



Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC)

Resolution of the RJMEC

18th RJMEC Meeting

Crown Hotel, 22 July 2021, Juba, South Sudan

The 18th meeting of the Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC) convened in Juba, South Sudan, on 22 July 2021 and was chaired by the Interim Chairperson of the RJMEC, Maj. General Charles Tai Gituai (rtd).

In attendance were the representatives of the Parties and Stakeholders in RJMEC, namely:

For the Parties to the R-ARCSS:

1. Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth (ITGoNU)
2. Hon. Peter Mabior Runy (SSOA)
3. Hon. 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. Prof. Moses Macar (Eminent Persons)
4. Mr. Akuoch Ajang Nyanhom (CSO Alliance)
5. Rajab John Mohandis (CSO Forum)
6. Ms. Rita Lopidia (Women Coalition)
7. Prof. Pauline Riak (Academia)
8. Ms. Yar Manoa Majok (Business Community)
9. Ms. Abuk Jervas (Business Community)

10. Mr. Malish John Peter (Youth)
11. Mr. Wani Michael (Youth)

For the Regional Guarantors

1. Mr. Zelalem Birhan (Ethiopia)
2. Mr. Grephas Ogutu (Kenya)
3. Mr. Hassan Robleh (Djibouti)
4. Mr. Shafie Nuralas Farah (Somalia)
5. H.E. Idule Amoko James (Uganda)
6. Mr. Judah Muoh (Nigeria)
7. H.E. Gordon Yekelo (South Africa)
8. H.E. Prof. Joram M. Biswaro (AUMISS)
9. Mr. Philip Mwanika (IGAD Juba Liaison Office)

For International Partners and Friends of South Sudan

1. Mr. Ma Wenjun (China)
2. Mr. Paul Bekken (Norway)
3. Amb. Larry Andre (USA)
4. Mr. Terry Seagriff (UK)
5. Mr. Nicholas 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 Advisor – Economics – RJMEC
3. Dr. Job Akuni, Senior Advisor- Governance - RJMEC

For the Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms

1. Mr. John Scudder, Chief of Staff, CTSAMVM
2. Lt. Gen. Thol Chany Reat (representing JDB Chair)
3. Lt. Gen. Julius Tabuley, Co-Chairperson, JDB
4. Maj. Luguya Lupai (JDB)
5. Lt. Gen. Koang Gatkuoth Kerjok, JMCC
6. Maj. Gen. Charles Atari, JMCC
7. Maj. Gen. Ajak Deng Biar, JTSC
8. Ding Lam Yual, SDSRB

9. Hon. Lt. Gen. Ayuen Alier Jongroor, Chairperson, DDR Commission

Observers

1. Mr. Mitsuhiro Toyama (Japan)
2. Mr. Mohamed Elbadry (Egypt)
3. Mr. Manuel Muller (Germany)
4. Ms. Lydia Minango Kape (Switzerland)
5. Amb. Dhano Obongo (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, South Sudan)

The 18th RJMEC meeting considered the following agenda items:

- a) The minutes of the last meeting;
- b) Statement by RJMEC Interim Chairperson;
- c) Report from RTGoNU;
- d) Report from the NTC;
- e) Briefing from the UNMISS SRSG;
- f) Reports from Agreement institutions and mechanisms (CTSAMVM, JDB, SDRS Board, JTSC, JMCC and DDR Commission);
- g) Discussion on the RJMEC Interim Chairperson's statement, UNMISS SRSG briefing and reports from Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms; and
- h) Date of the next RJMEC meeting.

Following the statement by the Interim Chairperson, briefing by UNMISS SRSG, and after considering the reports from the CTSAMVM, JDB, JMCC and DDR Commission, the RJMEC resolved as follows:

1. **Adopted** the minutes of the 17th RJMEC meeting held in Juba, South Sudan on 20 May 2021;
2. **Welcomed** the statement of H.E. Maj Gen Charles Tai Gituai (rtd), the RJMEC Interim Chairperson, and endorsed the observations and recommendations therein;
3. **Welcomed** the new Ambassadors to the Republic of South Sudan who are RJMEC members and **thanked** H.E. Manuel Muller, Ambassador of Germany, and Mr. Alessandro Rossi, Deputy Head of Mission of the European Union for their contributions to RJMEC during their tenure in South Sudan;

4. **Congratulated** the people of South Sudan on the occasion of ten years of independence anniversary;
5. **Thanked** Mr. Nicholas Haysom, the UNMISS SRSG, for his briefing and also the Chairpersons and/or representatives of the CTSAMVM, JDB, JMCC and DDR Commission for their reports, **commended** all the Institutions and Mechanisms of the Agreement which submitted their reports in advance. In this regard, it **observed** that very limited progress has been reported by all Mechanisms and **appealed** for RTGoNU to take remedial steps to address the challenges highlighted by the Mechanisms;
6. **Regretted** that no reports were presented by the RTGoNU representative, or any representative of the National Transitional Committee (NTC), and **further regretted** the absence of reports from the SDSR Board, and the JTSC; in this regard, **urged** that in all future RJMEC meetings, reports be prepared in advance as per the norm and that, in general, attendance by members at the RJMEC monthly meetings be respected;
7. **Welcomed** the reconstitution of the Council of States on 3 July 2021, **commended** the President for this milestone, and **called** for expedited swearing in of the members of both the reconstituted Transitional National Legislative Assembly (TNLA) and the reconstituted Council of States; in this regard, **urged** the OPP to resolve its internal issues that are holding up the process;
8. **Appealed** for the expedited reconstitution of the State Legislature, and County Councils, as well as the restructuring and reconstitution of all Institutions and Commissions at the national level as provided for in the Revitalised Peace Agreement. In this regard, **recommended** that the list of all appointments adhere to the 35% women quota;
9. **Called upon** the reconstituted TNLA, upon swearing in, to immediately commence work and ratify legislation that has been held up, such as the amended security bills and the Constitutional Amendment Bill No. 8 (2020) and security-related laws;

10. **Regretted** that despite an extension of the NCAC mandate by the Parties to the Agreement, this has yet to be operationalised; and in that regard **appealed** to IGAD to take steps to secure funding for NCAC to urgently resume its work;
11. **Commended** the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, and his taskforce, for endorsing the draft Terms of Reference of the *ad-hoc* Judicial Reform Committee (JRC), which is mandated to study and recommend appropriate judicial reforms; and **appealed** to IGAD to nominate the Chairperson and Deputy to this Committee and for the Parties to the R-ARCSS which have yet nominated their representatives to the JRC to do so;
12. **Took note** of the CTSAMVM's report that, overall, the Permanent Ceasefire continues to hold amongst the Parties to the R-ARCSS, but **condemned** the continuing trend of violence in some parts of South Sudan, including the states of Jonglei, Lakes, Warrap, Upper Nile, and Central Equatoria, whether resulting from communal and community-based violence or the activities of holdout groups, causing considerable civilian harm, including fatalities, and posing a threat to the ongoing stability of South Sudan. In this regard, **expressed agreement** that completion of the unification of forces and the Transitional Security Arrangements, and establishment of the state security committees across the country, will contribute significantly in addressing the instability;
13. **Welcomed** the RTGoNU efforts in resolving the issue of funding of the National Monitors that has enabled CTSAMVM to resume full operations;
14. **Noted** that the Rome Talks between the RTGoNU and the South Sudan United Front/Army (SSUF/A) and the Real SPLM, both under the umbrella of SSOMA, continued in a positive, constructive, and amicable atmosphere from 15 to 18 July 2021 in Rome, Italy under the auspices of the Community of Sant'Egidio; in this regard, **welcomed** agreement to commence integration of SSUF/A and Real SPLM representatives into CTSAMVM structures and **urged** all the parties to the talks to adhere to the timelines as stipulated in the Agreed Agenda of the Rome Initiative of July 2021 and speedily conclude discussions in order to further contribute to the peace process in South Sudan;
15. **Regretted** reports from both JDB and JMCC that implementation of the Transitional Security Arrangements (TSAs) stalled, with no progress to report,

since the last RJMEC monthly meeting, held in May 2021, in part due to disagreement over the ratio of the unified forces and Unified Command Structure, issues which are very central to the graduation and redeployment of the Necessary Unified Forces; in this regard, **urged** that these issues be resolved without delay by the Parties given the centrality of the TSAs to the overall peace process;

16. **Took note** of the JDB's assessment visits to the training centres and **expressed serious concerns** on the dire situation in those centres due to a lack of food, healthcare and shelter facilities. In this regard, **welcomed** the resolution on 8 June 2021 of the Presidency to accelerate the process of graduating the unified forces, and developing a unified command. In this regard, **acknowledged** the availing by the RTGoNU and NTC of some funding to push forward the implementation in full of the Transitional Security Arrangements and **called on** the international community and friends of South Sudan for their support to this process;
17. **Noted with concern** that the Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) process lags behind, with the Commission facing several challenges, including lack of funding, and **urged** the RTGoNU and NTC to prioritise DDR so that it is synchronised with the process of unification of forces;
18. **Expressed serious concern** that the humanitarian situation in South Sudan is dire, and that the looting and destruction of humanitarian supplies increased, as reported by UNMISS. Therefore, strongly **condemned** the killing of aid workers in June 2021 and all other forms of impediments to humanitarian access; in this regard, **urged** the RTGoNU to provide a secure environment and institute programmes for the relief, protection, repatriation, resettlement, reintegration and rehabilitation of returnees and IDPs;
19. **Recalled** the resolution of the 72nd Extraordinary Session of the IGAD Council of Ministers held on 24 June 2021 which called for establishment of the Special Reconstruction Fund and its Board, and hereby **reiterated** this appeal to the RTGoNU to proceed with its establishment;
20. **Welcomed** the Youth Enterprise Development Fund Bill and **expressed** hope for its rapid enactment, and **urged** for the establishment of the Women Enterprise

Development Fund, noting that both funds are critical to strengthening the private sector and creating much needed employment for these two disadvantaged groups; further, **urged** the RTGoNU to undertake all those actions listed at Article 4.15.1 of the R-ARCSS to stimulate economic activities in the country;

21. **Noted** that the Anti-Corruption Commission, the National Audit Chamber and the Fiscal, Financial Allocation and Monitoring Commission are vital bodies for the effective conduct of the Public Financial Management reforms and the protection of public resources, and **urged** that these institutions be restructured and reconstituted in order to carry out their activities in full.
22. **Encouraged** that the RTGoNU, through the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, recently launched the national public consultations for the establishment of the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation, and Healing (CTRH), which will inform the establishment of the CTRH; in this regard **urged** that the civic space for freedom of speech and inclusive, constructive debate in South Sudan be protected;
23. **Welcomed** the successful convening by RJMEC of the Permanent Constitution-making process workshop from 25 to 28 May 2021 and **thanked** the Max Planck Foundation for International Peace and Rule of Law for its facilitation, and **appreciated** H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit for officially opening this historic workshop and H.E. Abdalla Hamdok, Prime Minister of the Republic of Sudan and Chair of the IGAD Assembly of Heads of State and Government for his participation. In this regard, **noted** that the Resolutions were officially handed over to the RTGoNU on 10 June 2021, which commenced the drafting of the legislation that will govern the Permanent Constitution-making process;
24. **Commended** members of the RJMEC for their participation in the RJMEC Working Committees and **appealed** to the Parties' representatives to recognise the importance of these instrumental monitoring mechanisms and **urged** the Parties to ensure attendance of their representatives in RJMEC Working Committee meetings more regularly;
25. **Reiterated** its appeal to the RTGoNU to avail the necessary resources to the various mechanisms of the Agreement and **further appealed** to the regional and

international partners and friends of South Sudan to continue and enhance financial, political and in-kind support to the full implementation of the R-ARCSS;

26. **Agreed** that the date for the next regular RJMEC meeting will be communicated to the RJMEC members by the Secretariat; and

27. **Decided** to remain seized of all RJMEC matters.

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