May 21, 2020 (ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia): I have learned with a heavy heart the untimely passing on of the Minister for East African Community Affairs, Hon. John Luk Jok, who was also a senior member of the Former Detainees (FDs) and a former Minister for Transport and Minister for Justice.

On my behalf and on behalf of IGAD South Sudan Office, I would like to express my sincere condolences and sympathy to the family, friends, and the Government and people of the Republic of South Sudan on the loss of Hon. Luk.

Hon. Luk was one of the key negotiators representing the FDs during the High-Level Revitalization Forum of 2017-2018 and zealously worked for an agreement to be reached. He was also one of the legal minds who helped draft the 2011 Constitution of South Sudan.

South Sudan has lost one of its brightest and bravest sons. Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of South Sudan in these difficult times. Rest assured that IGAD will continue to stand with the Government and people of the Republic of South Sudan.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

H.E. Ambassador Dr. Ismail Wais
Special Envoy
IGAD South Sudan Office