



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

**FINAL MINUTES OF THE 25th MEETING OF THE RECONSTITUTED JOINT
MONITORING AND EVALUATION COMMISSION HELD ON 14th DECEMBER 2022 AT
BEIJING JUBA HOTEL, SOUTH SUDAN**

The Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC) convened its 25th meeting on 14th December 2022 in Juba, South Sudan. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Amb. Maj Gen (rtd) Charles Tai Gituai, Interim Chairperson of the RJMEC and was called to order at 10:05 am.

Agenda

1. Opening Prayers
2. Chairperson's Opening Remarks
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Adoption of the minutes of the 24th RJMEC meeting
5. Statement by the RJMEC Interim Chair
6. Report from RTGoNU
7. Report from NTC
8. Briefing from UNMISS SRSG
9. Reports from Mechanisms on Progress of Implementation in the R-ARCSS
 - a. NCAC
 - b. CTSAMVM
 - c. JDB
 - d. SDSR Board
 - e. JMCC
 - f. DDR Commission
 - g. JRC
10. Discussions
11. Review of the Resolution
12. Date for the next meeting
13. A.O.B
14. Chairperson's closing remarks
15. Closing prayers.

Attendance

For the Parties to the R-ARCSS:

1. Hon. Dr. Martin Elia Lomuro (RTGoNU)
2. Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth (ITGoNU)
3. Hon. Mary Nawai Martin (ITGoNU)
4. Hon. Sandra Bona Malwal (SPLM/IO)
5. Hon. Gatwech Lam Puoch (SPLM/IO)

6. Mr. Malong Thiik Riny (SSOA)
7. Maj. Gen. Bior Leek Kuareng (FDs)
8. Hon. Wilson Lodiong Sebit (OPP)

For the Other South Sudanese Stakeholders and Adherents:

1. Rtd. Bishop Enock Tombe Stephen (Faith-based leader)
2. Sheik Jaralhebi Khamis Mursal (Faith-based leaders)
3. Prof. Moses Macar Kacuol (Eminent Persons)
4. Hon. Amb. John Yoh Gai (Eminent Personality) - online
5. Mr. Akuoch Ajang Nyanhom (CSO Alliance)
6. Dr Angelina Bazugba (Academia)
7. Mrs. Abuk Jervas Makuac (Business Community)
8. Mrs. Maria Gideon Gakmar (Women Bloc)
9. Dr Siham Osman (Women Coalition)
10. Ms. Acayo Nancy Cirino (Youth)
11. Mr. Patrick A. Godi (Youth group)

For the Regional Guarantors:

1. H.E. Gamal Abdelmageed Gassim Elseed Ahmed (Sudan)
2. Amb. Markos Tekle Rike (Ethiopia)
3. H.E. Maj Gen. (rtd) Samuel Nandwa (Kenya)
4. H.E. Brig. Gen. Ronnie Balya (Uganda)
5. Mr. Kataps Gaius Keafon (Nigeria)
6. Mr. Elijah Osiro (IGAD Mission to South Sudan)
7. Amb. Prof. Joram M. Biswaro (AUMISS)

For International Partners and Friends of South Sudan

1. Mr. Ma Wenjun (China)
2. Mr. Jonas Huus Ervik (Norway)
3. H.E. Michael J. Adler (USA)
4. H.E. Jonny Baxter (UK)
5. Mr. Dionyz Hochel (EU)
6. Mr. Guang Cong (UNMISS)
7. H.E. Jenny Hill (IPF) Canada
8. Mr. Jan Huesken (IPF) Netherlands

For RJMEC Secretariat:

1. Amb. Berhanu Kebede, Chief of Staff
2. Ms Esther Kyewalabye, Humanitarian Advisor
3. Mr Guy Gabriel, Communications Advisor

For Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms:

1. Hon. Gichira Kibara, Chairperson NCAC
2. Lt. Gen. Asrat Dennero, Chairperson CTSAMVM

3. Maj. Gen. Charles Machieng Kuol, Head of JDB Secretariat.
4. Mr. Angelo Madut, Head of SDSR Board Secretariat
5. Hon. Lt. Gen. Ayuen Alier Jongroor, Chairperson, DDR Commission
6. Hon. Justice James Ogoola – Chairperson JRC

Observers:

1. H.E. Erdem Mutaf (Turkiye)
2. H.E. Vishnu Kumar Sharma (India)
3. H.E. Tobias Eichner (Germany)
4. Ms. Riko Kato (Japan)
5. Mr. Georg Stein (Switzerland)
6. Mr. Mohamed Elbadry (Egypt)
7. Mr. Tomas Brundin (Sweden)
8. Mr. Peterson Magoola (UN Women)
9. Mr. George Otoo (UNMISS RCO)
10. Ms. Catherine Waliaula (UNDP)

Min. 01/25/22: Opening Prayers

1. Bishop Emeritus Enock Tombe Stephen and Sheik Jaralnebi Khamis Mursal led the opening prayers.

Min. 02/25/22: Chairperson's Opening Remarks

2. The Chairperson welcomed the RJMEC members to the meeting RJMEC to the plenary.

Min. 03/25/22: Adoption of the Agenda

3. The meeting agenda was adopted without any amendments.

Min. 04/25/22: Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

4. The draft minutes of the 24th RJMEC meeting was reviewed and adopted with reservations on stating the names of the Party representatives in the discussions.

Min. 05/25/22: Statement by the RJMEC Interim Chair

5. The RJMEC Chairperson read his statement to the plenary highlighting the following critical issues:
 - 5.1. the meetings of the IGAD Council of Ministers, the African Union Peace and Security Council, and the United Nations Security Council, during which the fast-tracking of the peace process in the Republic of South Sudan was on the top of the agenda, as it was at the Sixth Governor's Forum;

- 5.2. Emphasized the importance of the Agreement institutions and mechanisms, such as the NCAC, Judicial Reform Committee, CTSAMVM, among others, in the ongoing implementation of the Agreement and the need to pay allowances for their national members in order to facilitate their work;
- 5.3. underscored that peaceful and democratic elections are possible in the next 24 months if members collectively focused on facilitating progress. He recommended to the RTGoNU to adhere to the Roadmap timelines and prioritizing their implementation through the availing of predictable, timely and adequate funding for all tasks; urged the reconstituted TNL to expedite the processing of all Bills before the Legislature; further urged the commencement of Phase 2 of the unification of forces, which was overdue, and avail funding and political support to the DDR programmes, which is an essential component of the unification of forces;
- 5.4. reiterated the need to address subnational violence, especially in Upper Nile and Jonglei States, holding the perpetrators accountable, and taking steps to address the root causes, and protect civilians and their property. Further recommended kickstarting preparations for the reconstitution and appointment of the critical Constitution Making mechanisms and institutions, including giving due attention to the 35% women's representation, as well as taking note of youth and people living with disabilities; and to take note of both the communiques from the 48th Ordinary Session of the IGAD Council of Ministers and the 1123rd meeting of the AU PSC from their 30 November meetings on South Sudan.
- 5.5. Concluded by recapping the resolution of the Sixth Governor's Forum, which affirmed the "commitment of the States and the Administrative Areas to implementation of the R-ARCSS through the Roadmap 2022." Underscored that the renewed affirmed diplomatic support by the IGAD, AU Peace and Security Council and UN Security Council meetings should generate more rapid and substantial progress in 2023.

Min. 06/25/22: Report from the RTGoNU

6. The RTGoNU representative presented a report on the implementation of the Roadmap to the plenary as follows:
 - 6.1. reported that the JRC mandate was ending shortly in 6 months, which was inadequate for the scope of its work which entailed; carrying out public and institutional consultation on the work of the Judiciary in South Sudan to correctly provide concrete recommendations for the Judicial Reform process, whose recommendations shall be implemented by the Judicial Service Commission. He advised the JRC to submit an outline of its concerns indicating progress made so far, and the outstanding issues to be concluded, including budget so that government and willing partners can consider extension of the committee's mandate.
 - 6.2. Informed members that the Speaker of the R-TNLA had submitted bills to the Legal Department in the Office of the President for assent by His Excellency. These included:
 - 6.2.1. Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Woman in Africa;
 - 6.2.2. International Convention of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and its Operational Protocol;

- 6.2.3. International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).
- 6.2.4. The Paris Agreement;
- 6.2.5. International Convention on Rights of Persons with disability and its Operational Protocol;
- 6.2.6. The National Police Service Act, 2009 (Amendment), Bill 2022.
- 6.2.7. The Constitutional Making Process Bill, 2022.
- 6.2.8. The Wildlife Service (Amendment) Bill, 2022.
- 6.2.9. The Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan, 2011 (Amendment), Bill, 2022.
- 6.2.10. The Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacterial (Biological) and Toxic Weapons and their destruction, Bill 2022.
- 6.2.11. The National Prison Service (Amendment, 2021) Bill, 2022.
- 6.3. Informed members that the R-TNLA was deliberating on the National Elections Bill and the Civil Defense Service Bill as well as Policy Frameworks and strategic plans of two (2) Ministries after which the leaders of the Parliament planned a one (1) month recession.
- 6.4. implementation of the Transitional Security Arrangement was underway with 52,000 NUF graduated, except one in Unit in Bentiu. Further, JDB had been directed to prepare for the deployment of the graduated NUF while JMCC to start preparations for the cantonment of Phase II.
- 6.5. the Joint Command Council held a meeting on the 8th of December 2022, to review and brief the Commander-in-Chief and the entire leadership of the Army on: (i) the implementation of Chapter II; (ii) Deployment and Professionalization programme; and (iii) the implementation of the various Command Council Resolutions and how to address the challenges therein. The RTGoNU Council of Ministers on the other hand passed the new salary structure for the Constitutional Post-Holders and the Civil Servants of the Republic of South Sudan, whereas the inclusion of the NUF was also discussed to be factored in the supplementary budget due to be tabled for the approval of the Council of Ministers.
- 6.6. reported that the Ministry of Finance and planning had started to regularly pay operational funds to all the spending agencies as part of the Public Financial Management reform process to enhance institutionalization of the roadmap and fast track its implementation. Stated that reform activity had enormously improved the morale of the employees and functioning of government institutions.
- 6.7. the Ministry's Taskforce finalized drafting the Bill for the CTRH and CRC establishment. The two (2) draft bills were under internal scrutiny and consultation after which the cabinet and parliamentary processes to their finalization will commence.

Min. 07/25/22: Briefing from the NTC

- 7. No report was presented by the NTC.

Min. 08/25/22: Briefing from UNMISS DSRSG

- 8. The SRSG and head of UNMISS delivered his statement as follows:

- 8.1. acknowledged the significant developments related to the peace process; the ratification of the roadmap by R-TNLA; passing of essential bills, including the Constitution Making Bill by the R-TNLA, and NCAC's completion of the review of the National Elections Act and Anti-Corruption Commission Act were important developments. Welcomed President Kiir's directive that parliamentarians continue working until critical legislation were passed;
- 8.2. commended the graduation of the Necessary Unified Forces that was largely complete except for Bentiu which would strengthen the government's capacity to respond to the protection of civilians-related responsibilities. He called on the deployment plans for the graduated forces to be finalized and implemented to protect civilians, especially in conflict hotspots and for the commencement of "Phase two" requires a continued commitment of the parties and adequate logistical support. Appealed to the Transitional Government to allocate and expedite the necessary resources to achieve the agreed benchmarks;
- 8.3. commended the government for successfully completing the 6th Governors Forum in Juba which allowed government officials to exchange views on good governance, and the relationship between the centre and the periphery. He welcomed the constructive conduct of debates and further urged the inclusion of civil society voices in the next round and recommends the creation of a dedicated Secretariat to ensure the implementation of the resolutions of the Forum;
- 8.4. commended the efforts of the regional partners, including the outcomes of the IGAD Council of Ministers meeting, which agreed to undertake a Ministerial visit to South Sudan to review the implementation status of the peace agreement and hold bi-annual Council sessions to assess the progress - and the AUPSC's decision to undertake a solidarity mission to South Sudan in early 2023 to encourage the parties to remain resolute in their stated commitments;
- 8.5. raised concerns on the missed deadlines of the key benchmarks related to the reconstitution of the Political Parties Council, the National Elections Commission (NEC), the Reconstituted National Constitutional Review Commission (RNCRC), and the establishment of the Constitutional Drafting Committee (CDC);
- 8.6. underscored the importance of starting the constitution-making process to allow South Sudanese to participate and provide input for a new social contract with the Government that reflects their priorities and aspirations. This included the need to expedite the deliberation of the Elections Act to allow for the reconstitution of the National Elections Commission (NEC) to prepare for a free and fair electoral process. He called on the parties to finalize the status of the Political Parties Act for the Political Parties Council to be reconstituted;
- 8.7. raised concerns on the worsening humanitarian situation in South Sudan and called for the authorities of the parties to deliver on their commitments in the Peace Agreement. Highlighted that 2023 projections estimated that 9.4 million people will need humanitarian assistance. The situation is exacerbated by flooding, localized drought, and subnational conflicts while 9 Humanitarians nine personnel were killed on duty in 2022. He urged partners to continue responding generously to the Humanitarian Response Plan;
- 8.8. expressed with concerns on the security situation in Upper Nile State and northern part of Jonglei that continued to deteriorate with signs that the violence in the area had taken an

ethnic dimension. This had caused the fleeing of thousands of civilians to the UNMISS company operating base at Kodok, and to the protection of civilians site in Malakal, which was already congested beyond its capacity;

- 8.9. called on the Government to engage the armed elements involved to immediately cease the violence. Furthermore, he encouraged Shilluk and Nuer community leaders in both states and Juba to help stop the bloodshed. He also urged the local communities to exercise restraint, address their grievances through dialogue and resolve their differences amicably;
- 8.10. called on the Government and all the parties to redouble their efforts to implement the Roadmap, address ongoing sub-national conflict, and sustain peace and stability for all South Sudanese; and
- 8.11. Reiterated UNMISS readiness to continue its support of the peace process.

Min. 9/25/22: Reports from Mechanisms on progress in implementation of the R-ARCSS:

- 9. The following are the reports from the Agreement mechanisms and institutions:

Report from NCAC

- 9.1 The Chairperson of the NCAC reported to the meeting the progress registered and the challenges faced by the committee. The extensive report of the committee was circulated to members.

Report from the JRC

- 9.2 The JRC Chairperson being his first time addressing the RJMEC plenary highlighted that the mandate of the JRC was expiring and that the preparation to have a secretariat and to start work had taken close to 6 months. He appealed to the RTGoNU to explore the issue of extension and the incentives for the members. The full report can be accessed on the link shared by the secretariat.

Report from the CTSAMVM

- 9.3 The Chairperson of the CTSAMVM gave a briefing on the meetings held approving the violations reports regarding recruitment and training in Northern Bahr El Ghazal state by the SSPDF; denial of access, information, and harassment of CTSAMVM personnel at Wualiet Cantonment site by the SPLM/A-IO. With renewed fighting in Upper Nile, Maiwut County and the Central Equatoria, he reiterated the need for the commencement of Phase II of the NUF. Further informed members that 12 civilian centres were still occupied by the SSPDF while the SPLM/A-IO occupied only two buildings, which were yet to be verified. The full report of CTAMVM was circulated to members for their perusal.

Report from the JDB

- 9.4 The Head of Secretariat of the Joint Defence Board updated the plenary on the deployment and unification of command, logistics and plans for Phase II of the NUFs, challenges faced

and recommendations on what needed to be done and the support to the mechanisms to enable the implementation of the TSA critical tasks. The report was circulated to members for further perusal.

Report from the SDSR Board

9.5 The Head of Secretariat of the SDSR Board reported on the basic documents of the Strategic Security Assessment (SSA), The Security Policy Framework (SPF) and the Revised Defence Policy (RDP) awaiting final conclusion by the Board before presentation to the Principals, RTGoNU Council of Ministers, TNLA and President to assent them into effective Laws. An extensive report was shared to all members.

Joint Transitional Security Committee (JTSC)

9.6 The JTSC Leadership did not attend the RJMEC meeting and neither did the Committee submit a report to the plenary.

Joint Military Ceasefire Commission (JMCC)

9.7 The JMCC Leadership did not attend the RJMEC meeting and neither did the Committee submit a report to the plenary.

DDR Commission

9.8 The Chairperson of the DDR Commission:

- 9.8.1 informed members that the Commission had not implemented any activity since the last plenary due to lack of funding. He expressed that DDR Commission had not been funded despite having submitted a budget and its plan to the NTC Chairperson;
- 9.8.2 underscored that the DDR process deserves the RTGoNU's attention to be able to implement the planned activities and accommodating ex-combatants once they are relieved from the army;
- 9.8.3 highlighted that the only activities that had been implemented were due to support from the International Community; and
- 9.8.4 appealed to the RTGoNU to support and disburse funds to the Commission to implement earmarked tasks.

Min. 10/25/22: Discussions on Statements and Reports

10 Members welcomed the statements of the RJMEC Chairperson, RTGoNU the SRSG, institutions and mechanisms. In addition, they raised the following matters during the discussions.

- 10.1 ~~AUMISS~~ the RJMEC Interim Chairperson's statement calls for reflection. Equally the RTGoNU and UNMISS reports added value to the process. However, the reports must be taken seriously due to the nature of the pending critical tasks that demand a change in

the modus operandi for the implementation of the benchmarks. He called for all the players to assist in the implementation of the RARCSS. Emphasized that the RTGoNU has the lion's share in implementation of the roadmap, hence it is expected to do more, and advised the international community to support the R-ARCSS instead of complaining. Welcomed the statements of the RJMEC and UNMISS to the AU PSC, as well as the AU Communique that reaffirmed its commitment to the Peace Process and ensuring better progress in the year 2023.

- 10.1.1. On the report of the mechanisms, funding was highlighted as the main challenge, hence the need to explore creative ways to attract funding. Acknowledged that there are some questions Mechanisms could respond to, and other areas the RTGoNU's response is needed. Expressed that the Parties and Mechanisms must address the occupation of civilian centres by armed forces, which has been an outstanding violation since 2018. In addition, CTSAMVM must report on the security situation in Upper Nile since it is its mandate to verify atrocities.
- 10.1.2. Express the need for commitment to supporting the DDR process, which if not managed well, would be a recipe for trouble. The RTGoNU should learn from the neighbouring countries such as Uganda which had successes on DDR. Raised Concerns on the Upper Nile situation and reiterated that wisdom should prevail on what was happening in Upper Nile which is of great concern to the African Union.
- 10.2 **Academia:** Thanked the mechanisms on their reports and took note of the progress made in the implementation of the Roadmap. Underscored the importance of availing resources for the implementation of the RARCSS to avoid cycles of delays and possible extension in the future. Reiterated the need to support the DDR Commission so it can deliver on its mandate.
 - 10.2.1 Referred to the minutes of the last plenary, which had highlighted the establishment of a committee to investigate the Upper Nile subnational clashes and urged that investigations should also be carried out in other parts of the country where subnational conflicts are currently happening, and that reports should be shared to facilitate conflict resolution, as well as early warning and response strategies.
 - 10.2.2 She commended the importance of the establishment of the Special Reconstruction Fund as a mechanism for recovery and development, but also questioned the status of the establishment of the Women and Youth Enterprise Funds. She remarked that questions had been repeatedly raised on this agenda without any succinct answers. Amidst the increased economic hardship, citizens deserve to be informed on the constraining factors.
 - 10.2.3 Furthermore, there is a need to create a conducive environment for the returnees, refugees and IDPs ahead of the election. Specifically, public consultations held to guide the drafting of the CTRH guidelines should ensure that diverse voices and views from the diaspora, refugees and IDPs are included for ownership and support of the process.

- 10.3 ***FDs*** raised concerns on the report of UNMISS on the 9.3 million people being highlighted, which automatically means that the 12 million population of South Sudan needs assistance. On SDSR, he wondered if the Board consulted all the members for the endorsement of the finalized documents. On JDB, highlighted the understanding that the President had given an order to investigate and report on what was happening in Upper Nile. Further requested the JDB to inform the plenary on the steps taken to address the security situation in Upper Nile, since it was their duty and responsibility to fulfil the directives of the President. He questioned on the whereabouts of the graduated NUF, stating that if they were still in the training centres, it meant they were consuming the food to be used in Phase II. Further questioned the duty of the Unified Command in redeploying the Unified Forces, and what they intend to do in Phase II. Further, asked the whereabouts of the ex-combatants who did not graduate and were to join the DDR process.
- 10.4 ***UK representative***. Commended on the progress so far made by the RTGoNU and Mechanisms despite the slow pace of implementation. He recognised and commended the efforts of the Regional Partners, particularly IGAD and the African Union, and further associated his comments with those made by the AU and UNMISS. Underscored the importance of underlying the critical steps that hadn't yet been taken and to remind RJMEC Members and the RTGoNU of the urgent need to get them completed. Expressed that there was a lot to be done in a very short space of time, and there was concern that certain key elements were yet to be completed and needed to be completed.
- 10.4.1 Underscored the need for the authority concerned to endorse the extension of the JRC mandate in light of any consequential delay that might negatively impact other critical elements of the Roadmap. Looked forward to future CTSAMVM reports on events in Upper Nile, and that the UK will push for the perpetrators to be held accountable.
- 10.4.2 Registered concerns about the fighting in Upper Nile and further recognised the risks to the Peace Process. He urged all Parties to settle their political differences through peaceful means rather than violence.
- 10.5 ***Women Coalition representative***. thanked the RTGoNU and the mechanisms for the reports. However, added her voice on the incidents and crisis in Upper Nile and Malakal. She urged the RTGoNU to assess ways to stop the atrocities. Highlighted that the Constitutional Bill was progressing slowly and called for the Bill to be assented to by the President so the people of South Sudan could also be consulted. On JDB, she highlighted that they need to have a clear plan with timelines for the redeployment. Also wondered when the JDB will commence Phase II of the unification of forces.
- 10.6 ***Interim Chair***. Highlighted the need to take advantage of the regional support as per the communique of IGAD and the AU and reminded that the commitment resonates very well with the call on the visibility of the Regional Bodies. He requested a response from the RTGoNU on the events in Upper Nile, which attracted international attention, especially the Permanent Representatives of the UN Security Council. Further asked for a response on the forces that graduated and how does the JDB intend to conduct phase II of the NUF with all the graduated forces in the training centres.

- 10.7 ***Ethiopia representative:*** commended the progress made so far. Underscored the need to speed up implementation of the critical tasks. Encouraged and reiterated the commitment of the IGAD Guarantors to support the implementation of the Peace Process. Highlighted the decision to hold an IGAD CoM's meeting in South Sudan in 2023, as well as a meeting of the IGAD Chief of Defence Forces in support of the Transitional Security Arrangement. He recognized the decision by the AU PSC that showed its engagement and focus in supporting the Peace process in South Sudan. Called the RTGoNU to implement the Roadmap in letter and spirit, further addressed the violence in Upper Nile which if not resolved would cause a crisis.
- 10.8 ***Uganda:*** slow progress but steady, however, urged the RTGoNU, IGAD, AU and the International Partners to do more. Expressed that the South Sudan people's expectations were very high, yearning for peace and prosperity by ensuring compliance in all aspects of lifestyle in the country. Further cautioned the leaders not to be reluctant since they are accountable to the people. The International Community should engage and support the humanitarian needs. Appealed to the development Partners to reconsider their position and not punish the people of South Sudan as a way of sending a message to the government. He appealed for more engagement with South Sudan government to save the country from being a failed state. Regretted the situation in Upper Nile and urged the Government to handle the situation whole heartedly for the security of the people of South Sudan.
- 10.9 ***JDB:*** Expressed that Upper Nile crisis was indeed affecting the security situation of the area and needed a political response. Informed members that JDB had a plan for the deployment of the NUF. However, they had agreed to finalise graduation, then embark on the redeployment of the forces. On the question of the ex-combatants, the JDB informed that DDR candidates had been identified and expected that once all the forces were graduated, the DDR candidates will be moved from the training centres to the DDR facilities. Further, the JDB was waiting for funds to be disbursed.
- 10.10 ***CTSAMVM:*** expressed concerns regarding the events in Upper Nile and as discussed in the CTS and Board. The MVTs were ready to monitor and verify the atrocities, however, it was difficult due to the lack of funding to deploy the MVTs after the withdrawal of US funding. Planned to deploy the MVT Malakal to Kodok and Fangak in a few days. He called on the International Community, IGAD and AU to support the work of CTSAMVM.
- 10.11 ***DSRSG:*** Expressed that the humanitarian review done in November 2022 by UNOCHA of the people in need of assistance by 2030 highlighted that the humanitarian needs indicated an increase of 9.4 million South Sudanese in 2023, which is 76% of South Sudan population and it is an increase of 1 million people as compared to the year 2021.
- 10.12 ***ITGoNU representative:*** Underscored the issue of arms embargo and management of arms, wondering how soldiers are expected to be deployed without rifles in areas that have sub-national violence. He called for the lifting of the arms embargo to allow the RTGoNU to implement the Transitional Security Arrangements in letter and spirit. Further called for the International Community to support the call by the South Sudan government for the lifting of the arms embargo and convey the message to the UN Security Council.

- 10.13 **RTGoNU representative:** stated that it was time for those who sanctioned South Sudan to revisit their decision on sanctions and arms embargo, so the country could provide security to its people. He further stated that the JDB needed a plan for the Command and Control to eradicate the insecurity in Twic, Ngok and Abyei. Called on the members to engage the SPLM/IO to stop what was happening in Upper Nile and hold perpetrators accountable. Further, informed that the Government and MOFPA had been looking into the remuneration of the NUF before they are deployed so they can be able to support their families. The Government further revised the salaries of its civil servants.
- 10.13.1 On the Special Reconstruction Fund (SRF), informed that the establishment of this and other Commissions were not given properly defined roles and duties and connectivity to the institutions of the government, thus triggering more committees under the office of the FVP of the Republic. The Government had established a committee to assess the role of the Committees with defined responsibilities to be assigned to the right Ministries.
- 10.13.2 Expressed that the tool used in highlighting the humanitarian needs was too scientific to give the figure of 9.4 million people. He highlighted that the money spent should be banked in South Sudan as per the narration of the UNOCHA. Underscored the importance of having the IGAD and AU solidarity, because the eruption of war in South Sudan will affect all the neighbouring countries.
- 10.13.3 Appreciated the statement by the Ugandan Ambassador, and that of President William Ruto in support of the Government of South Sudan.
- 10.14 **Interim Chair:** expressed that all the challenges faced were a question of the structured approach to the implementation of the Roadmap. Commitment, devotion, and proactive measures were necessary if we wanted to achieve implementation of the critical tasks within timelines by the end of the extended period. By being able to identify the priorities of those factors that may not necessarily require funding. There was a need to renew energy in 2023 and taking advantage of the new, positive approach and support shown by the RJMEC, IGAD, UN and AU.
- 10.15 **SPLM/A-IO:** Informed the Chair that the fighting in Upper Nile is between the Kitwang and Agwelek group that defected from the SPLM/A-IO, and signed an agreement known as Kitwang Agreement with the Government. In that regard, it is known who are behind the fighting and called on the Government to stop the violence. Called on the NTC to attend the RJMEC plenary and report on the situation.
- 10.16 **ITGoNU representative:** informed the SPLM/A-IO representative that the Secretary to the NTC was from IO hence the need to ask him to report on the strategy it has on the implementation of the mechanism. He appealed to the SPLM/A-IO member to remain seized on the Kitwang issue and to have an open discussion on what was really happening.

Minute 11/25/22: Review of the Resolution

- 11 The draft Resolution of the 25th RJMEC Plenary was jointly reviewed and adopted. The RJMEC Secretariat was tasked to circulate the final version to all the members.

Min. 12/25/22: Date for the Next Meeting

12 It was agreed that the 26th RJMEC plenary meeting would be held on 26th of January 2023.

Min. 13/25/22: A.O.B

13 Nothing raised under this agenda item.

Min. 14/25/22: Chairperson's Closing Remarks

14 The Chairperson thanked members for attending the meeting. He highlighted the need to be focused and committed to attending the RJMEC monthly meetings and taking stock of what had been achieved and implemented by the RTGoNU. Expressed that there was a lot of goodwill by the IGAD, AU and UN and called on the RTGoNU to appreciate the renewed focus on South Sudan. Further called on the Regional Guarantors and International community to support and make a difference in 2023, by supporting the RTGoNU so they can be able to conduct free, fair, and credible elections at the end of Transitional Period which hadn't been achieved for the past 10 years.

Min.15/25/22: Closing Prayers

15 The representative of the faith-based organizations led the closing prayer. There being no other business, the 25th RJMEC monthly meeting was therefore adjourned at 14:15 hours.

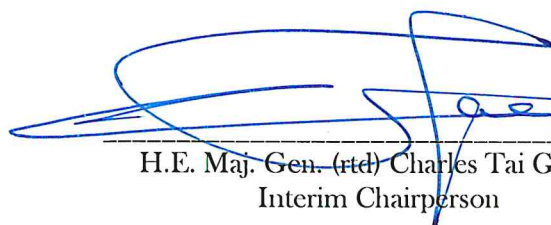
Min.16/25/22: Adoption of the Minutes

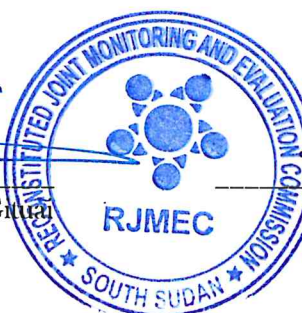
16 The minutes of the 25th RJMEC meeting are adopted as follows:

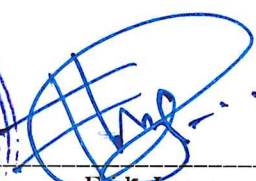
16.1. Proposer: Mrs. Abuk Jervas Makuak, Business Community and Chamber of Commerce

16.2. Seconder: Dr. Angelina Bazugba, Academia

17 The minutes are hereby proposed, seconded, and adopted by the under mentioned as the true record of the meeting.


H.E. Maj. Gen. (ret) Charles Tai Gita
Interim Chairperson




Frida Lyaruu
Secretary to the Plenary