



Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC)

Resolution of the RJMEC

14th RJMEC Meeting

Palm Africa Hotel, 30 September 2020, Juba, South Sudan

The 14th meeting of the Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC) convened in Juba, South Sudan, on 30 September 2020 chaired by the Interim Chairperson of the RJMEC, Maj. General (rtd) Charles Tai Gituai.

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

For the Parties to the R-ARCSS:

1. Hon. Dr. Martin Elia Lomuro
2. Hon. Amb. Stephen Par Kuol (SPLM/A-IO)
3. Mrs. Sandra Bona Malwal (SPLM/A-IO)
4. Hon. Peter Mabior Riiny (SSOA)
5. Hon. Isaiah Hakim Garang (FDs)
6. Hon. Wilson Loding Sebit (OPP)

For the Other South Sudanese Stakeholders and Adherents

1. Mr. Mohamed El-Hassan Abdel Meragan (Faith-based leader)
2. Bishop Enock Stephen Tombe (Faith-based leader)
3. Prof. Pauline Riak (Academia)
4. Ms. Rita Lopidia (Women Coalition)
5. Mrs. Mary Akech Bior (Womens Bloc)
6. Mr. Rajab John Mohandis (CSO Forum)
7. Ms. Yar Manor Majok (Business Community)
8. Mr. Malish John Peter (Youth)
9. Ms. Caroline Kibos (Youth)

For the Regional Guarantors

1. Mr. Daniel Samuel (Ethiopia)

2. Mr. Ali Mambo (Kenya)
3. Mr. Mohamed Ali Mohamed (Somalia)
4. Mr. Malinga Julius Amese (Uganda)
5. Mr. Judah Muoh (Nigeria)
6. H.E. Prof. Joram M. Biswaro (AUMISS)
7. Mr. Elijah Osiro (IGAD Juba Liaison Office)
8. H.E. Gordon Yekelo (South Africa)

For International Partners and Friends of South Sudan

1. H.E. Hua Ning (China)
2. Mr. Paul Bekken (Norway)
3. Mr. William L Echols (USA)
4. Mr. Geoffrey Roberts (UK)
5. Mr. David Shearer (UNMISS)
6. Mr. Alessandro Rossi (EU)
7. Mr. Michel Deelen (IPF)

For RJMEC Secretariat

1. Ambassador Berhanu Kebede, Chief of Staff - RJMEC
2. Ms. Esther Kyewalabye, Humanitarian Advisor - RJMEC
3. Ms. Frida Lyaruu, Special Assistant - RJMEC

For the Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms

1. Hon. Dr. Richard K. Mulla, Member, NCAC
2. Maj. Gen. Dafaalla Hamid Dafaalla, Deputy Chairperson, CTSAMVM
3. Gen. Johnson Juma Okot, Chairperson, JDB
4. Lt. Gen. Gabriel Duop Lam, Co-Chairperson JDB
5. Lt. Gen. Julius Tabuley, Co-Chairperson JDB
6. Lt. Gen. Rin Tueny Mabor, Chairperson JTSC
7. Lt. Gen. Wesley Welebe Samson, Co-Chairperson JTSC
8. Lt. Gen. Charles Dut, Chairperson JMCC
9. Lt. Gen. Koang Gatkuoth Kerjok, Co-Chairperson JMCC
10. Hon. Madam Angelina Teny, Chairperson SDSR Board
11. Ms. Regina Joseph Kaba, Deputy Chairperson, DDR Commission

Observers

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

The 14th RJMEC meeting considered the following agenda items:

- a) The minutes of the last meeting;
- b) Statement by RJMEC Interim Chairperson;
- c) Report from the NTC (not delivered);
- d) Report from RTGoNU;
- e) Briefing from the UNMISS SRSG;
- f) Reports from Agreement institutions and mechanisms (NCAC, CTSAMVM, JDB, SDRS Board, JTSC, JMCC and DDR Commission);
- g) Discussion on the RJMEC Interim Chairperson's Statement, RTGoNU report, UNMISS SRSG briefing and reports from Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms; and
- h) Date of the next RJMEC meeting.

Following the statement by the Interim Chairperson, briefing by UNMISS SRSG, and after considering the reports from the RTGoNU, NTC, NCAC, CTSAMVM, SDRS Board, JTSC, JMCC and DDR Commission, the RJMEC resolved as follows:

1. **Adopted** the minutes of the 13th RJMEC meeting held in Juba, South Sudan on 23rd January 2020;
2. **Welcomed** the appointment of H.E. Maj. General (rtd) Charles Tai Gituai, as the RJMEC Interim Chairperson, and **thanked** the outgoing Interim Chairperson, H.E. Lt. Gen. Ambassador Augustino S.K. Njoroge, for his years of service;
3. **Welcomed** the statement of H.E. Maj. General (rtd) Charles Tai Gituai, the RJMEC Interim Chairperson, and endorsed the observations and recommendations therein;
4. **Welcomed** the resolution of the issue of the number of states, and **commended** H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit for his leadership in deciding the matter, and **welcomed** the subsequent establishment of the Revitalised Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGoNU) on 22 February 2020 on a firm foundation;
5. **Welcomed** the report by the RTGoNU, but **noted** the absence of a report from the NTC, and **called for** the continuation of regular Cabinet meetings as well as compromises to overcome the deadlock over the Upper Nile governor appointment;
6. **Thanked** Mr. David Shearer, the UNMISS SRSG for his briefing and also the Chairpersons or representatives of the NCAC, CTSAMVM, JDB, SDRS Board, JTSC, JMCC and DDR Commission for their reports, and **commended** all the institutions and mechanisms of the Agreement who submitted their reports in advance;

7. **Noted with serious concern** the overall slow progress in implementation. In this regard, **noted** the reports of activities presented by the various mechanisms, **appreciated** the progress made but, while **noting** that reaching two years since the Agreement's signing is laudable, **emphasised** that a lot still remains to be done to achieve the desired outcomes;
8. **Recalling** the spirit of compromise which settled the issue of the number of states, **urged** the Parties to the Agreement to urgently resolve the impasse in Upper Nile state and appoint a Governor, and **urged** the Parties to immediately reconstitute the Transitional National Legislative Assembly (TNLA) and the Council of States, and to settle all matters of responsibility sharing at the state and local government level, while **reiterating** the importance of achieving the 35% level for women's participation as per the Agreement;
9. **Emphasised** that the unification of forces remains a critical Pre-Transitional task necessary to underpin sustainable peace in South Sudan, and **appealed** to the NTC and JDB to take all necessary steps to expedite and complete the unification of the forces, including producing the plans for the redeployment of the NUF, conduct comprehensive DDR, and finalising the SDSR Board's White Paper on defence policy. In this regard **further appealed** that more funding be availed to the Security Mechanisms, including the DDR Commission, to enable progress of the unification of forces, while observing the requirements of accountability and transparency; Furthermore, it **requested** the Parties to provide a report to RJMEC on the incomplete implementation of Article 2.2.3.1 (demilitarisation of civilian areas), Article 2.2.3.2 (collection of heavy weapons), and Article 2.2.3.4 (location of forces, size and equipment).
10. **Noted with serious concern** the report from CTSAMVM that thousands of troops who had reported to the cantonment sites and training centres are now leaving them in search of food. **Noting with serious concern** the continued austere conditions and poor logistical support, it **urged** the Joint Defence Board (JDB) to ensure that the unification of forces continues with renewed vigour, and in consultation with the DDR Commission;
11. **Noted with serious concern** the recent increase in activities of the non-signatories', and **urged** their inclusion in the peace process, recalling also the key documents of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement of December 2017, the Rome Declaration of January 2020 and the Rome Resolution of February 2020. In this regard, it **appreciated** the Sant'Egidio facilitated meeting scheduled to take place in early October in Rome, and **appealed** to IGAD, the Parties and the hold-out groups to embrace this process constructively and further the integration of SSOMA into the structures of CTSAMVM;

12. **Expressed concern** at all occurrences of defections and accepting defectors in contravention of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (2017) and their negative impact on the implementation of the Transitional Security Arrangements and against the letter and spirit of the Agreement, **strongly condemned** any resulting fighting which destabilises the local areas and causes loss of life, including recently in the Kajo Keji area, and **urged** the NTC and JDB to investigate;
13. **Concerned** by the displacement of civilians caused by subnational conflict and compounded by country-wide flooding, and in this regard **appreciated** the humanitarian assistance already given by the international community. It further **appealed** to all concerned, primarily the Government, to enhance their efforts in instituting programmes for civilian protection, relief, humanitarian assistance and food security in South Sudan.
14. **Encouraged** the RTGoNU and State authorities to initiate dialogue at the grassroots level across the country to better understand the drivers of community-based conflict, thereby taking steps to improve humanitarian access and civilian protection;
15. **Commended** the SSPDF for holding a District Field Court Marshal in Yei County, Central Equatoria which convicted 26 soldiers for offences against civilians and violations of the SSPDF military code of conduct and **welcomed** this milestone in the fight against impunity for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and violations of human rights.
16. **Regretted** the continued occupation of civilian centres contrary to Article 2.2.3.1 of the R-ARCSS and **noted with concern** CTSAMVM's recent report which shows that a total of 14 buildings are occupied by the SSPDF. In this regard, **directed** that all occupied civilian buildings to be vacated without exception and that violators should be held to account;
17. **Urged** the Security Mechanisms to enhance their cooperation and to take steps to expedite and concurrently implement the unification of the forces without any further delays, while **urging** closer cooperation with the DDR Commission;
18. **Stressed** the importance of the Resource, Economic and Financial Management provisions envisaged in Chapter 4 to all people of South Sudan, and **urged** their timely implementation, including establishment of the Economic and Financial Management Authority, the Anti-Corruption Commission and the National Audit Chamber;

19. **Encouraged** efforts to fast track the establishment of the Hybrid Court of South Sudan and engagement with RTGoNU on complementary transitional justice mechanisms, particularly in light of their ability to deal with human rights violations, including women's rights violations;
20. **Reiterated** its appeal to the regional and international partners and friends of South Sudan for continued and enhanced financial, political and in-kind support to the full implementation of the R-ARCSS and **expressed wishes** that after a difficult 2020, the third year of implementation will gather the necessary momentum and bring the required changes in the lives of ordinary citizens;
21. **Request** the RJMEC Members (Parties to the Agreement, Other South Sudanese, and Adherence, Regional Guarantors, International Partners and Friends of South Sudan) to communicate their respective members to the RJMEC Working Committees by the 7th of October 2020 to the RJMEC Secretariat, and **call** on the Chairperson of the Committees to launch their first meetings before the 14th of October 2020.
22. **Agreed** that the next regular RJMEC meeting will be on 11 November 2020; and
23. **Decided** to remain seized of all RJMEC matters.

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