



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

**Resolutions of the
34th RJMEC Meeting**

Beijing Juba Hotel, 08th February 2024

Juba, South Sudan

The 34th RJMEC meeting considered the following agenda items:

- a) Minutes of the last meeting;
- b) Statement by RJMEC Interim Chairperson;
- c) Report from RTGoNU;
- d) Report from the NTC on Transitional Security Arrangements;
- e) Briefing from the UNMISS SRSG;
- f) Reports from Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms (PFM-OC, NEC, NCRC, PPC, JRC, NCAC, CTSAMVM, JDB, SDRS Board, JTSC, JMCC, and DDR Commission);
- g) Discussion on the RJMEC Interim Chairperson's statement, UNMISS SRSG briefing and reports from the Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms;
- h) Review of the Resolutions; and
- i) Date of the next RJMEC meeting.

In attendance were representatives of all the Parties to the Revitalised Peace Agreement, Other South Sudanese Stakeholders and Adherents, the Regional Guarantors, International Partners and Friends of South Sudan, Observers, as well as Institutions and Mechanisms of the Agreement.

Following the statement by the Interim Chairperson, briefing by UNMISS SRSR, and after considering the reports from the RTGoNU, NEC, NCRC, PPC, JRC, NCAC, CTSAMVM, JDB, JMCC, SDSR Board, and DDR, the RJMEC resolved as follows:

1. **Adopted** the Minutes of the 33rd RJMEC meeting with minor amendment;
2. **Welcomed** the statement of H.E. Amb. Maj. Gen. (rtd) Charles Tai Gituai, RJMEC Interim Chairperson and his assessment on the critical tasks to be accomplished to create an enabling environment for the conduct of free, fair and credible elections as per the Revitalised Peace Agreement and Roadmap, and **endorsed** all his recommendations therein;
3. **Thanked** Hon. Dr. Martin Elia Lomuro, Minister for Cabinet Affairs for his detailed report on behalf of the RTGoNU, including presentation on the committed funding for the implementation of the Agreement pre-elections activities, and the steps being taken to address the 10 priority issues submitted to the High-Level Standing Committee of the Parties to the Agreement by the Government-Trilateral Joint Taskforce as critical for elections preparation and the constitution making process;

4. **Welcomed** the swearing in of the members of the reconstituted National Elections Commission (NEC) and the National Constitutional Review Commission (NCRC), and **commended** the steps already taken by both institutions through their induction workshops to commence and discharge their respective mandates;
5. **Welcomed** the Presidential assent to the amended Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2023 and the National Social Insurance Act 2023. In this regard, **called** for the expeditious operationalisation of these revised laws to enhance greater transparency and accountability across the public sector;
6. **Welcomed** the Chairpersons of all the newly reconstituted institutions, namely: Hon. Dr. Riang Yer Zuor, Chairperson of the reconstituted National Constitutional Review Commission (NCRC); Hon. Prof. Abednego Akok Kacuol, Chairperson of the reconstituted National Elections Commission (NEC); and Hon. Eng. James Akol Zakayo, Chairperson of the reconstituted Political Parties Council (PPC) to the RJMEC plenary, **congratulated** all of them and their members for the appointment and **wished** them success in their respective mandates;
7. **Thanked** Mr. Nicholas Haysom, UNMISS SRSG for his briefing, including detailed updates on the current humanitarian situation in South Sudan, protection of civilians as per the UNMISS mandate, observations on the status of implementation of the Revitalised Peace Agreement, and **welcomed** all his recommendations to the RTGoNU in this regard;

8. **Appreciated** all Chairpersons and/or representatives of the NCRC, NEC, PPC, NCAC, JRC, CTSAMVM, JDB, JMCC, SDSR Board and DDR Commission for their reports, **welcomed** the reported progress, **took note** of the challenges highlighted and **endorsed** all their recommendations. In this regard, **regretted** that the NTC did not submit a report and **reiterated** the importance of the NTC reporting on the status of coordination and funding of implementation of the pending Transitional Security Arrangements, given its criticality for lasting peace and the conduct of elections;

9. **Took note** that the NCAC has only two of its mandated bills remaining to be reviewed and amended, and that its mandate will expire at the end of February 2024. In this regard, **commended** the NCAC members for their dedication and commitment and **thanked** its leadership, secretariat and members for their significant contribution to the peace process in the Republic of South Sudan;

10. **Took note** that the *ad hoc* Judicial Reform Committee (JRC) is concluding consultations and drafting a final report which will contain recommendations critical for reforming the judiciary, including review of the Judiciary Act, reconstitution of the Judicial Service Commission and establishment of the Constitutional Court, among others, and **encouraged** the JRC to expeditiously conclude, validate and submit its final report and recommendations to the RTGoNU. In this regard, **commended** the UNDP for its financial support to the JRC work;

11. **Observed** that there is significant interest in elections to be conducted in a timely manner, and in accordance with the requirements of the Revitalised Peace Agreement but **expressed concerns** that it remains unclear how the RTGoNU and the Parties to the Revitalised Peace Agreement will complete the critical pending tasks and create a conducive environment for the conduct of credible elections within the time left. In this regard, **called upon** the Parties to redouble their efforts to deliver the transition through democratic elections;
12. **Encouraged** the leadership of the RTGoNU to embrace dialogue, work collegially, denounce violence and resolve all disputes peacefully, to expand civic and political space and to build the social cohesion and the public confidence needed to hold free, fair and credible elections as scheduled for December 2024;
13. **Noted with concern** the multiple incidences of violence in different parts of the country, in particular the Abyei Administrative Area, and Unity, Warrap, Western Bahr el Ghazal and Jonglei States resulting in loss of life and further displacement. In this regard, **reminded** the RTGoNU of its responsibility, as per Article 1.2.2 of the R-ARCSS, to restore permanent and sustainable peace, security, and stability. In this regard, **welcomed** the ongoing efforts of the Presidency to address intercommunal violence, and its recent appeal to the conflicting communities to halt violence and make peace;
14. **Urged** the RTGoNU to expedite and complete the unification and redeployment of the forces as a key step towards providing a conducive environment in which

to hold elections. In this regard, **called** for completion of Phase 1 deployment, commencement of Phase II and funding of the DDR process;

15. **Noted with concern** that the work of the Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR) Board has stalled and its documents have not yet been validated, without clarity on next steps given its members are currently on strike. In that regard, **called upon** the RTGoNU and NTC to resolve this impasse and expedite the SDSR Board's work;
16. **Took note** of the request by H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit to H.E. William Samoei Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya to facilitate the peace talks between the RTGoNU and the holdout groups, and **expressed optimism** that this new initiative will take the peace process forward;
17. **Noted with concern** that the humanitarian situation continues to worsen with more refugees and returnees fleeing the conflict in Sudan entering the country, where the scale of need is already high, service delivery is low, and the little resources available are very stretched. In this regard, **called for** the expeditious establishment of the Special Reconstruction Fund and Board to aid resource mobilisation for the humanitarian and reconstruction efforts;
18. **Observed** that greater accountability is required in wealth sharing and revenue allocation as South Sudan prepares for democratic elections. In this regard, **called upon** the reconstituted TNLA to expedite the enactment of the pending pieces of legislation intended to strengthen transparency and accountability in

the economic and financial sectors, including amendment bills to the National Audit Chambers Act and the Public Financial Management and Accountability Act;

19. **Noted with concern** that there has been no progress on the Bills for the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing (CTRH) and the Compensation and Reparation Authority (CRA) at the reconstituted TNLA and **urged** the TNLA to give these bills its timely attention;
20. **Urged** the RTGoNU and partners to support the reconstituted NCRC to conduct much-needed civic education and public consultations for the making of the permanent constitution, which is a critical requirement for the conduct of elections, as per the Agreement;
21. **Appealed** to the RJMEC members to offer constructive suggestions to the RTGoNU in seeking solutions to the challenges facing implementation of the Revitalised Agreement and **further appealed** to international partners and friends of South Sudan to provide financial, logistical and technical support to the implementation of the Agreement at this critical time ahead of constitution-making and elections;
22. **Identified** a number of critical tasks to enhance political and civic space, sustain the peace and consolidate the gains made in the implementation of the Agreement, namely:

- i) full operationalisation of the three newly reconstituted institutions PPC, NCRC and NEC by availing funding to enable them to deliver their mandates;
- ii) completion of Phase I and Phase II unification of forces, and provision of funding for DDR;
- iii) addressing intercommunal violence through national, state and grassroots level dialogue and peacebuilding mechanisms;
- iv) implementation of the legal and policy frameworks which enhance transparency and accountability in economic and financial sectors; and
- v) establishment and operationalisation of the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing and the Compensation and Reparation Authority.

23. **Recommended** to the RTGoNU to:

- i) encourage further dialogue, collegiality, and consensus building among the Parties, their principals, and the stakeholders;
- ii) provide clarity on the plans and preparations for the conduct of elections as scheduled;
- iii) avail the requisite resources and logistics to fully operationalise the elections-related reconstituted institutions;
- iv) operationalise all pieces of legislation enacted by the TNLA;
- v) complete the training and deployment of the NUF to provide election-related security and security in areas of intercommunal violence;
- vi) fund and operationalise the process of making a people-led and people-owned constitution; and

- vii) ensure the participation of women in all political processes, and their representation in mechanisms in accordance with the Agreement at the minimum threshold of 35%.
24. **Urged** all RJMEC members to engage frankly with the RTGoNU and the Parties' representatives to clarify how they intend to deliver peaceful, free, fair and credible democratic elections as per the Agreement and Roadmap in the remaining time;
25. **Agreed** that the date for the next meeting shall be communicated by the Secretariat; and
26. **Decided** to remain seized of all RJMEC matters.

– End –