

July 9th 2020

STATEMENT OF CLARITY BY MR. IDRO TABAN AND LOID INVESTMENTS LTD.

Mr. Idro Taban and Loid Investments Ltd, issue this statement to shade some light on some of the positions relayed in the Sentry Report of May 2020 regarding Mr. Taban in his personal capacity and in his capacity as a shareholder in Loid Investments.

Attention is specifically drawn to parts of the report that depict Mr. Taban as being a well-connected person to the SPLA and thus used this to his advantage to enable his company Loid Investments to get involved in transactions with the government of South Sudan. The report also talks about the various monetary transfers done by companies of Mr. Taban to accounts belonging to Mr. James Hoth Mai, but shies away from disclosing the source of such monies or the role of Mr. Taban in the said transfers.

In light of the above, Mr. Idro Taban and Loid issues this statement to clarify as follows;

1. Mr. Taban entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Mr. James Hoth Mai in 2010, which saw the latter provide Loid Investments Ltd (Sudan) with an operational capital loan. This loan was provided in form of rental income from properties legally owned by Mr. Hoth Mai's in South Sudan.
2. It is important to note that prior to agreeing to the terms of the loan facility as envisioned in the MOU, Mr. Taban carried out due diligence which is a requirement when dealing with a person holding a public office. In doing so, he established that the loan facility that was to be advanced, was rental income being paid by the South Africa Embassy for premises situated at K3K and Kor Williams, legally belonging to Mr. James Hoth Mai in his personal capacity.
3. Following the terms of the MOU which terms gave Mr. Hoth Mai the liberty to decide which account the payment of the loan was to be remitted to, in 2014, he provided Mr. Taban with bank details of a Bank in Australia, and directed that remittances should be effected there, something that was done by Mr. Idro Taban through companies under the umbrella of KK group of Companies (KK Coaches Ltd, Hoid Establishments Ltd).

4. Loid Investments Ltd is a transportation and concrete electric pole company dealing in large cargo and has/is still effectively and efficiently doing transportation business within East Africa, majorly in South Sudan and Uganda, servicing mainly high profile clientele such as the African Development Bank, various international organizations, companies and the Government of South Sudan.
5. In 2014, Loid Investments Ltd, following a call for public bidding by the government of South Sudan, engaged in an open public bid, specifically to provide transportation services to the government. Loid Investments was to be notified of the arrival of the purchased goods and then transport the same from Mombasa to South Sudan.
6. In spite of the fact that Mr. Taban knows Mr. Hoth, the said bid awarded to Loid Investments was given on merit and there was no form of solicitation on behalf of Loid Investments by either Mr. Taban or Mr. Hoth.
7. Loid Investments Ltd, has only dealt with the government of South Sudan as a transportation company and never as an arms and ammunition dealing company. In addition to the same, it is important to note that at all times Loid Investments has dealt with the government of South Sudan, there were no laws whether national or international prohibiting any company from dealing with the government of South Sudan.
8. Mr. Taban, whether in his personal capacity or in that as a shareholder and director of Loid Investments Ltd, has never been involved in any form of money laundering or any illegal transactions be it with the government of South Sudan or Mr. James Hoth Mai.
9. Mr. Taban is open to providing any further information that shall maintain his image and that of the companies for what they truly are.
10. We hope in future our clients are contacted before allegations of these magnitude are levied against them.

Okecha Baranyanga & Company Advocates

