the Civil Society Coalition on Natural Resources will adhere to the highest level of transparency in managing its membership affairs as well as implementation of its programs.
   b. Neutrality and Impartiality – the Coalition cherishes neutrality and impartiality in its conduct of advocacy and lobby at all levels.
   c. Innovation – Coalition aims to lead the market in innovations and creativity. We will explore new ideas and deploy latest technologies in our projects to ensure communities and other stakeholders appreciate our role in the society.
   d. Service – Coalition is motivated and committed to give back to the communities where it works in. Our interest is driven by our passion to support South Sudanese communities.
   e. Voluntarism and Collective Action – the Coalition values the spirit of voluntarism and is motivated to serve the communities with or without financial benefit. It will promote team work among its members.
   f. Accountability – the Coalition will not tolerate corruption and shall be accountable to the communities and its partners.

4. Theory of change

CSCNR is guided by the belief that effectively coordination of collective actions, skills and interests of diverse coalitions of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) is the most
effective way to influence key stakeholders and to drive desirable policy changes in the extractive industry and the governmental sectors in South Sudan.

5. Objectives
   a. To increase transparency, public participation, oversight and access to information in the natural resources sector and government budgeting process.
   b. To monitor, support and promote civil society and public participation in the full implementation of the Chapter Four on Resource, Economic and Financial Management of the Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (ARCSS).
   c. To nurture and strengthen local research capacity on social and economic policies that support evidence-based advocacy for civil society and planning by government institutions.
   d. To monitor South Sudan Health and Environmental Safety Regulation 2015 implementation by oil and mining sectors to ensure compliance and mitigate health hazards.

6. OPERATING PRINCIPLES

The CSCNR in South Sudan adheres to the R- ARCSS principles which the CSCNR adopted during the Strategic-planning workshop in AMDISS –Juba (23rd 25th Oct, 2018):

i. CSCNR is a family, and as a solidarity and value-based driven movement, we are committed to creating a safe environment and to advocate for policy implementation and reforms.

ii. CSCNR works in a spirit of integrity coalition members are accountable to each other, the Public and to the donors.

iii. CSCNR constructively engages with other stakeholders to ensure an open debate for good governance in the natural resources sector.

iv. CSCNR freely shares knowledge and information within and across coalition to promote change in a multi-disciplinary, cross-regional and multilingual way.

v. CSCNR respects cultural diversity and opposes all forms of discrimination; CSCNR coalition is non-partisan.

vi. CSCNR’s strength lies in our members; we recognise and value our members’ courage, commitment and contribution.

vii. CSCNR is a dynamic network; we strive for flexibility, responsiveness and innovation through self-questioning and learning.
VIII. CSCNR membership is open to all civil society organisations that share our vision, mission and principles; we embrace partnerships to leverage our campaign.

IX. CSCNR is an independent body and will always advocate and campaign freely, in accordance with the values we uphold, and within parameters of South Sudan Legislation and international principles.

X. CSCNR practises what it preaches in terms of financial transparency, fundraising and management, avoiding all conflicts of interests and mismanagement. CSCNR has a zero tolerance policy for corruption.

7. ORGANS

In order to provide robust, sustained and focused strategic drive to the campaign on transparent, accountable and sustainable management of natural resources and revenue in South Sudan.

The structure:

a. CSCNR Coalition Members Conference (CMC)
b. CSCNR National Steering Committee (NSC)
c. CSCNR State Coordinators (SC)

8. CSCNR NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE

The role of CSCNR National Steering Committee is to strategically guide the campaign of natural resources utilization and Revenues management in the country.

9. Role and functions

The CSCNR National Steering Committee shall be accountable to the CSCNR members for promoting the objectives of the CSCNR and in particular for:

a. Developing of a draft CSCNR advocacy strategy to be endorsed by the members
b. Overseeing and steering the implementation of the CSCNR advocacy strategy, in collaboration with the State Coordinators.
c. Ensuring the development and implementation of the natural resource Protection Strategy in South Sudan
d. Guiding the implementation of all other resolutions and decisions of the CSCNR members
e. Representing the coalition as and when required, including issuing and signing on to public statements, participating in meetings, and giving media interviews
f. Report to the coalition members through annually meetings and other extraordinary meeting

10. Membership of the CSCNR National Steering Committee.

The CSCNR National Steering Committee will consist of five members representing the
coalitions from five CSCNR organizations as follows:

a. Upper Nile Youth Development Association (UNYDA)
b. Association for Media Development in South Sudan (AMDISS)
c. Institute for Social Policy and Research (ISPR)
d. United and Save the Nation (UASN)
e. Workers Trade Union of Petroleum and Mining (WTUPM)

The structure:

a. Chairperson
b. Vice-chairperson
c. Secretary
d. Finance and logistic
e. Information and Public relation

The Coalition shall also be broadly representative of the diversity of interests within South Sudan. Membership is on a voluntary basis. Costs associated with participation in the activities of the CSCNR will be reimbursed. No individual will serve more than two terms of two years each as a member of the CSCNR National Steering Committee.

The members of the coalition shall be guided by the following:

a. Adhere to, promote and act according to the principles and values of CSCNR
b. Attend Committee meetings regularly
c. Prepare for meetings in advance
d. Support outreach efforts
e. Offer informed and impartial guidance
f. Avoid conflicts of interest
g. Be available for directly taking responsibility over specific activities as required (advocacy, events, support to national coalitions, etc.)
h. Communicate regularly with other coalition members and with their constituencies
i. Support the national Coordination
j. Take part in resource development and capacity building

11. Nomination and election process

Elections of CSCNR National Steering Committee members representing the five member organizations will occur at the coalition meeting call for that purpose after the one term of two years, for the current Interim Steering National Committee (ISNC) ended with effect from signing of this Charter.

a. The current Interim Steering National Committee which compose of five organizations shall only serve for only one term.
b. The election of the steering committee shall be conducted one month before the end
of the tenure elapse.

c. The quorum for the Coalition meeting on the Election of the national Steering Committee shall be in present of 2/3 (two third majority of members).

d. Out of the five members of National Steering committee at least two shall be female

The following criteria shall be used in electing the members of the CSCNR National Steering Committee:

a. Individuals belong to an organisation with aims, policies and programmes consistent with CSCNR goals

b. Individuals have broad knowledge and experience pertinent to transparency and accountability in the natural resource sector

c. Individuals have no apparent conflict of interest in taking up responsibilities as an CSCNR Steering Committee member

d. Individuals have the time and willingness to participate during and in between meetings

e. Individuals have leadership and management skills

f. Criteria of gender distribution

g. Individuals must speak English

12. Decision making

The CSCNR National Steering Committee shall make every effort to adopt resolutions by consensus. If a vote is required, governance-related resolutions are adopted by qualified majority requiring the support of at least two thirds of the total votes cast; operational decisions can be made by a simple majority.

A quorum of at least two thirds is required at each meeting.

In between meetings, on urgent and important matters related to advocacy, governance issues and/or security of campaigners, decisions may be taken through email and/or teleconference.

13. Methods of work

The CSCNR National Steering Committee term limit shall be two years. A member may serve a maximum of two terms in the CSCNR National Steering Committee.

The CSCNR National Steering Committee shall meet in person or via teleconference (funding permitting) on monthly basis and when deem necessary. In between meetings, CSCNR National Steering Committee members will communicate regularly through emails and telephone calls as appropriate.

The CSCNR National Steering Committee shall communicate regularly to all state coordinators on the progress of the activities and/or on any relevant issue of strategic
importance to the campaign.

The CSCNR National Steering Committee shall have the power to establish committees to take responsibilities over specific issues. The nature of the responsibilities and issues will determine the mandate and duration of the Committees. The Committees shall be composed of one or two CSCNR National Steering Committee members and external resource persons as needed. The Committees shall report to the National Steering Committee.

14. **Chairperson of the CSCNR National Steering Committee (NSC)**

The Coalition Members Shall Elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair and the rest of position of NSC.

The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be on a rotational basis for a mandate, after two terms.

In electing the Chair and Vice-Chair, the Coalition shall consider the following personal capacities:

a. Ability to lead and represent CSCNR
b. Ability to think and act strategically
c. Strategic visioning and management skills and attitudes
d. Ability to influence public debate

Specific responsibilities of the Chairperson shall include:

a. Setting meeting agenda
b. Chairing NSC meetings and ensuring compliance with rules of order
c. Contributing to the recruitment process and performance evaluations of the state coordinators
d. Receiving reports from the state Coordinators and circulating these to the wider NSC and Coalition members
e. Ensuring the NSC performs its role well and evaluates its own performance
f. Representing the organization in major public events
g. Specific roles might be assigned to the Vice-Chair.

15. **Termination of services from NSC**

Members may leave the NSC on a voluntary basis; or because they fail to fulfil their obligations (e.g. missing Four consecutive meetings); or are found to be in violation of the CSCNR principles outlined in the Code of Conduct.

Members of the NSC may terminate their membership at any time, by informing other members in writing. Wherever possible, sufficient notice should be given to allow a suitable replacement to be found.

The NSC is responsible for the termination of membership.
In case of termination of membership of a state representative, the NSC shall call an election for that state following the nomination and election process outline above. If a meeting is not scheduled to take place within three months, the election shall be conducted online.

In case of information regarding misconduct of one of the NSC members, the Chair, or the Vice Chair should the case refer to the Chair, will observe the following procedures:

a. Once the NSC has reviewed the report, it should be presented to the person concerned who should be invited to respond in writing to the report.

b. Call a meeting of the NSC (not including the person concerned) to discuss the report and the response and to decide on next steps. If sufficient evidence is deemed to warrant a hearing, the Chair (or Vice Chair) should temporarily suspend the SC member allegedly responsible for misconduct until a hearing can be organized. During this time, no replacement will be appointed.

c. A hearing shall include: the person bringing the complaint; the NSC member concerned; at least three members of the NSC, including the Chair (or Vice Chair).

d. During the hearing, the NSC member allegedly responsible for misconduct should be given the opportunity to explain the situation and to defend himself/herself. The hearing can be organized during an NSC meeting or in between. A report of the hearing should be circulated to those NSC members not present.

e. A final decision is to be taken by the NSC after the hearing, on the basis of the written reports and the hearing. The SC’s decision should be documented in writing by the Chair (or Vice Chair).

f. The decision may be appealed, in writing, to the NSC only on the grounds of new evidence that was not considered in the original decision and which is presented at the time of the appeal.

g. If no appeal with new evidence is made in writing within 28 days of the original decision being sent in writing, then the decision cannot be appealed.

h. If an appeal is received in writing by the NSC within 28 days, the SC must decide whether the new evidence is sufficient on its own to change, or confirm, their original decision; or if it needs to be presented to the original complainant for a written response. A response to new evidence must be received from the complainant within 28 days.

i. If a response to new evidence is received in writing within 28 days, the NSC will take a final decision based on the new evidence and the response. The NSC’s decision is final and should be communicated in writing to the person concerned and the complainant.

16. Membership standards

In order to be a member of CSCNR, civil society organizations must comply with the membership standards, and the Operating Principles.

All members of CSCNR will:

a. Constructively engage with other coalition members, companies,
governments and other relevant actors at national levels.

b. Provide regular updates on activities, strategies and plans related to the CSCNRS campaign.

c. Proactively speak out to the media and public on the issue of transparent, accountable and sustainable management of natural resources and revenue as well as on good governance, and widely disseminate relevant and important information on the campaign.

d. Be registered civil society organisation, networks, faith based organization or community-based organisation, unless there are compelling reasons making this not possible.

e. Commit to CSCNR's principles and to its coalition membership standards.

17. CONFLICT RESOLUTION MECHANISMS

The shared values and operating principles of CSCNR are the two pillars that should guide coalition members in the way they organize, operate and advocate and at the same time prevent or minimize conflicts. However, conflict is inherent in the existence of any group, however small it may be, and it is sometimes unavoidable. When it occurs, it should be addressed and resolved promptly. There are three steps to resolve such conflicts, namely reconciliation, mediation and arbitration.

Reconciliation: In case of a dispute between members, individually or as a representative of an organization that is part of a CSCNR, reconciliation must be promoted in the first place. It will aim to restore harmony among those who oppose.

Mediation: should be used only when reconciliation fails. The NSC will appoint one or two of its members for a goodwill mission with the coalition concerned, to conduct mediation between the parties.

Arbitration: if mediation fails, that is to say the proposed solution is refused by the parties; the NSC mission shall prepare a report for NSC who shall decide on the case and actions to be take.

Annex 1 Code of Conduct
Introduction

The Code of Conduct is intended to guide the behavior of the NSC in carrying out their responsibilities and in their relationship with the coalition.

It is important that NSC members are aware that CSCNR is coalition registered in South Sudan Under Non-Governmental Organization Act, 2016. While NSC members carry these legal responsibilities, they will respect the duties of the Board and seek to support it in fulfilling them responsibly.

NSC members are encouraged to abide by the 7 Principles of Public Life. These are:

a. Selflessness
b. Integrity
c. Objectivity
d. Accountability
e. Openness
f. Honesty
g. Leadership

In addition, CSCNR has its own Coalition Membership Standards. As individuals, and collectively as the NSC, NSC members are expected to be models in upholding these standards.

Purpose of the Code

To set out the relevant standards expected by the NSC in order to maintain the highest standards of integrity and stewardship; to ensure that CSCNR is effective, open and accountable; and to ensure a good working relationship with the International Bodies, Executive Director, the management team and members of CSCNR.

The Code of Conduct itself (to be signed by all CSCNR members)

As an NSC member I am committed to the vision and mission of the coalition and promise to abide by the fundamental values that underpin all activities of the coalition.

Specifically, as an NSC member I will ensure that:

CSCNR is Accountable – Everything CSCNR does will be able to stand the test of scrutiny by the members, donors, public, media, charity and other regulators, and other stakeholders

CSCNR acts with Integrity and Honesty – These will be hallmarks of all conduct when dealing with colleagues within CSCNR and equally when dealing with individuals and institutions outside.
CSCNR acts in a Transparent Manner – CSCNR strives to maintain an atmosphere of openness throughout the coalition to promote confidence amongst members, donors, public, media, charity and other regulators, and other stakeholders.

NSC members should uphold the following principles:

1. Law, mission, policies
   1.1 I will not break the law or go against charity regulations in any aspect of my role of NSC member.
   1.2 I will support the mission of CSCNR and consider myself its guardian.
   1.3 I will abide by organizational policies.

2. Conflicts of interest
   2.1 I will always strive to act in the best interests of the coalition.
   2.2 I will declare any conflict of interest, or any circumstance that might be viewed by others as a conflict of interest, as soon as it arises.
   2.3 I will submit to the judgment of the board and do, as it requires regarding potential conflicts of interest.

3. Person to person
   3.1 I will not break the law, go against charity regulations or act in disregard of organizational policies in my relationships with fellow trustees, staff, volunteers, members, contractors or anyone I come into contact with in my role as NSC member.
   3.2 I will strive to establish respectful, collegial and courteous relationships with all I come into contact with in my role as NSC member.
   3.3 I will value diversity of opinions, learning from others and contribute to foster an environment where non-discriminatory relationships prevail;

4. Protecting the coalition’s reputation
   4.1 When prior consent has not been obtained, I will inform the Chair or Executive Director at once when I have spoken as an NSC member of this coalition to the media or in a public forum.
   4.2 When I am speaking as an NSC member of this coalition, my comments will reflect current organizational policies even when these do not agree with my personal views.
   4.3 When speaking as a private citizen I will strive to uphold the reputation of the coalition and those who work in it.
   4.4 I will respect coalition, Board and individual confidentiality.
   4.5 I will take an active interest in the coalition’s public image, noting news articles, books, television programmes and the like about the coalition, about similar organizations or about important issues for the coalition.
   4.6 Should I wish to publish any document under the name of CSCNR I will consult with the Executive Director and go through the appropriate sign off procedures.
5. Personal gain

5.1 I will not personally gain materially or financially from my role as an NSC member, nor will I permit others to do so as a result of my actions or negligence.
5.2 I will document expenses and seek reimbursement according to procedure.
5.3 I will not accept substantial gifts or hospitality without prior consent of the Chair of the Board.
5.4 I will use organizational resources responsibly, when authorized, in accordance with procedure.

6. In the board meetings

6.1 I will strive to embody the principles of leadership in all my actions and live up to the trust placed in me by the organization.
6.2 I will abide by NSC governance procedures and practices.
6.3 I will strive to attend all NSC meetings, giving apologies ahead of time to the Chair if unable to attend.
6.4 I will study the agenda and other information sent to me in good time prior to the meeting and be prepared to debate and vote on agenda items during the meeting.
6.5 I will honour the authority of the Chair and respect his or her role as meeting leader.
6.6 I will engage in debate and voting in meetings according to procedure, maintaining a respectful attitude toward the opinions of others while making my voice heard.
6.7 I will accept a majority board vote on an issue as decisive and final.
6.8 I will maintain confidentiality about what goes on in the boardroom unless authorized by the Chair or board to speak of it.

7. Enhancing governance

7.1 I will participate in induction, training and development activities for NSC members.
7.2 I will continually seek ways to improve NSC governance practice.
7.3 I will strive to identify good candidates for the NSC and appoint the NSC representative to the International bodies on the basis of merit.
7.4 I will support the Chair in his/her efforts to improve his/her leadership skills.

8. Leaving the Board

8.1 I understand that substantial breach of any part of this code may result in my removal from the NSC.
8.3 Should I resign from the NSC I will inform the Chair in advance in writing, stating my reasons for resigning. Additionally, I will participate in an exit interview.

The Code of Conduct is signed by individual members of the NSC.
SIGNLED:

LIST OF THE CSCNR COALITION MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS

1. Association for Media Development in South Sudan (AMDSS)-----------------------------
   Michael A. Agguy
   Executive Director
   1st December 2018

2. United and Save the Nation (UASN)------------------------------------- 4th Dec 2018
   Daniel Deng
   Executive Director

3. Institute of Social Policy and Research (ISPR)---------------------
   Moloo John Peter
   CEO
   4th Dec 2018

4. Upper Nile Youth Development Association (UNYDA)-----------------
   Charles Onaiguru
   CEO
   4th Dec 2018

5. Workers Trade Union of Petroleum and Mining (WTUPM)-------------------
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6. Greater Bahr El Ghazal Land Alliance (GBLA)------------------------- 4th Dec 2018
   Alfred Angok B. Aliing
   Executive Director

7. Hope Restoration South Sudan (HRSS)-----------------------------------
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8. People’s Initiative Development Organization (PIDO)-----------------
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9. Nile Initiative for Health and Environment (NIHE) 14/12/2018
   Project Manager

10. Clip Poverty 12/01/2018
   Executive Director

11. Little and more (LAM)

12. GLOBAL EMPOWERMENT FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION-GEPA 12/01/2018
   Program Coordinator

13. Community Development Committee Forum (CDCF)

14. Greater Upper Nile Land Alliances ( GUNLA)

15. Greater Equatoria Land Alliance ( GUNLA)

16. Africa Centre for research and development (ACRAD) 14/12/2018

17. Global Empowerment for Poverty Alleviation-GEPA

18. Community Development Committee Forum (CDCF)
19. Greater Upper Nile Land Alliances (GUNLA)

20. Green Planet South Sudan (GPSS)

21. Centre For Peace And Justice (CPAJ)

22. United Nations Association of South Sudan (UNASS)

23. Environmental Rehabilitation Program (ERP)

24. Anataban Arts Initiative

25. National Relief and Development Corps (NRDC)

List of the CSCNR Interim National steering committee

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<tr>
<th>Name of the person and the organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Charles Judu Onak (UNYDA) Chairperson</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Michael D Aggrey (AMDISS) Deputy Chairperson</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. John Peter Malish (ISPR) Secretary</td>
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<td>4. Ayar Deng Monywa (UASN) Finance and Logistic</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Philip Mamum Chap (WTUPM) Information and Public Relation</td>
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