

Abyei Information & Radio Service, (AIRS)

Newsletter: February 9th, 2021

Issue: 358



ABYEI TODAY

ON AIR EVERY TUESDAY:
9:30 PM ON ABYEI 102.3 FM

Program Highlights

Food prices soar in Abyei's markets after fire blazed Amiet market

Prices of food items have risen in Amiet and other markets in Abyei Administrative Area this week after fire burnt Amiet market on Monday. A 50-kg-bag of sugar has risen to 31,000 SSP from 25,000 SSP while a 50-kg-bag of maize flour went up to 26,000 SSP from 22,000 SSP. A 20-liter-jerrycan of cooking oil is selling at 26,000 SSP instead of 17,000 SSP and a price of per sack of onions increased to 21,000 SSP from 15,000 SSP. One of the traders, Moyak Marieu said there is already scarcity of goods in Amiet market which he blamed for the skyrocketing prices. Marieu claims that traders in Amiet consider increasing prices to cover for their losses. On 8th February, Amiet market caught fire, destroying more than 500 shops. The cause of the fire remains unclear, but authorities say they are investigating it. The Chairman of Chamber of Commerce in Abyei, Chol Deng Chol said an 8-member joint committee has been formed to surveil and reorganize the market and to prevent fire outbreak. He also says traders have contributed 300,000 SSP to support victims of the market fire. Established in 2016 through the efforts of joint peace committees to bolster peace process between Miseriya and Ngok Dinka, Amiet market became the main source of supplies to other local markets.

15 candidates miss primary leaving exams in Abyei

15 candidates including 7 girls in Abyei Administrative Area have missed South Sudan Primary Leaving Examinations that ended on 12th February, education official said. The Director General of Education in Abyei Administrative Area, John Ajang Kiir said the tests went on well. In the disputed Abyei region, 929 primary eight pupils were registered for these examinations but 15 out of them did not turn up from the first till the last day of the last paper. The reasons the candidates did not take their papers are unclear, but it is widely believed that the learners have left the area or have gone into marriages. Abyei Today caught up with Atoch Yuot, a 17-year-old girl after writing her last paper in Comboni Juol-jok primary School in Agok. Yuot is pregnant but she attempted all the tests. "I suffered very much from sickness, but I endured because of examinations. I forced myself to the examinations so that I can get a certificate," said Yuot. Awel Chol, a 22-year-old mother of two in Agok was among a few women who sat for primary leaving exams in Abyei. "I want to tell my sisters; don't hurry, one has to be patient and study so when you marry you can have abilities and make your decision," said Chol encouraging mothers to emulate her.

Abyei roads rehabilitation project halted for lack of murrum

The upgrading of roads in Abyei Administrative Area has stopped due to a lack of murrum. The Director of Survey in Abyei Chol Ngolueth said the community living where the murrum was to be collected has given more conditions, causing the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei team who were working on the road to stop. “When UNISFA went to transport the soil, they were stopped by the community there. They said they have additional demands. They said they need four schools, four water yards and four health facilities,” said Chol. Abyei FM could not reach Warrap community leaders for a comment. Last month, Warrap State authorities and community elders agreed to give murrum to Abyei Administration for roads work. The official said the administration will meet the new governor of Warrap state to discuss ways to address the issue. Poor road condition being an obstacle to service and goods delivery in the area, is one of the most pressing challenges the administration is trying to address. During rainy season of almost every year, the locals suffer shortage of supplies of essential commodities related to road inaccessibility.

For more information and news, visit our website at <https://www.abyeiradio.com>. You can also listen to AIRS’ own radio station, Abyei 102.3 FM online.

AIRS PSA Rates

30-seconds | \$50

45-seconds | \$75

60-seconds | \$100

Broadcasting | \$25/minute

AIRS Event Coverage

30-minutes | \$100

1-hour | \$200

2-hours | \$400

3-hours | \$500

**Click here for
Weather**

[AccuWeather](#)

[World Weather](#)

About ‘Abyei Today’

Abyei Today is a radio program focusing on humanitarian news, informative features and entertaining stories for the people who live in the disputed region of Abyei. It brings together the community with the organizations and agencies that seek to make life better. While the program gives useful and beneficial information to the people of Abyei, it also has features to inspire listeners with entertaining items about daily life, from cookery shows to uplifting flower gardens. Internews’ research shows that radio continues to be the most trusted and influential form of information in the region. In addition, it is the most accessible: more than half the men and two thirds of the women surveyed cannot read. Abyei Today is produced with the support of Internews, an international non-profit media development organization.

About AIRS

Abyei Information and Radio Service (AIRS) is a South Sudanese, not-for-profit organization based in Abyei that, through its radio station, Abyei 102.3 FM, provides critical news and information about and to the communities of the Abyei territory and beyond. With the support of Internews, AIRS was first registered in March 2017 by the South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) under certificate #596 and was renewed in 2018. AIRS is the “Voice of Abyei” and through a team of journalists provides a platform for communities to share experiences; engages with the government, official bodies and community groups in a collaborative dialogue; expresses the needs and issues affecting the community in Abyei; and fosters balanced discussions that allows listeners to form their own opinions and thoughts.

Contact Us

Karbino Dut | Executive Editor and Program Manager
kdut@airs-ss.org | +211 927 886 489 | +211 914 222 089

Ring Madut | Finance Manager | rmadut@airs-ss.org

If you are interested in supporting the work of Abyei Information and Radio Service, please reach out the above contacts.

Please send your comments and suggestions to: ss-abyeithisweek@airs-ss.org

Visit our office in Agok: Juoljok between the football playground and Catholic Church
Abyei Area, South Sudan

