



**SuNDE and SuGDE Observers Finish Observation  
Data Entry and Analysis Begins  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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SuNDE and SuGDE's over 3000 observers finished observing the counting process in most areas late Saturday night. The forms SuNDE used to record their observations will now be transported to Juba to be analyzed. SuNDE and SuGDE observers will file over 10,000 individual forms from the 7 day polling and counting process. Already SuNDE has received over 4000 reports from all 10 southern states, the North, and 5 out-of-country voting locations. These forms have been entered into a customized database and analyzed.

"We would like to thank all of our observers who observed the entire 7 day polling and counting process," said Lony Ruot Chairperson of SuNDE. "They showed a tremendous commitment and dedication during this historic process and their efforts will allow SuNDE and SuGDE to present the public, referendum officials, government leaders, and the international community with an accurate and comprehensive assessment of the Referendum."

SuNDE observers are currently deployed at county Tabulation Centers. Some SuNDE observers had problems being allowed into Tabulation Centers specifically in Wau, Renk, and Malakal. SuNDE urges all Referendum officials to give all observers full access to Tabulation Centers to ensure the tabulation process is conducted in a transparent manner and would like to thank Referendum officials for working with SuNDE to eventually give their observers access to the Centers.

Observer forms from all 25 states and out-of-country voting locations will quickly be transmitted to a communication center in Juba where trained data clerks will enter the information on the forms into the database. After data has been collected and analyzed, SuNDE and SuGDE and anticipates releasing a statement on January 20.

"When forming conclusions about the process it is important that the organization receives complete and representative information," said Ali Mohamed Ali, spokesperson for SuGDE. "Basing conclusions on incomplete information can lead to wrong or misleading conclusions about the process."

SuNDE and SuGDE observed the polling and counting process with over 3000 accredited observers in all 25 states of Sudan and in 76 out of 79 counties in Southern Sudan. Together they conducted the largest and only Sudan-wide effort domestic observation effort. SuNDE and SuGDE look forward to working with all Referendum Officials and stakeholders for the remainder of the Referendum processes.

