

# Abyei Information & Radio Service, (AIRS)

Newsletter: January 26th, 2021

Issue: 357



## ABYEI TODAY

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

## Program Highlights

### UN in Abyei cautions public against touching strange objects

Following the recent hand grenade explosion in Agok in which 3 children sustained minor injuries, the United Nations Mine Action Service in Abyei has warned people against touching strange objects. In an interview with Abyei FM on Monday, UNMAS' Programme Manager, Mr. Nico Bosman said staying away from objects you cannot recognize is the best way to protect yourself from any harm. *"You know if you see something that you can't recognize, leave it alone and absolutely report it –And secondly, when you have seen something, warn others that, you know please that I have seen something – stay away,"* said Bosman. Bosman added that UXOs killed and getting rid of them requires a collective effort. Since the Mission started its work in 2011, 4 UN peacekeepers were killed and 7 others injured after anti-tank landmine exploded on the road to Marial-Achak in Rumamer County. For her part, the UNMAS' Coordinator, Mrs. Muhindo Rose added that awareness is being done in the community in various ways including display of posters featuring landmines and UXOs.

### UNISFA sets up base in Kolom village to protect civilians

The United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei has set up its base in Kolom -Ngok Dinka village where armed men said to be from Misseriya killed more than 30 civilians in January last year. The UN peacekeepers moved into the area in late January – a day after residents in Kolom appealed for security, saying they were fearing attack. The Security Advisor in Abyei Administrative Area, Kelek Kon Lual said the presence of UNISFA's base will bring stability in the area. *"The presence of UNISFA will help the settlement of civilians in the area and without any fear. "I have seen there is no fear in Kolom now because Ethiopian forces are present there,"* said Kon. Meanwhile the chief of Kolom, Anai Ajak said they are no longer feeling insecure, urging the internally displaced persons from Kolom who are still in Abyei town where they sought safety and security to return home. In January last year, the village came under a deadly armed attack that left more than 30 civilians including women and children dead.

## Abyei two men charged with teenage girl rape, await trial

Two men have been charged with raping a 17-year-old in Abyei town, community police in Abyei town say. Police investigator, Mario Malual The suspects aged 18 and 20 are set to appear before court of law in Abyei town on February 24<sup>th</sup> 2021. The minor was reportedly raped in separate occasions on 13th and 15th of December last year, according to police. The suspects were arrested in earlier January 2021 but were released on bail. This brings the number of rape cases reported to police in Abyei in 2020 to 13. In November last year, police reported 19 cases of gender-based violence including 12 rape cases.

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**

### **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.

### **AIRS Event Coverage**

**30-minutes | \$100**

**1-hour | \$200**

**2-hours | \$400**

**3-hours | \$500**

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## About AIRS

Abyei Information and Radio Service (AIRS) is a South Sudanese, not-for-profit organization based in Abyei that through its subsidiary radio station, Abyei 102.3 FM provides critical news and information about and to the communities of the Abyei territory. With the support of Internews, AIRS was first registered in March 2017 by the South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) under certificate #596. 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

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

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Please send your comments and suggestions to: [ss-abyeithisweek@airs-ss.org](mailto:ss-abyeithisweek@airs-ss.org)

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

