



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

REPORT BY

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**ON THE STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REVITALISED
AGREEMENT ON THE RESOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT IN THE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN**

FOR THE PERIOD

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List of Acronyms

<i>ACPHR</i>	<i>African Commission on Peoples and Human Rights</i>
<i>AJMCCs</i>	<i>Area Joint Military Ceasefire Committees</i>
<i>CoS</i>	<i>Council of States</i>
<i>CTSAMVM</i>	<i>Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements Monitoring and Verification Mechanism</i>
<i>DDR</i>	<i>Disarmament Demobilization and Reintegration</i>
<i>FDs</i>	<i>Former Detainees</i>
<i>IBC</i>	<i>Independent Boundaries Commission</i>
<i>IGAD</i>	<i>Intergovernmental Authority on Development</i>
<i>IDPs</i>	<i>Internally Displaced Persons</i>
<i>ITGoNU</i>	<i>Incumbent Transitional Government of National Unity</i>
<i>JDB</i>	<i>Joint Defence Board</i>
<i>JMCC</i>	<i>Joint Military Ceasefire Commission</i>
<i>JTSC</i>	<i>Joint Transitional Security Committee</i>
<i>MVTs</i>	<i>Monitoring and Verification Teams</i>
<i>NCAC</i>	<i>National Constitutional Amendment Committee</i>
<i>NCRC</i>	<i>National Constitutional Review Commission</i>
<i>NTC</i>	<i>National Transitional Coordination Committee</i>
<i>NUF</i>	<i>Necessary Unified Forces</i>
<i>OCHA</i>	<i>UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs</i>
<i>OPP</i>	<i>Other Political Parties</i>
<i>R-ARCSS</i>	<i>Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan</i>
<i>RJMEC</i>	<i>Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission</i>
<i>RTGoNU</i>	<i>Revitalised Transitional Government of National Unity</i>
<i>SDSRB</i>	<i>Strategic Defence and Security Review Board</i>
<i>SGBV</i>	<i>Sexual and Gender Based Violence</i>
<i>SPLM</i>	<i>Sudan People's Liberation Movement</i>
<i>SPLM/A-IO</i>	<i>Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army in Opposition</i>
<i>SSOA</i>	<i>South Sudan Opposition Alliance</i>
<i>SSP</i>	<i>South Sudanese Pound</i>
<i>SSPDF</i>	<i>South Sudan Peoples' Defence Forces</i>
<i>TCRSS</i>	<i>Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan</i>
<i>TGoNU</i>	<i>Transitional Government of National Unity</i>
<i>TNL</i>	<i>Transitional National Legislature</i>
<i>TNLA</i>	<i>Transitional National Legislative Assembly</i>
<i>UN</i>	<i>United Nations</i>
<i>UNDP</i>	<i>United Nations Development Program</i>
<i>UNSC</i>	<i>United Nations Security Council</i>

Executive Summary

This Report on the status of implementation of the tasks of the Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) is prepared pursuant to *Chapter VII, Article 7.9* of the R-ARCSS and covers the period 1st January to 31st March 2021. This Report therefore, highlights the few accomplishments that were realised during the period, particularly relating to governance issues, while also stressing the stalled implementation of the permanent ceasefire and transitional security arrangements. Much remains to be done by the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGoNU) especially considering that less than two years remain in the Transitional Period as it was previously agreed upon.

During the reporting period, there was some progress towards the implementation of the provisions of Chapter I of the R-ARCSS. President of the Republic of South Sudan H.E. Salva Kiir completed the appointments of all governors and deputy governors for all ten states. This was complemented with the appointments of the State Ministers, Advisors, Independent Commissioners and County Commissions. However, appointments of the local governments in the three Administrative Areas of Abyei, Ruweng and Greater Pibor remain outstanding. Of concern is the failure of the Parties to the Agreement to respect the 35 percent women representation in the Executive.

Since the last report, the Permanent Ceasefire has continued to hold despite the volatile security situation in the Upper Nile State due to attacks on the SPLA-IO Liang Cantonment Site in January by former SPLA-IO forces who defected to the South Sudan Peoples Defense Forces (SSPDF). Elsewhere in the country, there have been other attacks on cantonment sites and in some cases by armed youth. Acts of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) by uniformed forces are still occurring, and a CTSAMVM report notes that there had been serious crimes committed by some SSPDF soldiers in December 2020 including murder, rape, assault and theft. The attacks were conducted as revenge for the alleged attack by Thomas Cirillo forces on SSPDF.

Cantonment sites and training centres continue to face significant challenges that include a lack of food, medicine, clean water, shelter equipment and essential personal hygiene items for female personnel; as a result morale has deteriorated. The RJMEC Interim Chairperson organised a site visit for IGAD regional ambassadors and the Special Envoy to two such training centres. They confirmed the dire conditions at the centres and issued a statement calling on the RTGoNU to take urgent action to remedy the situation while noting that the full and timely implementation of the transitional security arrangements is intended to underpin a stable future for the people and South Sudan, and it is a key part of avoiding repetition of past mistakes, and achieving a united, peaceful and prosperous society throughout the country.

The level of humanitarian need in South Sudan continued to rise as a result of multiple shocks key among which were widespread sub-national violence, COVID-19 related restrictions, currency depreciation and economic challenges that contributed towards a rise in acute food insecurity. Almost half of the population, 5.82 million people, were projected to likely face a crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worsening acute food insecurity and 105,000 catastrophic

levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase5). In response to the growing needs, the humanitarian community launched the South Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan for 2021, targeting 6.6 million people with urgent life-saving assistance and protection by the end of the year.

Concerning the implementation of tasks related to resource, economic and financial management, not much has been accomplished. There was, however, limited progress in some areas. First, with regard to economic and financial management, the Public Financial Management Oversight Committee is building capacity of the government to implement its reform strategy that is aligned to the R-ARCSS. Second, the dissemination of the updated annual petroleum reports from the Ministry of Petroleum is a step in the right direction.

With regard to Transitional Justice, there has been some progress following the RTGoNU Cabinet endorsement of the Roadmap of the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs for its implementation. The Justice Minister has established a Taskforce within the Ministry to coordinate the day-to-day implementation of Chapter V, Chapter VI and on Judicial Reform, and is awaiting submission of the Memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of the Hybrid Court for South Sudan from the Africa Union.

With respect to the Permanent Constitution-making process envisaged under Chapter VI of the R-ARCSS, the RJMEC has scheduled the workshop to take place towards the end of May 2021. This was made possible following nominations by all the Parties of their representatives to the workshop. During the workshop, the Parties are expected to agree on the details of conducting the permanent constitution-making process, which outcome shall form the basis of the legislations to be enacted.

During the visit to Juba of the Africa Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC), RJMEC outlined to the Council the slow pace of implementation of the R-ARCSS. RJMEC also drew attention to the spate of military defections and growing inter-communal violence, which continue to negatively impact on the implementation of the R-ARCSS. It also requested that the Council prevails on the Parties to: (i) urgently reconstitute the Transitional National Legislative Assembly (TNLA) and Council of States, and complete appointment of State Legislative Assembly and lower local government, and to observe the 35% quota for women's representation across the board; (ii) forge ahead with immediate graduation and redeployment of the unified forces, prioritize Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR), and also to expedite Phase II and the Strategic Defense and Security Review (SDSR) process.

Further, RJMEC also urged the Council to impress on the RTGoNU to expedite the required economic and public finance reforms, immediately establish the Transitional Justice institutions, and expedite the permanent constitution-making process. Consequently, RJMEC recommends the convening of an IGAD Summit to address the exceedingly slow pace of the R-ARCSS implementation and to specifically address the issue of unification of forces, among others. This as the world appeals to the RTGoNU to move the process forward.

I. Introduction

1. This Report on the status of implementation of the tasks of the Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) is prepared pursuant to *Chapter VII, Article 7.9* of the R-ARCSS and covers the period 1st January to 31st March 2021. It provides an update on progress or lack thereof since the last reporting period, and builds on the previous quarterly reports published since the signing of the R-ARCSS on 12 September 2018.¹

2. Very little progress was observed during the quarter as it relates to the implementation of the key outstanding tasks. In particular, implementation of the tasks of the Pre-Transitional Period related to the reconstitution of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly (TNLA), and the training and redeployment of the Necessary Unified Forces (NUF) completely stalled.² Further, outstanding tasks relating to humanitarian affairs, economic reforms, and transitional justice issues remained largely untouched by the Revitalised Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGoNU). To be commended, however, is the naming of the government at the state and county levels after the Parties successfully resolved and agreed on responsibility sharing arrangements. Of much concern is the ongoing communal violence that threatens the fragile security environment, and which has the potential to derail any possible gains from the hard won peace. It is therefore imperative that the RTGoNU redoubles its efforts at implementation in order to make further gains towards sustainable peace.

3. The Report therefore highlights the few accomplishments that were realised during the period, particularly relating to governance issues, while also stressing the stalled implementation of the permanent ceasefire and transitional security arrangements. Much remains to be done by the RTGoNU especially considering that less than two years remain in the Transitional Period as it was previously agreed upon. Also, the Report examines efforts by the Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC), cognizant of its monitoring, oversight and evaluation role; to encourage progress on implementation by the RTGoNU. In the process, the Report identifies the challenges related to transitional justice issues, the humanitarian situation and the economy, and offers a series of recommendations to help improve the pace of implementation of the R-ARCSS.

4. Section II lays out the status of implementation of each of the six thematic chapters of the R-ARCSS pertaining to governance, security, humanitarian, the economy, transitional

¹ Previous Quarterly Reports, which cover progress or lack thereof in implementation of the R-ARCSS since its signing in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 12 September 2018, are numbers 001/19, 002/19, 003/19, 004/19, 005/19, 006/20, 007/20, 008/20 and 009/20, and can be accessed at <https://jmecsouthsudan.org/index.php/reports/rjmec-quarterly-reports>.

² The redeployment of the Unified Forces is considered to be critical to preserving the peace in South Sudan by aiding the state authorities to get a handle on intercommunal violence and better deal with any security threats which may arise in the future. This task along with the Reconstitution of the TNLA remain as the two outstanding activities that were supposed to be completed over a year ago when the Pre-Transitional Period ended. These major tasks are incomplete and continues to pose serious challenges to the successful implementation of the R-ARCSS.

justice, and constitutional affairs. It also details the activities of RJMEC, as well as its recommendations and observations in Section III, and concludes with Section IV.

II. Status of Implementation of the Revitalised Peace Agreement

Chapter I – Revitalised Transitional Government of National Unity

5. This section of the quarterly report provides an update on the status of implementation by RTGoNU on Chapter I of the R-ARCSS. At the end of the last quarter, there were a number of tasks of Chapter I whose implementation was unaccomplished: the reconstitution of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly (TNLA), Council of States, State Executives and State Legislative Assembly; establishment of Judicial Reform Committee (JRC); ratification of and assent to the Constitutional Amendment Bill No. 8, 2020 (as amended) as well as ratification, by TNLA, of the governance and security related bills submitted by NCAC to the RTGoNU for further processing; and, reconstitution of the existing Commissions and Institutions at the national level.

6. During the period under review, however, there was some progress towards the implementation of the provisions of Chapter I of the R-ARCSS. On 22 January 2021, for instance, President Salva Kiir appointed three Deputy Governors for Warrap, Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Central Equatoria states, bringing to nine, the number of Governors appointed and a similar number of Deputy Governors. At this time, the deadlock over Lt Gen. Johnson Olony's candidature for the gubernatorial position for Upper Nile state had not been resolved and hence the posts for both the Governor and Deputy Governor were vacant.

7. However, following internal consultations by the SPLM/A-IO, Hon. Budhok Ayang Kur was identified as a replacement of Lt Gen. Johnson Olony. Accordingly, on 29 January 2021 President Salva Kiir appointed him as the Governor for Upper Nile state and Hon. James Tor Monybuny as his deputy. The appointments ended nearly 10 months of deadlock over the SPLM/A-IO nominee for the governor's position. Furthermore, President Kiir replaced Gen. Bona Panek Biar with Lt. Gen. Aleny Ayieny Aleu as the new Governor of Warrap state. The appointment of the Governor for Upper Nile state and the Deputy meant that all the positions of the Governors and their deputies for the 10 states in South Sudan have been filled.

8. Of concern, however, is that the gender disaggregation of the executive appointments for the Governors and their Deputies shows that 90% of the appointed Governors are male whereas 10% (01) is female. With respect to the Deputy Governors, 70% (07) are males whereas 30% (03) are females. This means that the Parties, with the exception of the SPLM/A-IO, did not strictly observe the nomination requirements of the R-ARCSS concerning women participation at the executive level, which should be at a minimum participation of 35 percent (See Annex).³ The ITGoNU with six (06) positions did not nominate any female Governor whereas SPLM/A-IO with three (03) positions nominated the only female Governor, Hon. Sarah Cleto Rial, Governor for Western Bahr el Ghazal. The SSOA's nominated Governor is male. The number

³ As per *Article 1.4.4* of the R-ARCSS, 'Provisions of the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan and ARCSS on participation of women (35%) in the Executive shall be observed.' The nominations for the positions of the Governors and their deputies in the 10 states fell far short of the provision.

of women each Party to the R-ARCSS nominated and were appointed to the Deputy Governors positions in the 10 states are as follows: ITGoNU (0); SPLM/A-IO (01); SSOA (0) and OPP (02).

9. On 2 February 2021 the Presidency made five critical decisions regarding the implementation of the R-ARCSS, including: (a) on completing the formation of the state governments; (b) on unification of the top leadership of the Army Command to pave the way for the integration of forces into a national single army under a unified command, and that graduation of the first phase of the Unified Forces would be expedited without further delay; (c) that the First Vice President accompanied by other Vice Presidents and Ministers would undertake a tour of the different areas of the country to disseminate the R-ARCSS. The countrywide tour is intended to address some of the recurring challenges associated with freedom of access to, and movement within, areas still under administrative control of the SPLM/A-IO by entrenching the reality of the unity government, with undivided jurisdiction over the entire country; and (d) that the Transitional National Legislature would be reconstituted on or before 15 February 2021.

10. While the state executives have been established with the appointments of the State Ministers, Advisors, Independent and County Commissioners, albeit at different times, the rest of the decisions reached by the Presidency on 2 February are yet to be implemented. Also, appointments of the local governments in the three Administrative Areas of Abyei, Ruweng and Greater Pibor remain outstanding.

11. On 26 February 2021, the Parties to the R-ARCSS agreed on allocation of responsibility sharing for: (a) the Council of States; (b) Specialized Committees of the Council of States; (c) Standing Specialized Technical Committees of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly (TNLA); and, (d) State Legislative Assemblies pursuant to the R-ARCSS. By implication, the 26 February 2021 responsibility-sharing amends the one of 10 August 2020 where, for example, the parties revised each State Legislative Assembly to 100.

12. Furthermore, the Parties agreed that 100 responsibility sharing positions at the Council of States would be shared between the ITGoNU, SPLM/A-IO, SSOA, and OPP in the ratios of 55:27:10:8 respectively. The Parties further agreed to four (4) Chairpersons and four (4) Deputy Chairpersons of the Specialized Technical Committees of the Council of States as well as 26 Chairpersons and 26 Deputy Chairpersons of the Standing Specialized Technical Committees of the TNLA.

13. However, the TNLA is yet to be reconstituted because not all Parties have fully submitted the list of their nominees to the NCAC to enable its reconstitution to proceed. The NCAC received a full list from the Former Detainees (FDs) and a list of 124 out of 128 nominees from SPLM/A-IO. The NCAC communicated with the SPLM/A-IO to address the gap. Meanwhile, the ITGoNU, SSOA and OPP are yet to submit their list of TNLA nominees to the NCAC.

14. On 2 March 2021, President Salva Kiir issued another Decree on “*Delegation of Power to the Governors of ten (10) states of the Republic of South Sudan*,” which clarified on some of the legal contestations regarding the procedure of appointments of the state governments, as reported in the previous week. The Decree indicates that the Governors of the 10 states have been delegated the power to swear into office the appointed state officials and that the power to appoint and remove the officials, as provided for in the R-ARCSS, is vested in the

Presidency, the Parties and the RJMEC, and that the state authorities, pending the amendments of the state constitutions and the Local Government Act 2009, shall exercise their respective legal mandate as per the terms of the R-ARCSS.

15. On 12 March 2021, the Minister for Cabinet Affairs announced that the RTGoNU resolved to establish Malakal as a County and that it would comprise Warjowk, Lilo, Ogodo and Wau Shilluk Payams with its headquarters at Wau Shilluk Payam. It was further announced that Malakal town comprising Malakal north, Malakal centre and Malakal south would become a Municipality in Upper Nile state. The rationale for the decision was that it is a mechanism to resolve disagreements over how Malakal would be governed. The decisions elicited mixed reactions from the public – both in favour of and against. Amidst political dissent, Hon. Francis Nyang Awok Ajang was appointed as the Mayor of Malakal, by the Governor.

16. In terms of legal and constitutional reforms, mandated to the National Constitutional Amendment Committee (NCAC), under *Article 1.18.1* of the R-ARCSS, there has been limited progress during this reporting period. The twelve months mandate of the NCAC into the Transitional Period lapsed before the Committee had completed its tasks, including the critical review of the NGO Act and the National Elections Act. As a result, the NCAC had requested for a minimum of six months extension of its working period to complete its pending tasks. The ITGoNU, SPLM/A-IO and SSOA have indicated their agreement to extend the mandate of the NCAC. In the meantime, however, the work of the NCAC has been halted, and funding may prove challenging going forward.

17. By the time the NCAC halted its work, it had completed the review and amendment of the Public Finance Management Act and the National Audit Chambers Act, which had both been finalised and validated, awaiting submission to the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs for onward transmission to the Cabinet and TNLA. They had also embarked on reviewing the Petroleum Act, the Petroleum Revenue Management Act, and the Bank of South Sudan Act. and are receiving submissions from relevant institutions.

Chapter II – Permanent Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements

The Security Situation

18. Since the last report, the Permanent Ceasefire has continued to hold despite the volatile security situation in the Maban area, Upper Nile State due to attacks on SPLA-IO Liang Cantonment Site in January by former SPLA-IO forces who defected to the SSPDF. Sporadic attacks on Liang Cantonment Site continued throughout the reporting period, and in some cases by armed youth over the appointment of a new Country Commissioner. Of significance, was the SSPDF attack on the civilian villages of Luak Wien, Koat Ciethor, and Wunthow and the attack on an SPLA-IO outpost at Kedbeck in Upper Nile state, which was triggered by the killing of an SSPDF junior officer by unknown armed youth.

19. The attack on the SPLA-IO outpost was the first direct SSPDF offensive operation on the SPLA-IO since the signing of the Agreement even though the SPLA-IO prevented escalation by withdrawing from their position before the attack. Of concern also in Upper Nile was the fighting between Dinka and Nuer armed civilians at Anyangnyang, due to cattle raiding that resulted in 10 deaths and 11 wounded. In Unity State, armed youth attacked the SSPDF's Awila Barracks in Abiemnom County, leaving one SSPDF soldier dead and two others wounded.

20. However, it is important to point out that during the armed violence in Upper Nile, the Joint Defence Board, headed by the SSPDF Chief of Defence Staff Lt. Gen Johnson Juma Okot, intervened twice and managed to prevent a potential attack on Akoka by armed Nuer youth, and also de-escalated tension between SSPDF and SPLA-IO forces around Nassir following the SSPDF attack on villages, as well as on an SPLA-IO outpost. The SSPDF commander whose unit attacked civilians and the SPLA-IO outpost was immediately removed from the field pending investigations.

21. Although fighting between the Parties to the R-ARCSS (ITGoNU, SPLM/A-IO and SSOA)⁴ and the NAS during the period of reporting had significantly reduced since December 2020, fighting was reported between NAS elements and an SSPDF unit around Morak and Ombasi in the Yei area during March 2021. Attacks on SPLA-IO positions by Maj Gen Gabriel Moses Lokujo, who defected from the SPLA-IO to the SSPDF in September 2020, significantly reduced during the period of reporting.⁵ However, several cattle keeper related violent incidents were reported in Central and Eastern Equatoria, which resulted in the deaths of several civilians.

22. The latest unsettling development in Eastern Equatoria has been a series of retaliatory attacks that are threatening the peaceful coexistence between the SPLA-IO forces in the Lowureng Cantonment Site and local communities. An alleged attack by armed civilians on the SPLA-IO Lowureng Cantonment Site led to an SPLA-IO revenge attack on 27 March 2021 during which 17 civilians were killed and several wounded. In response to the escalating violence, the Governor of Eastern Equatoria visited the area to facilitate a peaceful dialogue, but on 29 March he was ambushed by the local youth killing one bodyguard and wounding others. The situation remained tense at the time of reporting, and CTSAMVM is investigating the incidents. It is concerning that incidents of armed youth attacking forces of the Parties to the R-ARCSS appear to be on the increase.

23. Acts of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) by uniformed forces still occur. During the CTSAMVM Technical Committee meeting held on 21 January 2021, it was reported that the two policemen who raped two girls in Maridi were prosecuted and sentenced. A report on rape and killing in Lainya area, Central Equatoria, was also presented. In its report, CTSAMVM notes that there had been serious crimes committed by some SSPDF soldiers from Loka in Gwelinde village on the night of 3 December 2020.

24. The crimes included murder, rape, assault and theft. The attacks were conducted as revenge for the alleged attack by NAS on SSPDF. The allegation of NAS involvement could not be confirmed. Three women were raped and a fourth was stripped naked. All victims have received treatment. Trend analysis by CTSAMVM indicates that there were 89 women and girls involved in SGBV incidents from October 2018 to November 2020. It is critical to continue to train and sensitize organised forces on SGBV issues as well as to call for investigation, arrest, prosecution and sentence of perpetrators of SGBV crimes.

⁴ These are the three of the five Parties that signed the Agreement with an armed faction. The other two Parties are FDs and OPP.

⁵ In March the European Union sanctioned Maj. General Lukojjo accusing him of been 'responsible for grave human rights violations connected to his defection followed by attacks on civilians.' The EU also stressed that defections 'violate the peace agreement and contribute to violence affecting civilians and to human rights abuses and violations.'

Cantonment and Training Centres

25. Cantonment Sites and Training Centres continue to face significant challenges that include a lack of food, medicine, clean water, shelter equipment and essential personal hygiene items for female personnel; as a result, the morale of the forces has deteriorated. In Upper Nile, the Liang Cantonment Site's security is threatened due to frequent attacks by defectors and armed youth. In Eastern Equatoria, the Lowureng Cantonment Site was recently attacked by unknown armed civilians. CTSAMVM is investigating the incident. The Moroto Training Centre has been vacated following a 2020 attack by Maj General Lokujo who defected from the SPLA-IO to the SSPDF.

26. In February 2021, the RJMEC Interim Chairperson initiated visits to the Maridi and the Rajaf Police Training Centres. Accompanying the Interim Chairperson was the IGAD Special Envoy for South Sudan, the African Union Representative in South Sudan and several IGAD ambassadors where they witnessed the dire and austere living conditions of the trainees and staff. What they witnessed, included the decreasing number of trainees in the centres due to large scale desertions as a result of severe hunger, was proof of the continuing dire situation in many cantonment sites and training centres across the country.

27. In March, the African Union Peace and Security Council (AU PSC), during its visit to Juba, took the opportunity to visit the Rajaf Police Training Centre, where they witnessed first-hand, the challenges that the trainees and instructional staff face. The challenges, that include the lack of food, medicines, accommodation, transport, and a lack of personal hygiene items for female personnel, have been highlighted in several RJMEC reports to the RTGoNU and the National Transitional Committee (NTC), and yet it appears that little to nothing has changed to improve the situation.

28. Added to the logistical challenges at Cantonment Sites and Training Centres, the unification of forces has since stalled, with no progress on training, graduation and redeployment of the Necessary Unified Forces (NUF). The RTGoNU has committed to expedite the unification of forces starting with the formation of a unified command structure, but to date, no apparent progress has been made in that area. The Parties struggle to find a solution to the excess number of senior officers in their forces, since there is no clear Demobilization Disarmament and Reintegration (DDR) process or retirement strategy that can cater for those who are neither eligible nor able to serve in the new unified forces.

National Transitional Committee and the Security Mechanisms

29. The National Transitional Committee (NTC) charged with the responsibility to oversee and coordinate the work of Security Mechanisms has not managed to fund and coordinate the activities of the mechanisms in accordance with their remit under Republican Order No. 10/2020.⁶ As a consequence, the majority of security tasks and activities within the Transitional Security Arrangements have stalled, with no imminent unification of forces in sight. The Security Mechanisms have tried to implement the responsibilities and tasks that they were

⁶ Republican Order No. 10/2020 gave birth to the National Transitional Committee as a replacement to the National Pre-Transitional Committee. The decree specified that the committee would be totally responsible for overseeing the activities of the security mechanisms and providing them with the necessary resources to complete their work.

charged with under the R-ARCSS, but have struggled to move any further forward without the necessary political, financial and technical support needed from the RTGoNU.

30. In an effort to assess the status of the Permanent Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements, to improve coordination, and to ensure continued traction of the implementation of R-ARCSS Chapter II tasks and activities, a joint RJMEC and CTSAMVM seminar was conducted on 28 January 2021 with participation from the NTC, the Security Mechanisms and the DDR Commission, as well as attendance from AUMISS, IGAD Special Envoy's Office, UNMISS and UNDP. A number of outcomes and appropriate corrective action measures were agreed which now need urgent attention by the relevant authorities and mechanisms.

31. The work of the Strategic Defence and Security Review Board in accordance with the R-ARCSS, which is essential for the formation and professionalization of the new security forces, is ongoing but remains incomplete. In spite of assistance from both RJMEC and UNMISS (SSR Section), including the facilitation of a series of workshops to support the development and completion of the strategy and policy documents in accordance with Chapter II, Article 2.5.4, the Strategic Security Assessment, the National Security Policy Framework and the revised Defence Policy have yet to be published for approval by Parliament. Following a recent meeting of RJMEC and UNMISS SSR with the Chairperson of the SDSR Board, it was agreed to conduct two 3-day workshops in May 2021 to complete and finalise the documents mentioned above. It is envisaged that the final draft of the SDSR will be completed by the end of June 2021.

Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR)

32. The DDR Commission, despite some assistance from International Partners, remains with insufficient government funding and resources to implement their tasks, whilst the DDR Strategy and policy documents for implementation have taken time to be approved by the NTC and the RTGoNU. Following a recent meeting between RJMEC and the DDR Commission, it is understood that the NTC have finally approved the DDR Strategy and Policy documents which includes the budget forecast. Focus will now be on coordinating with the NTC and Security Mechanisms the establishment of four immediate transit sites (one in the Equatoria, one in Bahr El Ghazal and two in Upper Nile) and implementing an outreach strategy in order to ensure that the DDR process is synchronised with the graduation and redeployment of Phase 1 of the NUF.

Chapter III – Humanitarian Assistance and Reconstruction

33. The level of humanitarian needs in South Sudan continued to rise as a result of multiple shocks key among which were widespread subnational violence, COVID-19 related restrictions, currency depreciation and economic challenges that contributed towards a rise in acute food insecurity. Humanitarian needs were compounded by violence and insecurity in Central and Western Equatoria, Upper Nile, Jonglei and Warrap states, and in the Greater Pibor Administrative Area, which left thousands displaced and in dire need of humanitarian assistance. According to South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC), in February 2021 alone, subnational violence in Tonj North, Tonj East and Tonj South resulted in the deaths of over 30 civilians, including women and children, an estimated 117,000 people

displaced and relocation by humanitarian partners of 20 health workers from the area due to insecurity.

34. Meanwhile, almost half of the population, 5.82 million people, were projected to likely face a crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worsening acute food insecurity, and 105,000 catastrophic levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 5). This was the case between December 2020 and March 2021 in six Priority 1 counties in the Greater Pibor Administrative Area (Pibor), Jonglei (Akobo), Northern Bahr El Ghazal (Aweil South), and Warrap (Tonj East, Tonj North and Tonj South). According to the 2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview,⁷ 8.3 million people, over two-thirds of the total population, were estimated to need humanitarian assistance in 2021, an increase of 800,000 people from the recorded 7.5 million in need in 2020.

35. In response to the growing needs, the humanitarian community launched the South Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan for 2021, targeting 6.6 million people with urgent life-saving assistance and protection by the end of the year. The US \$ 1.7 billion plan is aimed at covering varied needs, including food security, displacement, livelihood support, health, education and protection across the country. OCHA also launched an operational response plan to support food insecure people in priority counties and humanitarian partners deployed additional staff to coordinate response activities.

36. During the quarter, intracommunal and subnational violence continued to be the main security concern and deterrent of humanitarian movement and operations as well as the biggest threat to the safety of humanitarian staff and assets. Humanitarian access was further hampered by physical constraints particularly in the most affected areas of Jonglei and the Greater Pibor Administrative Area due to non-seasonal floods and poor road networks across the country. Further, humanitarian work remained on hold in Renk and Maban in Upper Nile state following threats to NGO staff and damage to NGO facilities. It is important to note that fragmentation of power blocks and political parties made access harder as humanitarian workers were forced to negotiate access and carefully manage relationships with different parties and groups.

37. Increased incursion of Mundari and Dinka cattle herders into Central Equatoria state resulted in conflict and tensions. A rising concern was the settlement of the herders on farmlands threatening the livelihoods of the predominantly farming communities of Central Equatoria. Recent reports by CTSAMVM intimate a political connection to the problem as local security agencies were quoted to say they need orders to take action against the cattle herders as it is a “political matter.”

38. On a positive note, the reconstituted State Government of Jonglei took some decisive action regarding ongoing access impediments that impact humanitarian activity. In Ayod County, a letter was issued by the newly appointed County Commissioner granting absolute cooperation and security assurances for humanitarian actors in the seven payams of the County. Similarly, in Fangak, the new Commissioner issued a letter revoking the arbitrary fees that had

⁷ The Humanitarian Needs Overview is consolidated by OCHA on behalf of the Humanitarian Country Team and partners. The document presents an understanding of the crisis, which forms the background to the current humanitarian situation and presents the most pressing humanitarian needs and the estimated number of people who need assistance. It informs joint strategic response planning through the Humanitarian Response Plan, which at the moment acts as the National plan as it encompasses NGO and UN humanitarian responses. It also forms the basis for budgeting and fundraising to respond to humanitarian needs through the Fundraising Appeal that is usually presented by UNOCHA to fund the Humanitarian Response Plan.

been imposed on agencies. It is hoped that this trend will be sustained and replicated in other states. Overall, despite the insecurity and lack of services, small numbers of refugees continued to trickle back into Yei and Morobo Counties citing deteriorating conditions in the refugee camps in Uganda. This lends urgency to the need to create a conducive environment for returns and reintegration of refugees and IDPs.

Chapter IV – Resource, Economic and Financial Management

39. The outlook for government finances has been improving through the first quarter of 2021. Non-oil revenues are increasing faster than projected. Since the end of 2020, a stronger than expected global economic recovery combined with control of oil supply by OPEC+ has caused a rebound in the oil price.⁸ This has resulted in a stronger than expected increase in oil revenues during the first quarter, but also in a correspondingly faster than expected completion of payments to Sudan under the Transitory Financial Arrangement with Sudan (TFA) than envisaged only half a year ago. If these payments are completed within the next fiscal year, the fiscal space will increase considerably.

40. With regards to the R-ARCSS, not much has been accomplished in the implementation of Chapter IV on resource, economic and financial management. There are, however, limited progress in some areas. First, with regard to economic and financial management, the Public Financial Management Oversight Committee is building capacity of the government to implement its reform strategy that is aligned to the R-ARCSS. Second, the dissemination of the updated annual petroleum reports from the Ministry of Petroleum is a step in the right direction.

41. In that regard, the public availability of these reports contributes to increased transparency in the oil sector. The Republican Decree of 18 February 2021 created an Oversight Committee which should push forward the audit mandated by *Article 4.8.1.14.5*, which is described in the Agreement as an ‘urgent audit of the Petroleum Sector and to reconstitute and empower the National Petroleum and Gas Company to oversee negotiations with oil companies as well as the award of concessions and licenses.’ In other key areas of the Agreement, there are no reports of progress.

42. For instance, The Economic and Financial Management Authority (EFMA) as mandated in the R-ARCSS has not been established. This institution is needed to report to the RJMEC on progress in implementation against provisions of the Agreement. There is no update on the status of operationalising the oil revenue funds (Oil Stabilization Account and the Future Generations Fund) and restructuring the National Petroleum and Gas Commission, and the Nile Petroleum Corporation, as required in the R-ARCSS, or on the different enterprise development funds, including the Youth and Women Enterprise Development Funds, as mandated under *Article 4.15.1* of the R-ARCSS.

43. The Government commenced a review of its National Development Strategy (NDS) as required in *Article 4.3.1.1* of the R-ARCSS. To ensure that it is inclusive and participatory,

⁸ The world oil price in 2020 averaged US \$42, down from US \$64 in 2019, and for South Sudan this translated to a reduction in gross oil revenues of around US \$600 million for the calendar year. It’s important to note that the oil agreement between South Sudan and Sudan contains a clause that extends the repayment period for the Transitory Financial Arrangement to Sudan (TFA) when the oil price falls below USD 50.

interactive country-wide consultations through representatives of all segments of the South Sudanese society were conducted to identify priorities of the NDS. To complement the review a country-led fragility assessment to identify the causes, features and drivers of fragility and conflict and the potential sources of resilience within a country was conducted in accordance with the New Deal for Fragile States and *Article 4.3.1.7* of the R-ARCSS.

Chapter V – Transitional Justice Accountability Reconciliation and Healing

44. Chapter V of the R-ARCSS provides for the establishment of three transitional justice mechanisms. These are the Commission for Truth Reconciliation and Healing (CTRH), the Hybrid Court for South Sudan (HCSS) and the Compensation and Reparations Authority (CRA). In February 2021 the Cabinet of the RTGoNU issued a Cabinet Resolution on the implementation of Chapter V, Chapter VI and on Judicial Reforms R-ARCSS. In this resolution, it directed the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (MoJCA) to act as the line ministry and focal point in implementing these provisions of the Agreement. The Cabinet resolved that the Governance Cluster will provide political oversight over the implementation of Chapter V, Chapter VI and on Judicial Reform of the R-ARCSS.

45. During this period MoJCA indicated to the RJMEC Interim Chairperson that it had established a Taskforce within the Ministry to coordinate the day-to-day implementation of Chapter V, Chapter VI and on Judicial Reform. The Ministry is also in the process of establishing a 30-member technical committee (supported by a professional secretariat) to lead public and stakeholder consultations that inform the CTRH legislation. Lastly, MoJCA has indicated that it awaits submission of the Memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of the Hybrid Court for South Sudan from the African Union Commission (AUC). This is premised on the understanding that the last MoU submitted by the AU was to the previous administration and under the previous peace agreement i.e., ARCSS of 2015. MoJCA is of the opinion that it therefore would be appropriate for the AUC to resubmit to it an updated version of the MoU on the HCSS to enable a fresh round of discussions on the establishment of this critical transitional justice mechanism.

Chapter VI – Parameters of Permanent Constitution

46. With respect to the Permanent Constitution-making process envisaged under Chapter VI of the R-ARCSS, there has been some progress made during the reporting period. Following the initiation of the process by the RTGoNU through its endorsement of a Roadmap in January 2021, the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (MoJCA) has in turn appointed an internal coordination team to coordinate its implementation. The Ministry has since met with RJMEC, IGAD and AU to present the Roadmap and to enhance coordination and joint implementation of the shared mandate. In addition, the RJMEC and IGAD handed over to the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs the proposed draft Terms of Reference for the establishment of the Ad-hoc Judicial Reform Committee as provided for under *Article 1.17.3* of the R-ARCSS

47. As mandated under *Article 6.7* of the R-ARCSS, the RJMEC Secretariat has also made significant progress in preparation towards the convening of the workshop for the Parties to agree on the details of conducting the Permanent Constitution-making process, the outcome of which shall form the basis of the legislations to be enacted. The Secretariat has identified and engaged the Max Planck Foundation, a renowned Germany based institute, to facilitate the

workshop and together have been planning and consulting with the parties and stakeholders under the R-ARCSS.

48. Together, RJMEC and the Max Planck Foundation held two rounds of sensitization meetings with representatives of the Parties, the Other South Sudanese Stakeholders and relevant rule of law institutions and mechanisms expected to play critical roles in the process or its implementation. On 16 March the ITGoNU submitted the list of its nominees to the workshop which now completes the nominations process. A two-day sensitization meeting is planned with the representatives of the ITGoNU from 20 – 21 April and a joint sensitization for all the nominees a week later on 27 – 28 April. The actual workshop is tentatively scheduled for 26 – 28 May 2021.

Chapter VII. Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission

49. During the period under review, the RJMEC leadership met with Hon. Mariam al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, Sudan's Foreign Minister and Chairperson of the IGAD Council of Ministers (CoM). The RJMEC Chairperson briefed the Chairperson CoM on the status of implementation of the R-ARCSS and stressed the need for IGAD to hold a summit specifically to address the slow pace of implementation. The RJMEC leadership also held discussions with the First Vice President, Dr. Riek Machar and Hon. Nhial Deng Nhial⁹, Minister for Presidential Affairs on the status of implementation of the R-ARCSS. They both offered their opinions that the outstanding tasks must be completed as quickly as possible in order to keep the Agreement on track. The RJMEC leadership raised its concern over the delay by the Parties in submitting their list of TNLA nominees to the NCAC. The First Vice President gave his assurance that the names would be submitted in due course. Failure by the Parties to reconstitute the TNLA continues to be of great concern to RJMEC.

50. As part of its strategy to garner greater support from the regional guarantors for implementation of the R-ARCSS, the RJMEC leadership organized a fact-finding visit to two Training Centres. The RJMEC Chairperson was accompanied to the Maridi and Rajaf training centres by the IGAD Special Envoy to South Sudan along with ambassadors of the IGAD member states to the Republic of South Sudan or their representatives, the Minister of Defense and Veteran Affairs of the RTGoNU and heads of the security mechanisms. Following the visit, a joint statement of RJMEC, the AU and IGAD was released stressing the importance of the Permanent Ceasefire and the Transitional Security Arrangements (PCTSA) as a fundamental building block of the R-ARCSS. The statement stressed that its full and timely implementation is intended to underpin a stable future for the people and country of South Sudan, and it is a key part of avoiding repetition of past mistakes, and achieving a united, peaceful and prosperous society throughout the country. Consequently, the statement called for improved conditions in both Training Centres and cantonment sites by providing adequate food and other essential supplies; and an acceleration of the graduation of the NUF.

51. In January, RJMEC held a seminar for the NTC together with the security mechanisms in order to discuss the status of the Training Centres and Cantonment Sites, and to plan on the best way forward. Following the workshop, the RJMEC Chairperson wrote to President Kiir outlining the key action items that needed to be addressed. This included providing resources to the Training Centres and Cantonment Sites, moving towards a unified command structure and providing resources for DDR.

52. Together with UNMISS and the IGAD Special Envoy office, RJMEC participated in a workshop held in Wau aimed at building trust and confidence within the newly formed state

⁹ Hon. Nhial opined on the issue of defections insisting that the ITGoNU is not encouraging IO forces to join the SSPDF, but rather that forces are changing alliances out of necessity and a means of survival.

government of Western Bahr el Ghazal, led by Governor Sarah Cleto Rial. The formation of the state government is viewed as critical in helping to deal with the humanitarian situation and security concerns around inter-communal violence.

53. Finally, during the reporting period, the RJMEC held its monthly Plenary in an effort to discuss the status of implementation of the R-ARCSS, and issued a monthly statement during March, detailing the status of implementation. The meeting brought together the Parties to the Agreement, stakeholders and its regional and international members. Prior to the formal meetings, the Interim Chairperson maintained a steady and consistent engagement with the Parties to the Agreement, the regional and international diplomatic community and other stakeholders. The RJMEC also released reports on the Pre-Transitional Period, and a one-year assessment of the RTGoNU.¹⁰

III. Observations and Recommendations

54. Overall, there are some key observations noteworthy with regards to the implementation of the governance tasks laid out in the R-ARCSS. These include the following: (a) during the quarter the RTGoNU marked its first anniversary since its establishment on 22 February 2020; (b) the various political appointments took rather long to be made and, as a result, did not conform within the timelines as contained in the implementation matrix of the R-ARCSS; (c) all political appointments fell short of the 35% women quotas, particularly in the Executive; (d) there was lack of prioritization and sequencing of tasks by the Parties; (e) trust-deficit between the political leadership of some Parties resulted in deadlock, which delayed implementation of some key tasks of governance; and (f) incoherence within some parties to the R-ARCSS mostly associated with the complexity of decision-making within party alliances.

55. During the reporting period, the pace of implementation of the R-ARCSS slowed markedly. In particular, security arrangements, which are meant to signify progress towards establishment of the NUF completely stalled. As a result of the lack of unified security forces to enforce law and order, as well as addressing intercommunal violence, the newly created state governments can do little at present to protect their civilians in terms of ensuring protection and security. However, RJMEC believes that the operationalization of the State Security Committees will be instrumental in addressing these security challenges. In addition, the lack of progress on the DDR process will have a significant detrimental impact on RTGoNU's ability to deal with excess senior officers and soldiers who are not eligible to serve in the NUF. Consequently, the onus is on the RTGoNU to quickly complete the graduation of the NUF and proceed to redeploy the graduates. This can be accomplished by taking immediate action on completing the unified command structure and providing the necessary resources to the security mechanisms, including for DDR, in order to enable them to complete their work.

56. During the visit to Juba of the Africa Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC), the RJMEC leadership outlined to the Council the slow pace of implementation of the R-ARCSS. RJMEC also drew attention to the spate of military defections and growing inter-communal violence, which continue to negatively impact on the implementation of the R-ARCSS. It also requested that the Council prevail on the Parties to: (i) urgently reconstitute the TNLA and

¹⁰ The Pre-Transitional report can be accessed here: <https://jmecsouthsudan.org/index.php/reports/r-arcss-evaluation-reports/180-report-by-h-e-major-general-charles-tai-gituai-interim-chairperson-of-rjmec-on-the-status-of-implementation-of-the-r-arcss-during-the-pre-transitional-period-12-september-2018-to-22-february-2020/file> and the One-Year RTGoNU report can be accessed here: <https://jmecsouthsudan.org/index.php/reports/r-arcss-evaluation-reports/179-progress-report-by-h-e-maj-gen-charles-tai-gituai-rtd-cbs-interim-chairperson-of-rjmec-on-the-first-year-of-the-transitional-period-of-the-r-arcss-covering-the-period-22nd-february-2020-to-23rd-february-2021/file>

Council of States, and complete appointment of State Legislative Assembly and lower local government, and to observe the 35% quota for women's representation across the board; and (ii) forge ahead with immediate graduation and redeployment of the unified forces, prioritize DDR, and also to expedite Phase II and the Strategic Defense and Security Review (SDSR) process. Further, RJMEC also urged that the Council to impress on RTGoNU with the need to expedite the required economic and public finance reforms, immediately establish the Transitional Justice Institutions, and expedite the permanent constitution making process. Beyond this appeal to the Council, the RJMEC recommends the convening of an IGAD Summit to address the exceedingly slow pace of implementation and in particular, the unification of forces, can help move the process forward.

IV. Conclusion

57. It is important that the RTGoNU focuses its efforts to increase the pace of implementation of the R-ARCSS especially considering that there is less than two years remaining before the end of the Transitional Period as envisaged in the Agreement. Important issues related to governance such as the reconstitution of the TNLA and completing the Permanent Constitution must be resolved. Also, the security situation has to be controlled and the NUF should be trained and graduated. Elsewhere, economic reforms need to be undertaken in order to underpin dividends from the peace agreement and transitional justice and humanitarian affairs have to be pursued. Finally, the involvement of IGAD at the highest level will go a long way in steering the course for continued peace in the months ahead.

58. RJMEC on its part shall continue to impartially monitor, evaluate and report as it carries out its oversight responsibilities with regards to the implementation of the R-ARCSS, and intervene whenever necessary. RJMEC will also continue providing regular reports and briefings to the RTGoNU, the TNLA, the Chairperson of the IGAD Council of Ministers, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the AU Peace and Security Council, and to the UN Secretary-General and the United Nations Security Council.

END

Annex: Gender Analysis of the appointment of State Advisers State Ministers, Members of State Independent Commissions and County Commissioners

1. Introduction

Between February 20, 2021 and March 2, 2021, the President of the Republic of South Sudan, H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit issued Presidential Decrees appointing State Advisers, State Ministers, Members of State Independent Commissions and County Commissioners for the ten States. A total number of five hundred and seventy-four (574) officials were appointed, comprised of ninety-three women (93) and four hundred and eighty-one (481) men.

2. Women appointed at the State and Local Government levels

Ninety-three (93) out of the five hundred and seventy-four (574) officials appointed in all states are women: eight (8) in Central Equatoria, fourteen (14) in Eastern Equatoria, six (6) in Jonglei, nine (9) in Lakes, eleven (11) in Northern Bahr El Ghazal, nine (9) in Unity, seven (7) in Upper Nile, five (5) in Warrap, eleven (11) in Western Bahr El Ghazal and thirteen (13) in Western Equatoria.

Appointments in decision-making positions

Advisers: Eight (8) women were appointed Advisers, six (6) of whom were nominated by I-TGoNU, one (1) by SPLM-IO and one (1) by SSOA;

Ministers: thirty-two (32) women were appointed as Ministers, twenty-five (25) of whom were nominated by I-TGoNU, five (5) by SPLM-IO and two (2) by SSOA;

Chairpersons of Independent Commissions: eight (8) women were appointed as Chairpersons of Independent Commissions (five (5) of whom were nominated by I-TGoNU, one (1) by SPLM-IO and two (2) by SSOA;

Deputy Chairpersons of Independent Commissions: eight (8) women were appointed as Deputy Chairpersons of Independent Commissions, five (5) of whom were nominated by I-TGoNU, two (2) by SPLM-IO and one (1) by SSOA; and

County Commissioners: two (2) women were appointed as County Commissioners, one (1) of whom was nominated by I-TGoNU and one (1) by SSOA.

3. Observations

Analysis of the State appointments shows that women constitute 16.2 % of officials appointed for the ten States.

In Adviser positions, women constitute 20% in Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Upper Nile, Warrap and Western Bahr el Ghazal States, 40 % in Lakes State and 0% in Jonglei, Unity and Western Equatoria States.

In Ministerial positions, women constitute 29.4 % in Central Equatoria State, 23.5 % in Eastern Equatoria, Unity and Western Equatoria States, 11.8 % in Jonglei, Upper Nile and Warrap States and 17.6 % in Lakes, Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Western Bahr el Ghazal States.

Women constitute 33.3 % of Chairpersons of Independent Commissions in Eastern Equatoria, Lakes and Northern Bahr El Ghazal States, 16.7 % in Western Bahr El Ghazal and Western Equatoria States and there are no female Chairpersons in Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile and Warrap States.

In Deputy Chairperson of Independent Commissions positions, women constitute 40 % in Central Equatoria State, 16.7 % in Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Upper Nile, Warrap and Western Bahr el Ghazal States and there are no women Deputy Chairpersons of Independent Commissions in Lakes, Unity and Western Equatoria States.

Western Equatoria State is the only State where two women were appointed County Commissioners representing 20% of the County Commissioners.

4. Conclusion

In the current appointment of State Advisers, State Ministers, Members of State Independent Commissions and County Commissioners, women representation in decision making positions is below 35%, except for the Adviser positions in Lakes State and Deputy Chairperson of Independent Commission in Central Equatoria State.

The Parties to the R-ARCSS failed to adhere to the 35% quota for women participation in accordance with Article 1.4.4 of the Agreement and thus contravened that provision.

N.B: A detailed listing of the names of those appointed can be found at the RJMEC Website at <https://www.jmecsouthsudan.org>.