

Dlamini Zuma calls for South Sudan ceasefire

PRETORIA: African Union Commission (AUC) chairperson Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma has called for a speedy resolution to the conflict in South Sudan.



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Dlamini Zuma said this as ceasefire talks between the South Sudan government and the rebels continue in Addis Adaba, Ethiopia, to bring the month-long conflict to an end.

In a statement through her spokesperson, Dlamini Zuma said she was concerned that the on-going looting and violence could hamper peace talks.

"The chairperson implores the parties to immediately cease hostilities, in the interest of the whole nation. She urges them to ensure continued access for humanitarian relief materials, personnel and other forms of assistance to reach the affected populations in all parts of South Sudan.

"Both parties are also called upon to guarantee the entire humanitarian corridors in the country for a continued supply and access of humanitarian relief to all parts of the country."

Dlamini Zuma also called on the parties to be fully cognizant of, and respect their responsibilities and obligations under International Humanitarian Law, and urged for the speedy attainment of a ceasefire as a first step to ending and permanently resolving the conflict.