

**GENERAL HEADQUARTERS**

**SUDAN PEOPLE`S LIBERATION MOVEMENT AND SUDAN**

**PEOPLE`S LIBERATION ARMY**

**PRESS STATEMENT**

Southern Sudan and indeed the whole Sudan have lost beloved son, Dr. JOHN GARANG DE MABIOR. The First Vice-President of the Republic of Sudan and the President of Southern Sudan was on an official visit to Uganda during the period 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> July 2005 when the helicopter he was traveling in crashed near south of New Kasha on his return last Saturday

I take the opportunity to assure the Southern Sudanese in particular and the Sudanese People in general that we in the SPLM/SPLA leadership will continue the vision and the objectives of the movement that Dr. JOHN GARANG DE MABIOR has articulated and hoped to implement. We also want to assure everyone that the Leadership and all cadres of the SPLM/SPLA will remain united and strive to faithfully implement the comprehensive peace agreement (CPA) . In this regard I have ordered the former members of the SPLM leadership council to assemble at New Site , Kaput County for an emergency meeting . I'm now on my way to New Site to join the rest of the Leadership and the family of Dr. John. I call upon all members of the SPLM and the entire Sudanese nation to remain calm and vigilant.

*Cdr Salve Kier Maladroit,*

*Vice President,*

*Government of Southern Sudan and the Deputy Chairman of the SPLA .*