



**Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission
(RJMEC)**

**FINAL MINUTES OF THE 18TH MEETING OF THE RECONSTITUTED JOINT
MONITORING AND EVALUATION COMMISSION HELD ON 22ND JULY 2021 AT CROWN
HOTEL, JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN**

The 18th meeting of the Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC) was convened in Juba, South Sudan on 22 July 2021. The meeting was chaired by H.E Maj. General Charles Tai Gituai (rtd), Interim Chairperson of the RJMEC who called it to order at 10:41 am.

Agenda

1. Opening Prayers
2. Chairperson's Opening Remarks
3. Adoption of the Agenda
(Media excused)
4. Adoption of the minutes of the last meeting
(Media recalled)
5. Statement by RJMEC Interim Chairperson
6. Report from RTGoNU
7. Report from NTC
8. Briefing from UNMISS SRSG
(Media excused)
9. Reports and Plans from Agreement Institutions and Security Mechanisms
 - a. NCAC
 - b. CTSAMVM
 - c. JDB
 - d. SDSR Board
 - e. JTSC
 - f. JMCC
 - g. DDR Commission
10. Discussion on RJMEC Interim Chairperson's Statement, RTGoNU's, NTC's, UNMISS SRSG's briefings and reports from Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms
10. Date for the next meeting
11. A.O.B
12. Resolutions of the meeting
13. Chairperson's closing remarks
11. Closing prayers.

In attendance were the representatives of all the Parties, Other South Sudanese Stakeholders and Adherents, Regional Guarantors, International Partners and Friends of South Sudan in RJMEC. Also, in attendance were the Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms, and the RJMEC Secretariat, namely:

For the Parties to the R-ARCSS:

1. Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth (I-TGoNU)
2. Hon. Peter Mabior Riing (SSOA)
3. Mr. Isaiah Hakim Garang (FDs)

4. Hon. Wilson Lodiong Sebit (OPP)

For the Other South Sudanese Stakeholders and Adherents:

1. Mr. Mohamed El-Hassan Abdel Meragan (Faith-based leader)
2. Bishop (rtd) Enock Tombe Stephen (Faith-based leader)
3. Ms. Rita Lopidia (Women Coalition) - virtual
4. Mr. Akuoch Ajang Nyanhom (CSO Alliance)
5. Mr. Rajab John Mohandis (CSO Forum) - virtual
6. Mrs. Abuk Jervas Majok (Business Community)
7. Mrs. Yar Manoa (Business Community)
8. Prof. Pauline Riak (Academia)
9. Prof. Moses Macar (Eminent Persons)
10. Mr. Malish John (Youth)
11. Mr Wani Michael (Youth)

For the Regional Guarantors:

1. Mr. Zelalemb Birham (Ethiopia)
2. Mr. Grphas Ogutu (Kenya)
3. Mr. Hassan Robleh (Djibouti)
4. Mr. Shafie N. Farah (Somalia)
5. H.E. Idule Amoko James (Uganda)
6. Mr. Judah Muoh (Nigeria)
7. E.E. Gordon M. Yekelo (South Africa)
8. H.E. Prof. Joram M. Biswaro (AUMISS)
9. Dr. Philip Mwanika (IGAD Mission in South Sudan)

For International Partners and Friends of South Sudan

1. Mr. Ma Wenjun (China)
2. Mr. Paul Bekken (Norway)
3. H.E. Larry Andre (USA)
4. Mr. Terry Seagniff (UK)
5. Mr. Nicholous Haysom (UNMISS)
6. Mr. Alessandro Rossi (EU)
7. H.E. Jelte von Wieren (IPF)

For RJMEC Secretariat:

1. Dr. Thomson Fontaine, Deputy Chief of Staff- Strategy – RJMEC
2. Ms. Janice James, Senior Economic and Financial Management Advisor -RJMEC
3. Dr. Job Akuni, Senior Governance Advisor - RJMEC

For the Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms:

1. Mr. John Scudder, Chief of Staff CTSAMVM
2. Lt. Gen. Thol Chany Reat, Representing JDB
3. Lt. Gen. Julius Tabuley, Co-Chairperson JDB Chair
4. Maj. Laguya Lupai, JDB
5. Maj. Gen. Ajak Deng Biar, JTSC
6. Lt. Gen. Koang Gatkuoth Kerjok, Chairperson JMCC

7. Maj. Gen. Charles Atari, JMCC
8. Col. Ding Lam Yual, Ag. Head of Secretariat SDSR Board
9. Lt. Gen. Ayuen Alier Jongroor, Chairperson DDR Commission

Observers:

1. Ms. Haruna Maki (Japan)
2. Mr. Mohamed Elbadry (Egypt)
3. H.E Urban Sjostrom (Sweden)
4. H.E. Marc Trouyet (France)
5. H.E. Manuel Muller (Germany)
6. Ms. Joane Holliger (Switzerland)

Absent with Apologies

1. Hon. Stephen Par Koul, (SPLM/A-IO)
2. Hon. Sandra Bona Malual, (SPLM/A-IO)
3. Mrs. Mary Akech Bior, (Women Block)

Min. 01/18/21: Opening Prayers

1. The opening prayers were led by the representatives of the faith-based leaders of both the Christian and Islamic faiths.

Min. 02/18/21: Chairperson's Opening Remarks

2. The Chairperson welcomed the RJMEC members to the 18th RJMEC meeting, He invited H.E. Manuel, the German Ambassador to the Republic of South Sudan and Mr. Alessandro Rossi, the EU Delegation Deputy Head of Mission to bid farewell to the RJMEC Members.

Min. 03/18/21 Adoption of the Agenda

3. The draft agenda was adopted without any amendment.

Min. 04/18/21: Adoption of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

4. Members reviewed and adopted the minutes of the 17th RJMEC meeting of 20th May 2021 without any amendments.

Min. 05/18/21: Statement by the RJMEC Interim Chairperson

5. In his statement to the plenary, the RJMEC Interim Chairperson:
 - 5.1 welcomed members to the 18th plenary and wished them wishing them all a happy Independence Day, Eid Mubarak to all Muslims, and provided thematic updates on the status of implementation of the R-ARCSS since the last plenary;
 - 5.2 shared on his diplomatic engagements at the highest political levels with the leadership in South Sudan and in the region with the leadership of the IGAD Heads of State and Government,

Chairperson of the Sovereign Council of Sudan, and Chairperson of the IGAD Council of Ministers;

- 5.3 highlighted the challenges of the state of security in some parts of South Sudan to include non-completion of unification of forces, command structure; and delayed implementation of the other transitional security arrangements;
- 5.4 recommended the following remedial measures: (a) RTGoNU to expedite swearing in of the members of the RTNLA and the Council of States; to complete the reconstitution of the State Legislature, and restructuring and reconstitution of Institutions and Commissions at the national level, adhering to the 35% women representation and give due attention to representation of the youth; (b) urge Parties to continue with dialogue, build trust and confidence among themselves and resolve all outstanding issues; (c) RTGoNU to make financial resources available for the completion of the TSA, including the DDR Commission and commencement of Phase 2 of the unification process; (d) Parties to urgently resolve impasse over the ratio of the unified command structure of the NUF; (e) RTGoNU to complete the unification of forces and the TSA and to establish the state security committees across the country; (f) RTGoNU to institute programmes for the relief, protection, repatriation, resettlement, reintegration and rehabilitation of returnees and IDPs; (g) all actors under SSOMA to pursue political solution to the conflict and adhere to their commitments as per the documents they signed under the auspices of the Sant'Egidio facilitated mediation process.
- 5.5 reminded members that August and September will mark the halfway point of the Transitional Period and three years since the signing of the R-ARCSS respectively. He therefore appealed to the RTGoNU to redouble its efforts on the implementation of the remaining tasks that lay ahead.

Min. 06/18/21: Report from the RTGoNU

6. In his report to the plenary, the representative of the RTGoNU conveyed an apology for not being in a position to present a report to the plenary. In addition, he informed members that the NTC Secretary had conveyed an apology for not being able to attend the plenary since he was out of the country.

Min. 07/18/21: Briefing from UNMISS SRSG

7. In his briefing to the RJMEC plenary, the SRSG and head of UNMISS:
 - 7.1. commended South Sudanese on its tenth anniversary as an independent state and stated that the international community is committed to delivering peace and security to the world's youngest nation;
 - 7.2. observed that the Permanent Ceasefire continued to hold and that the Parties remained committed to the R-ARCSS;
 - 7.3. observed that the increased vulnerability across the country caused by unprecedented levels of subnational conflict, economic decline, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the effects of climate change have continued to have a devastating impact on food security and livelihoods,
 - 7.4. stated his concerns over the following issues: (a) the emerging insecurity in Tambura, the vicious cycle of localized violence in Tonj between armed youth from Paliang and Marial-Lou and its

detrimental impact on civilians; (b) the looting and destruction of four-month food supply intended for 41,000 food-insecure people; and, (c) the looting, damaging or destruction of government institutions, INGO offices, churches, schools, and the humanitarian hub hall in Marial-Lou. In that regard, he urged that the violence be stopped, and perpetrators be brought to justice;

- 7.5. informed members that in May, more than one million dollars' worth of humanitarian supplies and assets were looted and destroyed during armed attacks in Gumuruk, impacting the delivery of assistance to an estimated 130,000 people. Also, he observed that South Sudan was increasingly becoming one of the most dangerous places to operate for humanitarian workers stating that in 2021 alone, four humanitarian workers had been killed in the line of duty;
- 7.6. reported the deployment of a number of UNMISS patrols in key conflict hotspots, noting that the increased flexibility in the use of its peacekeeping assets was possible due to the re-designation of four PoC sites to IDP camps, and that UNMISS did not have any plan to re-designate the PoC site in Malakal;
- 7.7. informed about his engagements with the President of the Republic of South Sudan, senior government officials, leadership and local authorities and reported that the local authorities needed assistance to address insecurity at the subnational levels and to stem proliferation of firearms;
- 7.8. informed of the key aspects of UNMISS' strategic vision which he shared with the Security Council to include: (a) implementation of the agreed upon benchmarks regarding an enduring patriotism and a lasting peace in the form of a new constitution, elections and the establishment of democratic institutions; (b) UNMISS' commitment to optimal use of its uniformed personnel towards the South Sudan peace process; (c) commitment to civil and political engagements at sub-national levels; and (d) to support a well-developed justice system that is integral in breaking the cycle of violence and holding spoilers accountable;
- 7.9. stated that the Mission's intend to enhance collaboration and promote greater coherence between international partners, including the RJMEC, IGAD, AU and the diplomatic community in general, as well as in enhancing engagements with the RTGoNU going forward'
- 7.10. commended the recent establishment of a high-level coordination forum with the RTGoNU to deal with movement restrictions and the other operational challenges as an important step in advancing UNMISS mandate implementation;
- 7.11. encouraged by the launch of the consultative process for the CTRH, reconstitution of the national legislature, and the launch of the permanent constitution-making process;
- 7.12. informed of the recent UN Elections Needs Assessment Mission conducted in South Sudan and that its findings were submitted to the UNSC and would soon be published;
- 7.13. commended the political process under auspices of the Community of Sant-Egidio with the non-signatories to the R-ARCSS and reiterated UNMISS continued support to the initiative;
- 7.14. appealed for political will to progress implementation of the R-ARCSS as well as to: (a) ensure a fully operational Transitional National Legislature; (b) complete formation of the subnational structures (c) accelerate the permanent constitution-making process; (d) expedite harmonization of command of the armed forces and formation of the NUF; and
- 7.15. urged members to work together to achieve the R-ARCSS outcomes and to ensure social contract between the South Sudanese and the RTGoNU is anchored.

Min. 08/1/21: Reports from Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms

i) Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements Monitoring Verification Mechanisms

8.1. In his report to the plenary, the CTSAMVM Chief of Staff:

- 8.1.1. commended the RTGoNU for covering the daily subsistence allowances for the National Monitors who resumed work on 22 June 2021 and reassured members that the monitoring and verification capability was now fully restored;
- 8.1.2. informed members that the ceasefire held since the last plenary as there were no verified clashes between the Parties to the R-ARCSS. However, he reported continued ambushes and clashes in Central Equatoria State allegedly involving or perpetrated by NAS. Also of concern, were recent attacks allegedly involving the parties at Ketbeck near Nasir and Namutina in Western Equatoria. There were also allegations of recruitment in Unity State, Warrap and Western Bahr el Ghazal and that these acts constitute a violation of the ceasefire;
- 8.1.3. further informed that although inter-communal violence remained a concern, CTSAMVM continued to monitor levels and had not observed any significant increase or decrease since the last RJMEC meeting. He therefore urged the Parties involved to take the necessary steps and adhere to the ceasefire and the protection of civilians;
- 8.1.4. informed that reports on the status of implementation and three violation reports were discussed at the CTSAMVM Board meeting were been published and their copies provided at the previous RJMEC monthly meeting;
- 8.1.5. further informed of a planned CTC meeting scheduled for 23rd July 2021 to discuss one violation report involving the destruction of houses and an NGO facility in Koch County, Unity State by SSPDF in February 2021 which caused widespread civilian displacement and that would be presented to the Board meeting on 27 July 2021. Promised to present the resolutions from the Board to the subsequent RJMEC plenary;
- 8.1.6. reported that CTSAMVM participated at the last Sant'Egidio meeting on SSOMA in Rome from 15 – 18 July and that would report on the outcomes of the meeting in the next RJMEC Plenary;
- 8.1.7. appreciated the continued strong support from all partners towards CTSAMVM's work, and reiterated CTSAMVM's commitment to supporting the peace process with flexibility, impartiality, independence, and neutrality.

ii) Joint Defence Board

8.2. The Deputy CDF presented a report on behalf of the Co-chairperson of the Joint Defence Board (JDB) as follows:

- 8.2.1. informed members that the security in Juba and the country was generally normal with exceptions of skirmishes involving SSPDF and holdout groups, notably NAS.
- 8.2.2. raised concerns that there are more officers at the Training Centre. This will continue to delay graduation of the forces. The delay has caused loss of morale with high number of pregnancies in the Training Centres with increased number of diseases.
- 8.2.3. informed members of the three assessment teams consisting of 10 members dispatched to undertake assessment of the Training Centres and stated the outcomes of the assessment as follows: (a) there was no proper screenings conducted; (b) there was dire need for food and logistics resulting in departure of some of the forces; (c) there was willingness of the deserters to return for graduation; (d) challenges delaying the graduation of NUF included having more officers in the training centres; (e) delays caused loss of morale among the forces; (f) prevalence of preventable and communicable diseases; (g) desertions were due to the lack of basic services and logistical support; and (h) infidelity of partners were reported at the Training Centres;
- 8.2.4. appealed for: (a) intervention of the principal parties to the R-ARCSS; (b) provision of logistics before graduation; (c) provision of incentives to the trainees; (d) JTSC to have proper logistical management at the Training Centres; and (e) the Parties to expedite unification of Command to pave the way for graduation of the NUFs.

iii) Strategic Defence and Security Review Board

- 8.3. In his report, the Acting Head of the Strategic Defense and Security Review (SDSR) Board Secretariat presented the activities of the SDSR Board as follows:
 - 8.3.1. Informed members that the SDSR Board conducted a three day-workshop and discussed Strategic Security Assessment (SSA) and revised all security policy frameworks;
 - 8.3.2. further informed that it conducted a two-day workshop from 28 – 29 June 2021 and reviewed Strategic Security Assessment and Security Policy Framework. The two workshops were supported by both UNMISS and RJMEC;
 - 8.3.3. reported that the pending tasks for the Board included: (a) revision of the Defence paper once they finalize the assessment the Strategic Security Assessment document; (b) finalization of the Security Policy Framework; (c) conducting a workshop to incorporate SSA findings into the white paper on Security and Defence; and (d) development of fresh policies for other security sector agencies.

iv) Joint Transitional Security Committee

- 8.4. In his report to the plenary, a member of the JTSC informed that since the Co-Chairperson of the Joint Transitional Security Committee (JTSC) were not around, there was no report to present to the plenary.

v) Joint Military Ceasefire Commission

8.5. In his report, the Co-Chairperson of the Joint Military Ceasefire Commission (JMCC) stated that:

- 8.5.1. there was no progress was made since the last RJMEC plenary. However, he underlined that with little resources availed to the Commission of less than 10%, the JMCC had done commendable work which included, inter alia, registration, site clearance and verification, food distribution; delivery of food to the site and materials for shelter; and demilitarization of civilian centres.
- 8.5.2. its personnel were still on the ground operating in spite of challenges faced such as limited funding and transport that need to be addressed;
- 8.5.3. it appealed to JDB to provide command and control, including conducting site visits where and when necessary to ensure full adherence to the process and that all senior commanders/officers should be accommodated in a gazetted place with full facilitation and incentives;
- 8.5.4. it appealed to the NTC to avail funds for medical services and insurance, food and logistical supplies;
- 8.5.5. it recommended that food should be supplied directly to registered and screened forces in their own assembly areas especially where they are unwilling to move into a single Cantonment site with their counterparts and that unarmed troops should be given due consideration during the registration process
- 8.5.6. it appealed for support from RJMEC, CTSAMVM, UNMISS and all stakeholders in the discharge of its mandates and that of JTSC; and
- 8.5.7. it reported that its requests forwarded to the JDB and NTC had not been fulfilled to date.

vi) Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission

8.6. The Chairperson of the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) Commission presented the Commission's report as follows:

- 8.6.1. informed of various draft policy documents submitted to the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of NTC for approval included: Policy Paper, Strategy and Programs, Public Information and Strategic Communication, Reintegration Framework, Reinsertion Framework and Standard Operating Procedures for the Headquarters of the National Organized Forces;
- 8.6.2. further informed of its plans to conduct sensitization and screening meetings; to construct ten (10) transition facilities in ten states for at least 1000 ex-combatants; and to use the community violence reduction (CVR) approach to prepare the security environment for classical DDR process. The CVR will also target women associated with armed groups, hostile communities and ex-combatants;

8.6.3. highlighted challenges facing the Commission to include, inter alia, lack of DDR support in the current UNMISS mandate; lack of entire DDR program budget funding to: (a) set up transitional facilities centres; to activate Information Counselling and Referral System (ICRS) database and policy implementation; lack of screening of all forces; and policy dissemination.

8.6.4. recommended the following:

8.6.4.1. NTC to mobilize and release funds for the Commission to prepare for proper demobilization of ex-combatants;

8.6.4.2. RTGoNU, UN and all donors to prioritize DDR program support;

8.6.4.3. RJMEC, UN and donors to use the CVR approach to support the Commission to stabilize the security environment for DDR to start;

8.6.4.4. RJMEC to support the policy dissemination of the approved documents and the activation of ICRS.

Min. 09/18/21: Discussions on Statements and Reports

9. During discussions session, the RJMEC members raised the following:

9.1. **AUMISS Representative:** commended the people of South Sudan for the 10th anniversary of independence; wished them happy Eid celebrations; recognized the Ambassadors who would be departing soon; associated himself with the reports presented at the meeting;

9.2. The representative also expressed his concerns regarding the following issues: (a) the status of the TSAs, especially the conditions in both the training centres and cantonment sites; (b) continuous loss of lives of aid workers; (c) fighting in various areas in the country; and (d) lack of reports from the RTGoNU and NTC. In addition, he attributed the current insecurity to the delays in the graduation of unified forces (NUF). He therefore urged the NTC up to live to its expectations, and reiterated the need to convene an extraordinary session dedicated to discussing financial aspects of implementation of the TSA;

9.3. **SSOA Representative:** expressed concerns about the Parties to the R-ARCSS who failed to attend the meeting and/or to present reports to the plenary; urged the RTGoNU to consider replacing its RJMEC members who have other responsibilities and are unable to attend regular RJMEC plenary meetings; observed that elections cannot be conducted within the current circumstance when the forces are not unified; and concluded with urging the Parties to take the R-ARCSS seriously;

9.4. **EU Representative:** stated that we should have in mind the first point of the preamble of the R-ARCSS and look at its implementation in that spirit and underscored the importance of the respect of human rights and the rule of law.

9.5. Regarding security, the EU representative highlighted the following:

9.5.1. the EU warned against sticking on number of security forces; armed embargo should be seen as blocking graduation of NUF; invited members to familiarize themselves with UN benchmarks on security; and underscored the need to set up a valid arms control mechanism;

- 9.5.2. on humanitarian issues, he regretted the looting of at least 2,320 metric tons of food from the WFP store in Tonj East (Warrap), suggesting that it was organized looting;
- 9.5.3. on political transition, he urged that the TNL should be operationalized; the need to enhance political and civic space for debates and expressed frustration that a debate on constitutional history was blocked. He further stated the need for constitutional guarantees to ensure internationally recognized elections and in that regard, he invited members to look at the AU Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (ACDEG);
- 9.5.4. on NCAC funding, the representative expressed readiness to consider its funding on condition that that IGAD submits a proposal to the EU;
- 9.5.5. he further called for commitment towards the IMF to be fulfilled in sin letter and spirit for future opportunities with the IMF.
- 9.5.6. he concluded by appealing to the RTGoNU to be transparent and publish resolutions of the Council of Ministers meetings.
- 9.6. **JDB Representative:** informed that the ToR for the assessment committee was to conduct an assessment of readiness of the forces for graduation, including the centres' readiness for the next phase of the NUF. He informed that a report had been compiled, but was yet to be presented to the principals, and that it would guide the plan for graduation and redeployment. He reported that uniforms were lacking, except for the army, NSS and VIP protection force. On the unification of forces and command structure, the JDB referred the matter to the principals to agree on the way forward.
- 9.7. **Youth Representative:** expressed disappointment for lack of reports received from critical actors, and wondered whether they were still committed to the peace process. Furthermore, he noted that mid-way the Transitional Period, discussions needed to shift towards elections. On attendance of RJMEC meetings, he reiterated the appeal made to the RTGoNU to replace some of its RJMEC members with other responsibilities and are unable to attend RJMEC plenary meetings; urged the RTGoNU to respect institutions of governance; and recommended that the issue of RJMEC Rules of Procedure and representation be revised.
- 9.8. **RTGoNU Representative:** wished the outgoing Ambassadors well, and also:
 - 9.8.1. appealed to the RTGoNU to be seen as a unity government and not individual parties;
 - 9.8.2. observed that delays to swear in of members of the TNL were due to the OPP internal challenges;
 - 9.8.3. noted the challenges associated with TSA, observing that its process started on a wrong footing due to lack of proper screening for eligible candidates for training as well as those unfit to undergo DDR process;
 - 9.8.4. on the arms embargo, he underscored its impact on graduation of NUF and regretted that despite an appeal by the RTGoNU for a weaver, it remained unheeded;
 - 9.8.5. further observed that the holdout groups were violating the CoHA;

- 9.8.6. he expressed his disappointment on the challenges faced by humanitarian agencies and called for them to request for the necessary protection and escort from the RTGoNU;
- 9.8.7. informed of the Arusha Agreement on the unification of SPLM, noting the parties ready to return to the SPLM can join with their shares;
- 9.8.8. lamented that CTSAMVM had reported on allegations of violation which were not investigated as unacceptable;
- 9.8.9. on missing reports, he acknowledged that the matter was very disappointing and promised to inform the concerned RTGoNU representative to RJMEC accordingly;
- 9.8.10. on transparency of publication of the Council of Ministers' meeting resolution, he clarified that there was no requirement to that effect, noting that matters related that R-ARCSS implementation should be directed to the principals.
- 9.9. **South Sudan Civil Society Alliance Representative:** commended the regional and international partners for the support to the South Sudan peace process; appealed for more confidence-building among the Parties; and further appealed to members to implement resolutions of the RJMEC meetings;
- 9.10. **IPF Representative:** commended the various partners for supporting the implementation of the R-ARCSS; raised concerns about the absence of important players in the meeting and needed to know the level of commitment of the actors;
- 9.11. The representative expressed disappointment with the delayed graduation of NUF, upsurge of violence in Western Equatoria and defections which have continued to fuel the levels of violence in the country;
- 9.12. **IGAD OSESS Representative:** encouraged the NTC to attend the meetings of RJMEC; stated that he was also encouraged by the reports that the Technical Committee for conducting public consultations for the establishment of the CTRH had been established and the TNL reconstituted. He informed members on the Judicial Reform Committee (JRC) establishment that only SSOA and FDs had forwarded the lists of their nominees to IGAD and urged the other parties which have not submitted their lists to do so without delay. On NCAC's resumption of its work, he reported that the process was ongoing; and, concluded that there was need to commence conversation for the establishment of the SRF;
- 9.13. **OPP Representative:** expressed disappointment with the NTC's absence in the meeting; appealed for the JDB to provide clear statistics of personnel at the cantonment sites and training centres; and, expressed worry about why there are more military generals than the rank and file. On the OPP issue, he reported there was a lot of scandals related to the OPP nominees to the RTNLA and informed that the OPP planned to meet the following week to resolve the matter. He proposed the DDR Commission be empowered to conduct a comprehensive DDR programme throughout the country. He then concluded by appealing to CTSAMVM to verify allegation of new recruitment of forces in Western Bahr el Ghazal, Upper Nile and Warrap States;
- 9.14. **Business Community Representative:** appealed to the RTGoNU to commence the process of establishment of the SRF and its Board as well as to earmark the requisite funds.

- 9.15. **Academia Representative:** commended RJMEC, UNMISS, Civil Society and representatives of some Embassies for their collaboration and working with the Executives of the states in the dissemination of the R-ARCSS. In that regard, she observed that there was need to further orient the people of South Sudan to change their mindsets and take full ownership of the R-ARCSS;
- 9.16. **Uganda Representative:** urged for focus on TSA and that the RTGoNU needed to take an urgent measure to embark on unification of forces as well as strengthening of the economic sector to enable IDPs and refugees to return home. He also appealed for operationalization of the Transitional National Legislature and expeditious establishment of transitional justice institutions.
- 9.17. **DDR Commission Representative:** referred to the JMCC's report on transportation of all senior officers in three proposed locations as unnecessary and risky. He then proposed that such forces need to undergo the DDR process.

Min. 10/18/21: Date for the Next Meeting

10. Members suggested that the date for the 19th RJMEC monthly meeting shall be confirmed and communicated to the members by the RJMEC Secretariat.

Min. 11/18 /21: A.O.B

11. There was no issue raised under this agenda item.

Min.12/18/21: Resolution of the Meeting

12. A draft Resolution of the 18th RJMEC monthly meeting was circulated to all members, discussed and feedback provided. The RJMEC Secretariat was tasked to incorporate all the changes and to share the final Resolution with all the members.

Min.13/18/21: Chairman's Closing Remarks

13. The RJMEC Interim Chairperson commended the members for coming; encouraged members to give due attention to the regular meetings of RJMEC; urged that all members be in problem-solving mode; and appealed to Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms to submit authentic and endorsed reports in a timely manner and at least three days before the plenary.

Min.14/18/21: Closing Prayers

14. The representatives of faith-based organizations led the closing prayer. There being no any other business, the 18th RJMEC monthly meeting was adjourned at 16h04, CAT.

The minutes are hereby approved and endorsed as a true record of the 18th RJMEC monthly meeting.


Chairperson


Minutes Secretary