



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

### **Resolution of the RJMEC**

#### **17<sup>th</sup> RJMEC Meeting**

**Palm Africa Hotel, 20 May 2021, Juba, South Sudan**

The 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC) convened in Juba, South Sudan, on 20 May 2021 chaired by the Interim Chairperson of the RJMEC, Maj. General Charles Tai Gituai (rtd).

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

#### **For the Parties to the R-ARCSS:**

1. Hon. Dr. Martin Elia Lomuro (ITGoNU)
2. Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth (ITGoNU)
3. Hon. Sandra Bona Malwal (SPLM/A-IO)
4. Hon. Gatwech Lam Puoch (SPLM/A-IO)
5. Hon. Isaiah Hakim Garang (FDs)
6. Hon. Wilson Lodiong Sebit (OPP)

#### **For the Other South Sudanese Stakeholders and Adherents**

1. Bishop (rtd) Enock Tombe Stephen (Faith-based leader)
2. Prof. Francis Deng (Eminent Persons)
3. Prof. Pauline Riek (Academia)
4. Ms. Rita Lopidia (Women Coalition)
5. Ms. Mary Akech (Women Bloc)
6. Mrs. Yar Manoa Majok (Business Community)
7. Mr. Rajab John Mohandis (CSO Forum)

8. Ms. Caroline Kibos (Youth)
9. Mr. Wani Micheal (Youth)

#### **For the Regional Guarantors**

1. Mr. Zelalem Birhan (Ethiopia)
2. Mr. Ali Mambo (Kenya)
3. Mr. Hassan Robleh Mahamoud (Djibouti)
4. Mr. Mustafa Ahmed Almubarak (Sudan)
5. H.E. James Idule- Amoko (Uganda)
6. Mr. Judah Muoh (Nigeria)
7. Mr. Machiel Van Nieverk (South Africa)
8. H.E. Prof. Joram M. Biswaro (AUMISS)
9. Dr. Aleu Garang (IGAD Juba Liaison Office)

#### **For International Partners and Friends of South Sudan**

1. H.E. Hua Ning (China)
2. Mr. Paul Klouman Bekken (Norway)
3. Mr. Willian Echols (USA)
4. H.E.. Jonny Baxter (UK)
5. Mr. Guang Cong (UNMISS)
6. H.E. Marc Trouyet (EU)
7. Ms. Chelsea Sayer (IPF)

#### **For RJMEC Secretariat**

1. Ambassador Berhanu Kebede, Chief of Staff - RJMEC
2. Dr. Thomson Fontaine, Deputy Chief of Staff- Strategy - RJMEC
3. Mr. Stephen Oola, Senior Advisor- Legal and Constitutional Affairs - RJMEC

#### **For the Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms**

1. Hon. Madam Angelina Teny, Chairperson SDSR Board
2. Hon. Lt. Gen. Chol Thon Balok, Co-Chairperson SDSR Board
3. Maj. Gen. Dafaalla Hamid, Deputy Chairperson, CTSAMVM
4. Gen. Santino Deng Wol, Chairperson, JDB
5. Lt. Gen. Gabriel Duop Lam, Co-Chairperson, JDB
6. Lt. Gen. Julius Tabuley, Co-Chairperson, JDB
7. Lt. Gen. Wesley Welebe Samson, Co-Chairperson, JTSC
8. Dr. Olaw Adang, Head of secretariat JTSC

9. Lt. Gen. Koang Gatkuoth Kerjok, Co-Chairperson JMCC
10. Hon. Lt. Gen. Ayuen Alier Jongroor, Chairperson, DDR Commission
11. Lt. Gen. Jakson Elia. H, JDB Police
12. Maj. Gen. Anthony Oliver Legge, JDB Prisons

## Observers

1. H.E. Tsutsumi Naohiro (Japan)
2. Mr. Mohamed Elbadry (Egypt)
3. Mr. Lars Johansson (Sweden)
4. H.E. Marc Trouyet (France)
5. Ms. Janika Walter (Germany)
6. Ms. Lydia Minagano Kape (Switzerland)
7. Mr. Peterson Magoola (UN-Women)

The 17<sup>th</sup> RJMEC meeting considered the following agenda items:

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

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

1. **Adopted** the minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> RJMEC meeting held in Juba, South Sudan on 04 February 2021;
2. **Welcomed** the statement of H.E. Maj Gen Charles Tai Gituai (rtd), the RJMEC Interim Chairperson, and endorsed the observations and recommendations therein;

3. **Welcomed** the new Ambassadors to the Republic of South Sudan who are RJMEC members including, H.E. Tsutsumi Naohiro, Japan; Deputy Amb. James Idule-Amoko, Uganda; Dr. Aleu Garang, IGAD Head of Mission in Juba, and congratulated all RJMEC members who have been appointed to the Reconstituted Transitional National Legislative Assembly, as well as the new Chairperson of the Joint Defence Board (JDB) Gen. Santino Deng Wol, and Hon. Lt. Gen. Chol Thon J. Balok, the new Deputy Minister of Defence and SRDSR Board Co- Chairperson and **wished** them all success in their tasks ahead;
4. **Thanked** Mr. Guang Cong, the UNMISS DSRSG for his briefing and also the Chairpersons or representatives of the CTSAMVM, JDB, SDSR 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. In this regard, it **observed** that very limited progress has been reported by all mechanisms and **appealed** for RTGoNU to take steps to address the challenges highlighted by the Mechanisms;
5. **Welcomed** the report presented by the RTGoNU representative Hon. Dr Martin Elia Lomuro, Minister of Cabinet Affairs, to the effect that the reconstitution of the Council of States is at its final stage, and awaiting resolution of internal disputes within the Other Political Parties (OPP) on their nominees, and **urged** the OPP to work together, and equally share their portfolios. In this regard, it **reminded** all parties to observe the minimum of 35% level of women representation and include youth in all their nominations and appointments;
6. **Welcomed** the endorsement for an extension of NCAC mandate to complete its pending tasks by all the Parties to the R-ARCSS and **appealed** to IGAD to immediately reconvene the NCAC to complete key pending tasks, among others the review of the National Elections Act 2012, the Non-Governmental Organisation Act 2016, the Bank of South Sudan Act 2011, the Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2009, the National Audit Chambers Act 2011, and the National Petroleum Revenue Management Act 2012 in the shortest time possible.
7. **Welcomed** the reconstitution of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly (RTNLA) with the appointment of new members on 10 May 2021, **commended** the Parties for this milestone, and **called** for the expedited reconstitution of the Council of States, the State Legislative Assemblies and County Councils, as well

as the restructuring and reconstitution of all institutions and commissions at the national level as provided for in the Revitalized Peace Agreement. In this regard, it **recommended** that the list of appointments be comprehensively reviewed and any party which had not adhered to the 35% women quotas be engaged to adhere to this quota before they are sworn in;

8. **Called upon** the reconstituted TNLA, upon swearing in, to immediately commence work and ratify legislation that has been held up, such as the amended security bills and the Constitutional Amendment Bill No. 8 (2020) and security-related laws which were drafted by the National Constitutional Amendment Committee (NCAC) and presented to the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs;
9. **Took note** of the CTSAMVM's report that, overall, the Permanent Ceasefire continues to hold amongst the Parties to the R-ARCSS, but **condemned** the reported incidents of insecurity instigated by local armed youths, attacks by alleged NAS forces, and armed robbers along major supply routes, especially in the Equatorias. In this regard, it **expressed concern** that SSOMA is not yet integrated within CTSAMVM structures for effective and impartial verification of alleged incidences of violations, in accordance with the Rome Declaration and Rome Resolution;
10. **Regretted** reports from both JTSC and JMCC that implementation of the Transitional Security Arrangements remains stalled, with no progress to report, since the last RJMEC monthly meeting, held in February 2021, in part due to disagreement over the sharing of positions within the command structure and ranks. In this regard, it **endorsed** the proposal by Hon. Dr. Martin Elia Lomuro, Minister of Cabinet Affairs that a meeting of the Presidency should be urgently convened to address this impasse;
11. **Expressed serious concerns** on reports that cantonment sites and training centres continue to be abandoned due to a chronic lack of food, medicines, shelter facilities and hygiene items for female combatants. In this regard, it **welcomed** the commitment made by the RTGoNU representative that the Minister of Defence will provide a detailed report to the RJMEC in the next monthly meeting on progress made and **urged** the RTGoNU and NTC to immediately avail adequate funding and resources to the cantonment sites and

training centres. In this regard, it **reiterated** its call to the NTC leadership to brief the next RJMEC meeting on its activities and the steps it has taken to coordinate the implementation of the pending transitional security arrangements;

12. **Commended** the Strategic Defence and Security Review Board for its recent 3-day workshop held in May 2021 aimed at completing the Strategic Security Assessment, in accordance with the R-ARCSS, which is long overdue, and **called** for immediate implementation of its outcome.
13. **Noted with concern** that the Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) process is still lagging behind, with the Commission facing several challenges, including lack of funding and access to leadership of NTC and Presidency, as reported by the Chairperson, and **urged** the RTGoNU and NTC to prioritise DDR, frequently engage with the Commission and jointly mobilise requisite resources to implement its critical mandate;
14. **Expressed serious concern** that the humanitarian situation in South Sudan remains dire, as reported by UNMISS, with over 60% of the population facing acute food insecurity. In this regard, it strongly **condemned** the recent killing of an aid worker and all other forms of impediments to humanitarian access which were recently reported in Upper Nile State, Unity State State, Lakes State, Jonglei State, and the Equatorias;
15. **Noted with serious concern** the growing disruption to CTSAMVM's work due to the absence of National Monitors since April 2021 and the reported incidents of harassment of some of its staff and denial of access. In this regard, it **urged** the Parties, Partners and the RTGoNU to seek measures to remedy this situation immediately;
16. **Commended** the Secretariat for its participation in the leadership retreats in the States organized by UNMISS in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Western Bahr el Ghazal States, and **applauded** the UNMISS for this initiative which aims at assisting the state executives to better understand the R-ARCSS, enhance trust and confidence building amongst them and strive to deliver quality public services in their respective states. In this regard, it **appealed** for similar confidence building retreats to be conducted in all states, as well as at the national level;

17. **Reminded** all RJMEC members of the official opening of the Constitutional Process Workshop on 25 May 2021 and **appreciated** H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit for accepting to officially open this historic workshop and the Government of the Republic of South Sudan for hosting the event at the Freedom Hall in Juba, South Sudan. In this regard it **appealed** to all the delegates to the Constitutional-making Process Workshop to seize the moment, constructively engage and collectively design a practical and inclusive path for the making of a durable constitution for the Republic of South Sudan;
18. **Reiterated** its appeal to the RTGoNU to avail the necessary resources to the various mechanisms of the Agreement and **further appealed** to the regional and international partners and friends of South Sudan to continue and enhance financial, political and in-kind support to the full implementation of the R-ARCSS;
19. **Decided** to convene an extraordinary meeting of the RJMEC to deliberate on the challenges facing Transitional Security Arrangements, including remedial measures to address them and the date for this meeting shall be communicated in due course;
20. **Agreed** that the date for the next regular RJMEC meeting will be on 24 June 2021; and
21. **Decided** to remain seized of all RJMEC matters.

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