



Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC)

FINAL Resolutions of the 26th RJMEC Meeting

**Beijing Juba Hotel, 26th January 2023
Juba, South Sudan**

Attendance

For the Parties to the R-ARCSS:

1. Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth (ITGoNU)
2. Hon. Mary Nawai Martin (ITGoNU)
3. Hon. Sandra Bona Malwal (SPLM/IO)
4. Hon. Peter Mabior Riing (SSOA)
5. Maj. Gen. Bior Leek Kuareng (FDs)
6. Hon. Wilson Lodiong Sebit (OPP)

For the Other South Sudanese Stakeholders and Adherents:

1. Rtd. Bishop Enock Stephen Tombe (Faith-based leader)
2. Sheikh Jaralnebi Khamis Mursal (Faith-based leader)
3. Mr. Akuoch Ajang Nyanhom (CSO Alliance)
4. Ms. Angella Leke (Women's Coalition)
5. Ms. Norah Zangabeyo (Women Bloc)
6. Hon. John Gai Yoh (Eminent Personalities)
7. Dr. Angelina Bazugba (Academia)
8. Mrs. Abuk Jervas Makuac (Business Community)
9. Ms. Acayo Nancy Cirino (Youth)
10. Mr. Patrick A. Godi (Youth) - Online

For the Regional Guarantors:

1. H.E. Gamal Abdelmageed Gassim Elseed Ahmed (Sudan)
2. Mrs. Zeyneba Ahmed (Ethiopia)
3. H.E. Maj. Gen. (rtd) Samuel Nandwa (Kenya)
4. Mr. Kabugudho Anthony (Uganda)
5. Mr. Mohamed Abdi Ali (Somalia)
6. Mr. Tukur Maigari (Nigeria)
7. Mr. Ahmed Y. Hersi (IGAD)
8. H.E. Prof. Joram M. Biswaro (AUMISS)
9. H.E. Mahlodi Sam Muofhe (South Africa)

For International Partners and Friends of South Sudan

1. Mr. Hou Xiangyn (China)
2. Mr. Jonas Huus Ervik (Norway)
3. H.E. Michael J Adler (USA)
4. Mrs. Gill Lever (UK)
5. H.E. Timo Olkkonen (EU)
6. Prof. Nicholas Haysom (UNMISS)
7. Mr. Julius Egbeyemi (IPF) Canada

For RJMEC Secretariat:

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

For Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms:

1. Gen. Santino Deng Wol, Chairperson JDB
2. Gen. Gabriel Duop Lam, Co-Chairperson JDB
4. Maj. Gen. Charles Machieng Kuol, Head of JDB Secretariat
5. Hon. Angelina Teny, Chairperson SDSR-Board
6. Mr. Angelo Madut, Head of SDSR Board Secretariat
7. Maj Gen Kulang Mayem, Co-Chairperson JMCC
8. Maj. Gen Pal Yiech Lam, Deputy Head of JMCC Secretariat
9. Maj. Wuor Jok Guol, Member of JMCC Secretariat
10. Lt. Gen. Wesley Welebe Samson, Chairperson JTSC
11. Lt. Gen. Dr. Olaw Adiang Nyijok, Head of JTSC Secretariat

12. Hon. Gichira Kibara, Chairperson NCAC
13. Lt. Gen. Asrat Denero, Chairperson CTSAMVM
14. Brig Gen Yassir Hassab Alla Hassan, Deputy Chairperson CTSAMVM
15. Hon. Lt. Gen. Ayuen Alier Jongroor, Chairperson DDR Commission
16. Hon. Justice James Ogoola, Chairperson JRC
17. Hon. Lady Justice Joyce Aluoch, Deputy Chairperson JRC

Observers:

1. Mr Sencer Kagan Senol (Turkiye)
2. Mr. Leon Kohl (Germany)
3. Ms. Tomoko Watanabe (Japan)
4. Mr. Georg Stein (Switzerland)
5. Mr. Mohamed Elbadry (Egypt)
6. Mr. Tomas Brundin (Sweden)
7. Ms. Catherine Waliaula, (UNDP)
8. Col. Nathan Akakunda, Acting Chairperson SSM
9. Maj. Gen. Gordon Wieh Thak, Co-Member SSM

The 26th RJMEC meeting considered the following agenda items:

- a) Statement by RJMEC Interim Chairperson;
- b) Minutes of the last meeting;
- c) Report from RTGoNU;
- d) Report from the NTC;
- e) Briefing from the UNMISS SRSG;
- f) Reports from Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms (NCAC, CTSAMVM, JRC, JDB, SDSR Board, JTSC, JMCC, DDR Commission);
- g) Discussion on the RJMEC Interim Chairperson's statement, 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 NCAC, JRC, CTSAMVM, JDB, SDSRB, DDR Commission, the RJMEC resolved as follows:

1. **Welcomed** the statement of H.E. Amb. Maj. Gen. (rtd) Charles Tai Gituai, the RJMEC Interim Chairperson, his assessment of the status of implementation of the Revitalised Peace Agreement in accordance with the RTGoNU Roadmap, updates on recent progress registered, the critical pending tasks of the R-ARCSS, and **endorsed** all his recommendations therein;
2. **Adopted** the Minutes of the 25th RJMEC meeting with minor amendments;
3. **Welcomed** the planned Ecumenical Peace Pilgrimage of the three religious leaders, led by His Holiness, Pope Francis, and subsequently the visit of the AUPSC and a joint IGAD ministerial mission to South Sudan and **encouraged** the RTGoNU, the Parties and the people of South Sudan to find inspiration and a spirit of forgiveness in these visits in order to renew public confidence in the peace process, rebuild trust, show unity of purpose, and demonstrate genuine political will through joint actions and messaging for peace;
4. **Thanked** Mr. Haysom, the UNMISS SRSG, for his briefing, including updates on the dire humanitarian situation, protection of civilians mandate, observations on the status of implementation of the Agreement and **welcomed** all his recommendations to the RTGoNU in this regard;
5. **Commended** the Government and people of the Republic of Kenya for its recent donation to South Sudan of assorted food items and medical supplies to aid the people affected by floods and subnational conflicts and **welcomed** the reiteration of its commitment, as part of IGAD, to the RTGoNU in the implementation of the Roadmap;
6. **Appreciated** all Chairpersons and/or representatives of the NCAC, JRC, CTSAMVM, JDB, SDSR, JMCC, JTSC, and DDR Commission for their reports, **took note** of the reported progress or lack thereof, challenges identified and **endorsed** all their recommendations;
7. **Welcomed** the commitment of the RTGoNU High-Level Standing Committee and NTC to facilitate the national members of NCAC and JRC. However, it **regretted** that the delayed payments to the national members of CTSAMVM are still not covered. In this regard, **called upon** the High-Level Standing Committee to convene a meeting with all the responsible Institutions and

Mechanisms to discuss a clear mechanism for accessing the funds allocated for national members in the peace agreement mechanisms;

8. **Took note** of some critical benchmarks achieved since the last plenary, including:
 - a. Signing into law of six revised laws enacted by the reconstituted TNLA namely: the Constitution-making Process Bill 2022; the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan 2011 (Amendment) Bill No.11, 2022; the National Police Service (Amendment) Bill 2022; the National Wildlife Service (Amendment) Bill 2022; the Civil Defense Bill 2022; and the National Prisons Service (Amendment) Bill 2022;
 - b. Completion of Phase 1 of the NUF with the graduation of the last batch of the unified forces in Bentiu on 14th January 2023;
 - c. NCAC review and drafting amendments to the National Revenue Authority Act which was handed to the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs on 19th January 2023; and
 - d. NCAC review of the Banking Laws, namely the Bank of South Sudan Act, 2011 and the Banking Act, 2012; and commencement of the review of the NGO Act 2016.
9. **Noted with concern** the absence of progress reports from the RTGoNU and NTC to the RJMEC in this meeting and **reiterated** its appeal to all parties and institutions to demonstrate full commitment by attending faithfully and ensuring that their reports are submitted in advance and presented to the plenary;
10. **Called upon** the RTGoNU to expedite the operationalisation of all the enacted laws, especially by reconstituting the Political Parties Council which is central for the registration of political parties and creating political space, and the National Constitutional Review Commission to spearhead the constitution-making process, without further delay, and to enact the other pending revised laws, especially the National Elections Act (Amendment) Bill and Anti-Corruption Commission Act (Amendment) Bill;
11. **Took note** of the JRC request to the RTGoNU for an extension of its mandate for an additional 12 months and **welcomed** the information that the request

has already been considered and endorsed by the Governance Cluster and will be considered by the RTGoNU Council of Ministers in its next meeting;

12. **Commended** the RTGoNU on the completion of Phase 1 of the Necessary Unified Forces (NUF) as reported by JDB with a total of 56,701 forces graduated. In this regard, it **noted with concern** that the graduated troops have not yet been redeployed to their respective formations, units and posts and **urged** that their ranks be quickly harmonized and welfare taken care of;
13. **Welcomed** the recently initiated Police Reform Programme intended to build the capacity of the South Sudan National Police Service, and to sensitise them on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) as an important part of strengthening the peace process in South Sudan;
14. **Expressed serious concerns** about the killing of three humanitarian workers this year alone, in Abyei Administrative Area and Jonglei State, among scores of civilians who have also lost their lives in violence, and **called upon** the RTGoNU to provide a secure environment in which humanitarian workers can deliver aid to those in need;
15. **Urged** the JDB to quickly harmonize the ranks of the unified forces, and provide for their welfare so that they can be deployed to provide security and protection of civilians caught up in subnational violence, and **took note** of information from the SRSG that in the framework of the arms embargo, there are clear procedures which allow for exemptions in certain circumstances;
16. **Took note** of the directives from the Bank of South Sudan to all commercial banks to close accounts held by various government institutions, an important step in ensuring the “single treasury account” required by the Agreement and **encouraged** the RTGoNU to expedite the resource, economic and financial management reform process under Chapter 4 to continue improving the management of the country's resources;
17. **Reiterated** its appeal to the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs to fast-track the drafting the Commission on Truth, Reconciliation and Healing Bill and the Compensation and Reparation Authority Bill and establish these important institutions;

18. **Urged** the RTGoNU to immediately reconstitute the Political Parties Council as part of the operationalisation of the recently enacted laws, which helps to protect political space, thereby allowing for the registration of political parties, and to widen the civic space for citizens participation in all spheres of governance;
19. **Expressed concern** on the escalation of subnational violence, particularly in the hotspots of Upper Nile, Jonglei, the Equatorias, and Greater Pibor Administrative Area. In this regard, **appealed** to the RTGoNU to initiate dialogue between the affected communities and parties to address subnational violence in the country;
20. **Encouraged** the NTC to urgently commence Phase II of the unification of forces without further delay, address the challenges highlighted by the JDB for Phase II and provide adequate resources to the Security Mechanisms and the cantonment sites and training centres. In this regard, it **expressed serious concerns** about the continued lack of funding to the DDR Commission, a critical component of the unification of forces and **urged** the RTGoNU and NTC to prioritize the DDR component in the implementation of Phase II of the NUF; and **further expressed concerns** that 12 civilian buildings/ areas continued to be occupied by the SSPDF, as reported by CTSAMVM;
21. **Called upon** the RTGoNU to immediately reconstitute and fund the National Constitutional Review Commission and its Secretariat especially by appointing its Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and Secretary General and to fast-track the establishment of the other mechanisms like the Constitutional Drafting Committee (CDC) and the Preparatory Sub-Committee;
22. **Called upon** all Parties, and relevant Stakeholders, to immediately submit lists of their nominees to the various Constitution-making bodies and to ensure that these nominees reflect, among other things, the gender, political, social, ethnic, religious, and regional diversity of South Sudan, as provided for in the Constitution Making Process Act;
23. **Took note** of a report on the alleged dismissal by the President of the SPLM/A-IO nominated Speaker of Jonglei State and Commissioner of Twic County

without consultation, as well as on the irregular meeting of the Presidency, which could discuss and resolve such issues in a timely manner. In this regard, it **encouraged** the Presidency to regularly meet, consult and discharge their mandate in a collaborative and collegial manner as envisaged in the Agreement;

24. **Observed** that the year 2023 is a decisive year for the RTGoNU and Parties to the Agreement to make progress in the implementation of the R-ARCSS in accordance with the Roadmap and underlined key priority tasks to be fast-tracked during this year including:

- a) preparation for peaceful, inclusive and credible elections;
- b) drafting of the Permanent Constitution with full participation of all South Sudanese;
- c) expansion of civic and political space for effective citizens' participation;
- d) consolidation, strengthening and redeployment of the unified forces for better protection of civilians; and
- e) addressing and resolving the subnational violence manifesting itself in some parts of the country.

25. **Reiterated its appeal** to the RTGoNU and all the partners and friends of South Sudan to seize the moment, establish the Special Reconstruction Fund and Board, urgently convene the South Sudan Pledging Conference as provided for under Chapter 3 of the Revitalised Peace Agreement to raise the requisite funds and to collaboratively implement the Roadmap in a timely manner, and ensure the conduct of elections as scheduled at the end of the Transitional Period;

26. **Welcomed and underscored** the critical importance of the planned visit to Juba of the AUPSC, the joint IGAD Ministerial visit, and the expected Summit of IGAD Heads of State and Government to galvanise regional and international efforts in support of the full implementation of the Roadmap;

27. **Wished** everyone a Happy, Peaceful New Year 2023, and expressed optimism on the imminent Ecumenical Peace Pilgrimage to Juba and **encouraged** the spiritual leaders to appeal to the RTGoNU leadership to rebuild trust, demonstrate genuine political will and unity of purpose in the spirit of

forgiveness and magnanimity, and to rally all stakeholders to redouble their efforts, with a renewed focus to facilitate progress;

28.**Agreed** that the date for the next meeting shall be 02 March 2023; and

29.**Decided** to remain seized of all RJMEC matters.

– End –