



Establishment of the Board of the National Bureau of Statistics

April 7, 2026

Introduction

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) plays a pivotal role in gathering, analyzing, and disseminating data crucial for informed decision-making in governance, development, and policy formulation. To ensure its effectiveness, the establishment of a competent Board is paramount. This document outlines the caliber of members needed for this crucial outfit, emphasizing their relevant experience and educational background. It also presents the proposed members of the Board.

Purpose of the Board

The NBS Board, with members recommended by the Minister of Finance and Planning with consultation with the Director General of the Bureau, is envisioned to provide strategic guidance and oversight to the Bureau's operations. Its responsibilities include:

- Ensuring the credibility and reliability of statistical data.
- Guiding national and regional development priorities informed by data analysis.
- Strengthening institutional partnerships and collaborations.
- Overseeing capacity-building efforts within the Bureau and wider statistical system.

Caliber of Members Required

To uphold the integrity and efficiency of the NBS, the Board must comprise individuals of exceptional caliber. Below are the qualifications and experiences deemed essential for prospective members:

1. Relevant Academic Qualifications

Board members should possess advanced academic qualifications in fields directly related to the operations of the Bureau. These include:

- Demography: Expertise in population studies and data analysis, critical for understanding societal trends.
- Statistics and Data Science: Proficiency in quantitative analysis and statistical methodologies.
- Sociology and Social Anthropology: Insights into the socio-economic dynamics influencing development.
- Economics: Knowledge of economic modeling and policy impact assessments.

2. Extensive Professional Experience

Candidates for the Board should have a proven track record in:

- Strategic leadership and advisory roles in government or non-governmental organizations.
- Development and governance, including experience in public service and policy implementation.
- Peacebuilding and humanitarian work, particularly in conflict-affected regions.
- Monitoring, evaluation, learning, and adaptation frameworks to assess and improve program effectiveness.

3. Key Skills and Attributes

The Board members must also possess the following skills and attributes:

- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills.
- Excellent communication and advocacy capabilities.
- Commitment to transparency and ethical governance.
- Ability to work collaboratively across sectors.

4. Profiles of Proposed Members

1. Angelo Ugwaag Wod Arun

Angelo Ugwaag Wod Arun holds a Master of Science in Security and Development Studies from Bristol University (UK); a bachelor's degree (first class honours) in Philosophy from Urbaniana University (Italy); and a Diploma in Philosophical and Social Studies from Apostles of Jesus Philosophicum in Nairobi, Kenya. He is certified in management, governance, humanitarian action, development, peacebuilding, and monitoring, evaluation, learning, and adaptation.

2. Prof. Venansio Tombe Muludiang, Ph.D.

Prof. Venansio Tombe Muludiang is a South Sudanese academic specializing in demography. He earned a B.Sc. (Honors) in Sociology and Social Anthropology from the University of Khartoum, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Sociology with a focus on Demography from Brown University. Currently Professor of Demography at the University of Juba, he has held various academic and administrative roles in Sudan and South Sudan, contributed to national census efforts, and serves as Advisor to the Vice Chancellor on Community Outreach. Prof. Venansio is also a member of multiple university councils and was appointed Governing Councilor of the South Sudan Research Council.

3. Gatwech Koak Nyuon, Ph.D.

Dr. Gatwech Koak Nyuon holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Peking University, focusing on displacement effects in post-conflict South Sudan. He also earned a Master of Social Work, an M.A., and a B.A. in Leadership and Development Studies from universities in Ethiopia. With over ten years in development economics and academia, he has contributed to government leadership, higher education, and international research. Currently, he is a Senior Researcher and Foreign Expert (Assistant Professor) at the Yellow River Delta Intelligent Agricultural Machinery Equipment Industry Academy in China. Previously, he served as Secretary General of Jonglei State Government in South Sudan and has published extensively on refugee child welfare and agricultural development.

4. Dier Tong Ngor, Ph.D.

Dr. Dier Tong Ngor is a South Sudanese economist and central banker with over 30 years of experience in financial governance, monetary policy, and institutional reform. He holds advanced degrees in finance and business from institutions including Walden University, University College Dublin, and the University of Khartoum. Dr. Dier has served as National Minister of Finance and Planning (2022–2023), Governor of the Bank of South Sudan (two terms since 2011), and has held board positions at the Bank of South Sudan, NilePet, and international organizations such as DDCI and the European Anti-Poverty Network.

5. Mr. Ocum Genes Karlo

Mr. Ocum holds an MBA in Finance from the University of Juba, a BSc in Management, and an M.Sc from the University of Khartoum. With over thirty years of experience, he is a South Sudanese economist and public finance expert currently serving as Senior Policy Advisor at the Ebony Centre for Strategic Studies. Mr. Ocum has held senior positions in South Sudan's Ministry of Finance and Planning, Ministry of Trade and Industry, and worked with organizations such as the UN World Food Program and CARE International.

6. Merekaje Lorna Nanjia

Lorna Merekaje is a South Sudanese professional with over 20 years of experience in governance, peacebuilding, public management, and civil society leadership. As Secretary General of the South Sudan Democratic Engagement, Monitoring and Observation Program (SSuDEMOP), she has played a key role in legislative and constitutional reform, working on national committees such as the National Constitution Amendment Committee and representing civil society in both national and international peace and mediation initiatives.

With a master's degree in public management from Kehl University of Applied Sciences in Germany and a B.Sc. in Biomedical Technology from the University of Nairobi, Lorna has extensive expertise in strategic planning, public policy, conflict resolution, and gender mainstreaming. Lorna is a dedicated advocate for democratic governance and participatory policymaking, contributing to national dialogues, peace processes, and civic education efforts across South Sudan.

7. Paulo Debor Landit Dieng, Government (Law)

Paulo Debor Landit Dieng is a seasoned legal expert with over 17 years of experience in public service and the energy sector. He holds a Bachelor of Laws from Al Neelain University, a Diploma in Human Rights, and a Master of Laws from the University of Juba and is currently pursuing a master's in Oil and Gas Law at the Institute of Petroleum Studies in Kampala. His academic journey began in Khartoum, where he completed both his basic and secondary education before pursuing higher studies in law and human rights.

Professionally, Paulo serves as Legal Advisor at Nile Petroleum Corporation (NILEPET), where he provides counsel on commercial contracts and legal compliance. Previously, he spent more than a decade at the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, focusing on contract law, treaty drafting, and governance reform, and has held roles in local government and as an educator. His development includes advanced training in legislative drafting, judicial capacity building, and governance, reflecting his comprehensive expertise in legal advisory and public administration.

8. Mrs. Nyantiop Martha Agoot

Mrs. Martha is a seasoned South Sudanese economist with over 15 years of experience in macroeconomics and public finance, specializing in macro-fiscal frameworks and economic policy analysis. She holds a master's in economics from the University of Nairobi and has

played key roles in South Sudan's Ministry of Finance and Planning, contributing to fiscal policy formulation, budget preparation, and economic development. She currently serves as Director of Economic Development, Research and Statistics in the Directorate of Macroeconomic and Debt Management (2022-2025), after previously holding the same position from 2020 to 2022.

9. Mr. Abugo Charles Joseph Abate

Mr. Charles is the Director General of the Policy, Research and Statistics Directorate at the Bank of South Sudan, having served the bank for over 19 years with extensive experience in monetary and exchange rate policy design and implementation. He played a foundational role in establishing key economic research and statistics units during the bank's formative years and has represented South Sudan in various regional and international financial forums.

10. Augustino Ting Mayai, Ph.D.

Augustino Ting Mayai is one of South Sudan's foremost leaders in research, policy, statistics, and development. After earning his bachelor's degree in sociology at the University of Utah, he completed his master's and Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, specializing in demography, applied statistics, and development. He currently serves as Director General of South Sudan's National Bureau of Statistics, a constitutional post-holding role where he is leading efforts to strengthen the country's statistical systems, which is essential for addressing poverty, health disparities, education, and sustainable growth.

With over 15 years of professional experience, his expertise has been sought by the World Bank, African Development Bank, UNMISS, UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP, WHO, UNICEF, UNFAO, US Government, Government of South Sudan, and Save the Children, where his research and policy leadership have informed initiatives across South Sudan and Eastern Africa. With experience as a technical advisor and Board Chair for local and international institutions, including Buffalo Commercial Bank and Brac International in South Sudan, Dr. Mayai has also held leadership and advisory positions in both humanitarian and financial sectors.

Board Members by Role

1. Dr. Dier Tong Ngor, Chair
2. Mr. Angelo Ugwaag Wod Arun, Member
3. Dr. Gatwech Koak Nyuon, Member
4. Mrs. Nyantiop Martha Agoot, Member
5. Mr. Paulo Debor Landit Dieng, Member
6. Mr. Abugo Charles Joseph Abate, Member
7. Prof. Venansio Tombe Muludiang, Member
8. Ms. Merekaje Lorna Nanjia, Member
9. Mr. Ocum Genes Karlo, Member
10. Dr. Augustino Ting Mayai, Ex Officio