



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

**Resolutions of the
35th RJMEC Meeting
Beijing Juba Hotel, 23rd May 2024
Juba, South Sudan**

The 35th RJMEC meeting considered the following agenda items:

- a. Minutes of the 34th RJMEC meeting;
- b. Statement by the RJMEC Interim Chairperson;
- c. Report from the RTGoNU;
- d. Report from the NTC on Transitional Security Arrangements;
- e. Briefing from the UNMISS SRSG;
- f. Reports from Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms (PFM-OC, NEC, NCRC, PPC, CTSAMVM, JDB, SDSR Board, JTSC, JMCC, and DDR Commission);
- g. Discussion on the RJMEC Interim Chairperson's statement, RTGoNU's report, UNMISS SRSG briefing and reports from the Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms;
- h. Review of the Resolutions; and
- i. Date of the next RJMEC meeting.

In attendance were representatives of all the Parties to the Revitalised Peace Agreement, Other South Sudanese Stakeholders and Adherents, the Regional Guarantors, International Partners and Friends of South Sudan, Observers, as well as Institutions and Mechanisms of the Agreement.

Following the statement by the Interim Chairperson, briefing by UNMISS SRSG, and after considering the reports from the RTGoNU, NEC, NCRC, PPC, CTSAMVM, JDB, JTSC, JMCC, SDSR Board, and DDR, the RJMEC resolved as follows:

1. **Adopted** the Minutes of the 34th RJMEC meeting held on 08 February 2024 without amendment;
2. **Welcomed** the statement of H.E. Amb. Maj. Gen. (rtd) Charles Tai Gituai, RJMEC Interim Chairperson and his assessment on recent developments in the implementation of the R-ARCSS, critical pending tasks of the Revitalised Peace Agreement, Roadmap and **endorsed** all his recommendations therein;
3. **Thanked** Hon. Dr. Martin Elia Lomuro, Minister for Cabinet Affairs for his detailed report on behalf of the RTGoNU, including update on progress being made by the High-Level Standing Committee of the Parties on the Implementation of the Agreement to guide the RTGoNU's decision on elections. In this regard, **urged** the RTGoNU to continue with sustained dialogue, update the public regularly on progress of the dialogue and provide timely clarity on the conduct of elections at the end of the Transitional Period;
4. **Welcomed** H.E. Amb. Jeremy Nyamasyo Ndola, the new Kenyan Ambassador to the Republic of South Sudan and Maj. Gen. Yitayal Gelaw Bitew, the incoming CTSAMVM Chairperson to the RJMEC meeting and **expressed**

confidence in working collectively for the pursuit of lasting peace in the Republic of South Sudan. In this regard, **bade farewell** to the outgoing CTSAMVM Chairperson Maj. Gen Hailu Gonfa, thanked him for his contribution to the peace process in South Sudan during his tenure and **wished** him well in his new assignments;

5. **Welcomed** the recent meetings between the President and First Vice President, their commitment to commence Phase II without delay, and the submission by SPLM/A-IO of its list of officers to the President for the unification of the middle and lower level echelons of the NUF. In this regard, **expressed concerns** on the various conflicting data on the number of unified forces deployed under Phase 1 and requested the JDB to clarify the number of the deployed unified forces, and progress towards Phase II;
6. **Thanked** Mr. Nicholas Haysom, UNMISS SRSG for his briefing, including detailed updates on the current humanitarian situation in South Sudan, protection of civilians as per the UNMISS mandate, observations on the status of implementation of the Revitalised Peace Agreement, and **congratulated UNMISS** upon the renewal of its mandate;
7. **Appreciated** all the Chairpersons and/or representatives of the NCRC, NEC, PPC, CTSAMVM, JDB, JMCC, JTSC, SDSR Board and DDR Commission for their reports, **welcomed** the reported progress, **took note** of their challenges such as lack of funding, logistics, allowances, among others, and **endorsed** all their recommendations;
8. **Welcomed** the disbursement by the RTGoNU of some funds to the Political Parties Council (PPC) and the National Elections Commission (NEC) to enable them kickstart their work and **commended** the two institutions for the progress

made so far. In this regard, **welcomed** the announcement by the Minister of Cabinet Affairs of having received additional funding to be disbursed to the JRC, NCAC and NCRC within two weeks;

9. **Welcomed** the completion by the JRC of drafting its final reports with recommendations for judicial reforms, reform of the Judiciary Act and establishment of the Constitutional Court, and **urged** the RTGoNU to urgently facilitate the final validation and official handover of this report to the RTGoNU for implementation;
10. **Urged** the RTGoNU and the TNLA to expedite the enactment of all pending revised bills, such as the National Security Service Bill, the NGO Bill, the Public Finance Management and Accountability Bill, among others, and **called** for full implementation of all the enacted laws;
11. **Took note** of the action taken by the SSPDF to de-escalate security tensions in Tambura, **appealed** for similar efforts in Twic, Abyei and other areas experiencing inter-communal violence, and **urged** the RTGoNU and local authorities to initiate robust local level conflict prevention measures, including ongoing inter-communal dialogues, to prevent conflict recurrence;
12. **Commended** the SDSR Board for validating its various strategic defense and security strategy documents namely: Strategic Security Assessment (SSA), Security Policy Framework (SPF), Revised Defense Policy (RDP), Security Sector Transformation (SST) Roadmap and White Paper on Defense and Security. It **urged** the Board to expedite its onward processes to ensure timely adoption by RTGoNU and its implementations;

13. **Welcomed** the commencement of the High-Level Mediation for South Sudan – the Tumaini (Hope) Initiative – with the holdout groups and the signing of the Declaration of Commitment to renounce violence, negotiate in good faith and reach agreement in the interest of inclusive and lasting peace in South Sudan, as well as commitment or recommitment to the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement of 2017. In this regard, **urged** all holdout groups to seize this renewed opportunity for dialogue to embrace the peace process.
14. **Noted with concern** that the humanitarian situation remains a challenge and will be worsened by the influx of refugees and returnees, reduced funding and anticipated floods. In this regard, **commended** the government and people of South Sudan for keeping the borders open and **appealed** to the RTGoNU and partners for full support to this process;
15. **Encouraged** the RTGoNU to continue and expedite ongoing reforms in the management of its natural resources, economic and financial management, accountability, as well as to review the wealth sharing and revenue allocation to States and Counties, in line with the Agreement;
16. **Noted with concern** that there has been no significant progress on the Bills for the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing (CTRH) and the Compensation and Reparation Authority (CRA) before the reconstituted TNLA and **urged** the TNLA to expedite the process of enactment of the Bills;
17. **Appealed** to the RTGoNU to provide funding to all Agreement institutions and mechanisms to enable them discharge their mandates, and in particular, to the reconstituted National Constitutional Review Commission in order for it to commence the permanent constitution making process;

18. **Expressed serious concerns** that barely seven months to elections, there is no evidence of sufficient preparations for the conduct of elections and clarity or consensus on the way forward;
19. **Identified** a number of critical pending tasks of the Agreement needed to enhance political and civic space, sustain the peace and consolidate the gains made in the implementation of the Agreement, namely:
- a. full operationalisation of the three newly reconstituted institutions, namely the PPC, NCRC and NEC by availing sufficient funding to enable them to deliver their mandates;
 - b. completion of Phase I and Phase II unification of forces, and provision of funding for the DDR process;
 - c. addressing intercommunal violence through national, state and grassroots level dialogue and peacebuilding mechanisms;
 - d. implementation of the legal and policy frameworks which enhance transparency and accountability in economic and financial sectors;
 - e. establishment and operationalisation of the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing and the Compensation and Reparation Authority;
 - f. making of the permanent constitution in accordance with the Constitution Making Process Act 2022, to guide the conduct of elections at the end of the Transitional Period.
20. **Recommended** to the RTGoNU to:

- a. continue sustained dialogue in a collegial manner, build consensus among the parties and stakeholders on the way forward on elections,
- b. provide regular updates to the public on progress of the dialogue;
- c. avail the requisite resources and logistics to the Agreement institutions and mechanisms to enable them to discharge their mandates;
- d. fast-track the passing of all pending laws and operationalise those already enacted by the TNLA; and
- e. complete the deployment of the unified forces and commence Phase II without further delay.

21. **Appealed** to all the RJMEC members, friends and partners to remain seized of the peace process, mobilise available logistics and financial resources, and to continue supporting the RJMEC and the efforts of the various institutions and mechanisms of the Agreement to assist the parties to deliver peaceful, free, fair and credible democratic elections as per the Agreement and the Roadmap by the end of the Transitional Period;

22. **Agreed** that the date for the next meeting shall be 27th June 2024; and

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

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