



Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC)

FINAL MINUTES OF THE 19TH MEETING OF THE RECONSTITUTED JOINT MONITORING AND EVALUATION COMMISSION HELD ON 28TH OCTOBER 2021 AT PALM AFRICA HOTEL, JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN

The 19th meeting of the Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC) was convened in Juba, South Sudan on 28th October 2021. The meeting was chaired by H.E Maj. General Charles Tai Gituai (rtd), Interim Chairperson of the RJMEC who called it to order at 10:50 am.

Agenda

1. Opening Prayers
2. Chairperson's Opening Remarks
3. Adoption of the Agenda
(Media excused)
4. Adoption of the minutes of the last meeting
(Media recalled)
5. Statement by RJMEC Interim Chairperson
6. Report from RTGoNU
7. Report from NTC
8. Briefing from UNMISS SRSG
(Media excused)
9. Reports and Plans from Agreement Institutions and Security Mechanisms
 - i. CTSAMVM
 - ii. JDB
 - iii. SDSR Board
 - iv. JTSC
 - v. JMCC
 - vi. DDR Commission
10. Discussion on RJMEC Interim Chairperson's Statement, RTGoNU's, NTC's, UNMISS SRSG's briefings and reports from Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms.
11. Date for the next meeting
12. A.O.B
13. Resolutions of the meeting
14. Chairperson's closing remarks
15. Closing prayers.

In attendance were the representatives of all the Parties, Other South Sudanese Stakeholders and Adherents, Regional Guarantors, International Partners and Friends of South Sudan in RJMEC. Also, in attendance were the Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms, and the RJMEC Secretariat, namely:

For the Parties to the R-ARCSS:

1. Hon. Dr. Martin Elia Lomuro (I-TGoNU)
2. Hon. Amb. Stephen Par Kuol (SPLM/A-IO)
3. Hon. Sandra Bona Malual (SPLM/A-IO)
4. Hon. Peter Mabior Riing (SSOA)
5. Mr. 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. Ms. Rita Lopidia (Women Coalition)
3. Ms. Mary Akech Bior (Women Bloc)
4. Sheik Vitale Aligo Samson (CSO Alliance)
5. Prof. Pauline Riak (Academia)
6. Ms. Caroline Kibos (Youth)
7. Mr Daniel Mwaka (Youth)

For the Regional Guarantors:

1. Mr. Mustafa Ahmed Al-Mubarak (Sudan)
2. H.E. Nebil Mahdi (Ethiopia)
3. H.E. Samuel Nandwa (Kenya)
4. Mr. Hassan Robleh Mohamoud (Djibouti)
5. H.E. Abdihakim Omar (Somalia)
6. Mr. Kabugudho Anthony (Uganda)
7. H.E. Ibim Nkem Charles (Nigeria)
8. Mr. Lutendo Ratshibaya (South Africa)
9. H.E. Prof. Joram M. Biswaro (AUMISS)
10. Dr. Philip Mwanika (IGAD Mission in South Sudan)

For International Partners and Friends of South Sudan

1. H.E. Hua Ning (China)
2. Mr. Paul Klouman Bekken (Norway)
3. Mr. Enrique Gallego (USA)
4. Ms. Kate Johnston (UK)
5. Mr. Guang Cong (UNMISS)
6. Mr. Dionyz Hochel (EU)
7. H.E. Jenny Hill (IPF)

For RJMEC Secretariat:

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

For the Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms:

1. Maj. Gen. Teshome Gemechu Aderie, Chairperson – CTSAMVM
2. Brig. Gen. Saeed Mohamed Alshekh, Deputy Chairperson - CTSAMVM
3. Lt. Gen. Gabriel Doup Lam, Co-Chairperson - JDB
4. Lt. Gen. Julius Tabuley, Co-Chairperson JDB
5. Lt. Gen. Rabi Mujung Emmanuel, Representing JDB Chairperson
6. Brig. Gen. Anjelos Madut Agoth, JDB
7. Lt. Gen. Wesley Welebe Samson, Chairperson JTSC
8. Hon. Angelina Teny, Chairperson SDSR-Board
9. Col. Ding Lam Yual, Act Head of Secretariat SDSR Board
10. Hon. Regina Joseph Kapa, Deputy Chairperson DDR Commission

Observers:

1. Ms. Riko Kato (Japan)
2. Mr. Ahmed Tawfek (Egypt)
3. Mr. Peterson Magoola (UN Women)
4. Mr. Xavier Verjus - Renard (France)
5. Mr. Simon Ruf (Germany)
6. Ms. Lydia Minagano (Switzerland)
7. Mr. Gira Charles Binya (MFA)

Min. 01/19/21: Opening Prayers

1. The opening prayers were led by one of the faith-based leaders Bishop Enock Tombe.

Min. 02/19/21: Chairperson's Opening Remarks

2. The Chairperson welcomed the RJMEC members to the 19th RJMEC meeting and explained that since the previous meeting did not have a quorum, there was no resolution and that the minutes to be reviewed was of the 18th Plenary. He also appealed for members to return after lunch break to review the resolution. He also informed of the end of tour of duty of H.E. Jenny Hill, Ambassador of Canada to the Republic of South Sudan and Chairperson of the IPF missions in South Sudan, and that she would be allowed to make a statement after the SRSG. The Chair also welcomed new RJMEC members to the plenary.

Min. 03/19/21 Adoption of the Agenda

3. The draft agenda was adopted without any amendments.

Min. 04/19/21: Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

4. Members reviewed and adopted the minutes of the 18th RJMEC meeting of 22nd July 2021 without any amendments.

Min. 05/19/21: Statement by the RJMEC Interim Chairperson

5. In his statement to the plenary, the RJMEC Interim Chairperson:

- 5.1 welcomed the members to the 19th RJMEC meeting, informed them of his high-level initiative of regional diplomacy in Ethiopia and Djibouti aimed at ensuring that South Sudan remains on the agenda of IGAD and its member states, and impressed upon the importance of the Transitional Security Arrangements (TSA), among other vital tasks. He reminded the members of the latest RJMEC Quarterly report that was published and shared with them.
- 5.2 provided thematic updates on the status of implementation of the R-ARCSS highlighting progress, challenges and offered recommendations. He observed progress including, *inter alia*, the approvals by the Council of Ministers of the security bills, the Constitutional Amendment Bills, and the Permanent Constitution-Making Process Bill, all of which awaited enactment by the Transitional National Legislature (TNL). He informed of the partial nominations to the Judicial Reform Committee and that the RTGoNU and IGAD were yet to complete their parts. In addition, he welcomed the decision of the Presidency that plans and preparations for graduation of unified forces should be completed within four weeks, and the ongoing efforts to rationalise and streamline the economic sector. He also took note of the engagements between the AU Commission and the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs on modalities of establishing the Hybrid Court for South Sudan (HCSS);
- 5.3 recommended actions for remedial measures, including: (a) the RTGoNU to expedite the approval of the Political Parties Bill; (b) the reconstituted TNL to fast-track its handling of all bills due to be ratified, including the Permanent Constitution-Making Process Bill 2021 before the end of year; (c) the RTGoNU and IGAD to finalise their nominations and the establishment of the ad-hoc Judicial Reform Committee; (d) the RTGoNU to make financial resources available for the completion of the Transitional Security Arrangements, including graduation and redeployment of unified forces, as well as for DDR programmes; (e) the leadership of the Parties to urgently resolve the issue of the ratio of the unified forces and their unified command structure; (f) the RTGoNU and partners to expedite the establishment of the Board of the Special Reconstruction Fund; (g) the RTGoNU to continue with all reforms required in Chapter 4, including Public Financial Management (PFM) reforms; and (h) the RTGoNU and international community to support the work of the Technical Committee on the CTRH. He concluded by requesting the RTGoNU to provide members in our next meeting with a plan on how it intends to implement the outstanding tasks in the remainder of the Transitional Period.

Min. 06/19/21: Report from the RTGoNU

6. The representative of the RTGoNU provided his institution's report as follows:
 - 6.1 there was ongoing progress towards: (a) completion of establishment of the governance structures at the national and subnational levels; (b) resolution of disagreements within the OPP members on their nominations to the TNL, and (c) the review and completion of structures of the Specialized Technical Committees of the TNLA and that that the members awaited nominations;
 - 6.2 the TNLA and the Council of States recently passed the Code of Business and the Presidential Speech was adopted as a Policy Statement. The Parties to the R-ARCSS submitted the list of their nominees for the reconstitution of the State Legislative Assemblies and awaited appointments. In spite of the dispute amongst the OPP parties which delayed the

reconstitution of the State Legislative Assemblies, a decision was taken to proceed to appoint the members without the 20 OPP members;

- 6.3 the forces at the Training Centres were being prepared for graduation. Food has been mobilized, uniforms availed and trainees who deserted the training centres had begun returning to the training locations. A JDB technical committee accomplished its field mission to determine the details of the forces in the training centers and prepare for the graduation. Furthermore, the committee observed that the SPLM/A-IO and SSOA had substantially more officers than non-commissioned officers and recommended that they reorganize their forces in accordance with the standard military command structure and formation to ease the command unification process;
- 6.4 the main challenges facing implementation of the TSA included, among others: logistical issues such as the lack of biometric machines for screening of forces; delays in resolving disagreements on the ratio of forces between the ITGoNU and the Opposition; and, a lack of consensus on the unified command structure;
- 6.5 floods continued and may hamper the gradual return of IDPs and refugees to their places of origin. The Council of Ministers approved the emergency response plan of the Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management to augment the support of the humanitarian agencies operating in South Sudan;
- 6.6 the Cabinet adopted resolutions resulting in the establishment, in May 2021, of an ad-hoc Cabinet Committee chaired by the Minister for Cabinet Affairs to implement the Council resolution on strengthening and reforming the Ministry of Finance and Planning and capacitating and reforming the Bank of South Sudan;
- 6.7 the RTGoNU was ready to engage the AU Commission on the establishment of the HCSS. Furthermore, the National Human Rights Advisory Council was due for establishment; the Technical Committee for the establishment of the CTRH awaited training; all the security bills passed by Cabinet awaited enactment by the TNL; and the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs was directed to trigger the implementation of Chapters 1 (Article 1.17), 5 and 6 of the R-ARCSS. The Council further directed the Governance Cluster to be a High-Level Committee to monitor the implementation of chapters 1, 5 and 6;
- 6.8 H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit expressed his concerns on the slow pace of implementation of the R-ARCSS and directed all Ministers and Deputy Ministers to expeditiously implement the Agreement, including to improve on their performance as the RTGoNU executives. Furthermore, the President urged the Governors to cooperate and undertake collegial governance of their respective states; and
- 6.9 the Ministry of Cabinet Affairs drafted a plan for induction of the State Governments on the R-ARCSS, governance and collegiality in the implementation of the Agreement. Also, the RTGoNU in collaboration with UNMISS were planning a retreat for the national and state executives for sharing ideas on governance, collegial administration and the R-ARCSS.

Min. 07/19/21: Report from the NTC

7. In his report to the plenary, the Secretary to the NTC:

- 7.1 reminded members of the mandate of the NTC established under the Presidential Order No. 10/20; informed of the NTC continued engagement with partners to support the R-ARCSS implementation; stated that the NTC signed contracts with vendors to provide food and non-food items to the training centres, cantonment sites and barracks and that it started phasing out accommodating members from the security mechanisms in hotels. He commended donors and the guarantors for the in-kind support provided to the NTC;
- 7.2 reported that the Ministry of Finance and Planning provided funds for screening of the NUF at the training centres and for the JDB and SDSR-Board to tour the training centers and cantonment sites across the country. Also, the NTC facilitated a joint mission of the Security Mechanisms (JDB, JTSC and JMCC) to resolve the conflict between the communities in Yambio and to reallocate the forces from Tambura to another location. It also sent a joint security team on the Kitgwang incidents to engage with Gen. Simon Gatwech and Gen. Johnson Olony;
- 7.3 further reported that the NTC achieved the following: (a) continuation of its administrative functions and oversight of the work of security mechanisms; (b) formation of the R-ARCSS, state and local governments; (c) appointment of State Governors; (d) facilitating the establishment of new ministries and residential premises of VIP; (e) State government power-sharing ratio responsibility agreement among the Parties to the R-ARCSS; (f) facilitated and supervised discussions on allocation of positions amongst the Parties to the R-ARCSS in order to expedite full formation of the State government; (g) engaged the Parties, which led to the reconstitution of the TNLA and the Council of States and their members were sworn in; (h) continued engagements with the donor community to donate in-kind food and non-food items for training centers and cantonments sites as well as engaging Special Envoys, Troika, EU, AU, IGAD, China, Japan and other stakeholders;
- 7.4 further reported that the NTC submitted to the principals completed security organs structures for the unified command;
- 7.5 reiterated the continued engagements of the Chairperson with the principals on having a unified command structure for the forces. The NTC also to pay one year's incentives to the CTSAMVM national monitors;
- 7.6 outlined the challenges facing the NTC work to include: (a) insufficient and untimely funding; (b) disagreement on the command structure; (c) defection of soldiers and change of allegiance; (d) pending completion of the appointment of the State Legislature; (e) shortage of food and non-food items in the training centres, cantonment sites and barracks; (f) shortage of military uniforms and other military equipment; and (g) mistrust between the NTC and supplier/services providers which could impact Phase II of NUF;
- 7.7 recommended corrective measures and approaches as follows: (a) the Ministry of Finance and Planning to avail funds to the NTC to execute its tasks; (b) the Regional Guarantors to expedite delivering on their promises of the in-kind donation of military uniforms and other military equipment; (c) Parties to expeditiously agree on the unification of command structure, graduation and redeployment of NUF; and (d) Parties to discourage military defection and focus on unifying their forces; and

- 7.8 presented the NTC narrative financial report on consolidated income and expenditure statement covering the period 25th February to 20th September 2021, indicating that the NTC inherited financial obligations/unpaid bills from the NPTC that impacted its operational plan.

Min. 08/19/21: Briefing from UNMISS DSRSG

8. In his briefing to the RJMEC plenary, the DSRSG and Deputy head of UNMISS:
- 8.1 informed members that 24 October was the United Nations Day, which marked the occasion the UN Charter was signed in 1945. He was encouraged by the reconstitution of the TNL and their subsequent debate and passage of the Conduct of Business regulations and the President Policy Statement. He appealed for the establishment of the various Specialized Committees, given their critical importance in parliamentary proceedings and that these steps should be followed by the establishment of State Legislative Assemblies and national Commissions;
 - 8.2 urged the reconstituted TNL to expedite the review and enactment of priority bills on the reform of the security, financial, and judicial sectors, as well as the Constitution-making process bill, electoral legislation and the national budget to take the implementation of the R-ARCSS forward;
 - 8.3 reiterated UNMISS priority in supporting the capacity building of the reconstituted TNLA, including supporting it to draft a strategic plan. He updated members on the activities which UNMISS have been undertaking with women parliamentarians, the Political Parties Forum, the Strategic Defence and Security Review Board, and the Civil Society Forum pursuant to the South Sudan peace process. He further reiterated the UNMISS readiness to work with all stakeholders to ensure effective and inclusive popular participation through civic engagement at all levels of society;
 - 8.4 urged for addressing impediments to implementation of the Transitional Security Arrangements. In that regard, he welcomed the Presidency's recent decision concerning the graduation of the NUF, observing the link between the implementation of the TSAs and realization of other aspects of the agreement, such as the electoral process;
 - 8.5 took note of the negotiation process that was initiated with the SPLA- IO Kit-Gwang faction in Khartoum, urging that the SPLA-IO factions, and all peace parties, needed to work together to overcome their differences peacefully, renounce violence, and adhere to the CoHA and all other provisions of the R-ARCSS;
 - 8.6 welcomed the relocation of the parties to the conflict out from Tambura and the role and efforts of the JDB selected committee in containing the violence and restoring the much-needed peace. He observed that the implementation of the TSA will help in conflict and security incidents prevention and in addressing the root causes of tensions;
 - 8.7 stated that the humanitarian situation remained alarming due to the displacement of almost 80,000 people requiring food and shelter, and the armed conflict in Central Equatoria, mainly involving non-signatory parties to the R-ARCSS and other armed factions, displaced more than 120,000 people between January and September 2021;
 - 8.8 shared concerns of severe economic hardships experienced by South Sudanese and recommended that frustration must not be taken out on the very organizations trying to help them. He cited incidents of youth attacking humanitarian convoys and threatening workers to

secure jobs for themselves as utterly unacceptable. He urged all authorities and communities to ensure safe and unhindered access of humanitarian partners and to refrain from violence against aid facilities and workers who were courageously supporting people in need;

- 8.9 highlighted how widespread flooding, conflict and subsequent displacement, including the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic deepened humanitarian needs across the country. Further, of the \$1.7 billion US dollars requested in the 2021 South Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan, 61% had been received as of 21st October. Additional funding was needed to respond to the increasing needs of conflict and flood-affected people across the country; and
- 8.10 concluded by recommending that a lot more committed action was required for durable peace to take root in South Sudan, including: (a). making concrete, visible progress on harmonization of command of the armed forces and the formation of the NUF: (b). expeditious formation of the specialized committees and the passing of enabling priority legislation by the reconstituted TNLA: (c). formation of State Assemblies and County Councils and adherence to 35% gender provisions.

Min. 09/19/21: Briefing from IGAD Partners Forum

- 9.0 The IPF Chairperson expressed concerns over delays in the implementation of the R-ARCSS and how an alleged recess of the TNL between November to April 2022 would impact the tasks pending to be accomplished. Further, should the graduation of the NUF take place, it will just be the beginning. There is need therefore to think about the armed groups which are not part of the structure. She informed that CTSAMVM reported on a number of detentions and an increase in SGBV in Western Equatoria and Wau. In that regard, there is need to encourage the RTGoNU to build on the progress that has been made and work on addressing the challenges.

Min. 09/19/21: Reports from Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms

i) Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements Monitoring Verification Mechanisms

- 9.1. The CTSAMVM Chairperson reported the following:
- 9.1.1. CTSAMVM's monitored, verified incidents and reports are covered in the CTSAMVM report 2021/08 – on incidents in Nassir, CTSAMVM report 2021/09 on SGBV reports in Central Equatoria; CTSAMVM report 2021/10 on detention of a CTSAMVM helicopter in Eastern Equatoria and on the occupied civilian buildings as of 17th August 2021. Among the reports submitted are the outcome of the CTC meeting held on 23rd July 2021 and the CTC meeting of 23rd August 2021 and the Resolutions of the CTSAMVM Board meeting of 23rd May 2021 and the Resolution of the Board that was held on 27th July 2021. The above reports were shared with RJMEC members for further information.
- 9.1.2. reported that there were no verified clashes between the parties; the level of violence in Tambura remains of serious concern despite intervention by the JDB; urged the warring forces to stop continuing to commit violence in Tambura; reported about armed clashes between the factions of SPLA-IO; the planned fact-finding mission to Magenit has not happened because of the lack of security guarantees; the occupation of civilian areas; SGBV and change of

allegiance between armed forces are of serious concerns; and, three training centres received food supplies recently but cantonment sites and other training centres continued to face logistical challenges.

ii) Joint Defence Board

9.2. In his report, the Co-Chairperson of the Joint Defence Board (JDB):

- 9.2.1. informed members on the establishment of three committees for planning the graduation of the NUF as directed by the Presidency in October; the resolution of the rank-related issues should successfully lead to components of the NUFs whose parades, composition and rank computation match the agency-specific criterion stipulated in the structures adopted by the JDB;
- 9.2.2. reported that after each party agreed to finalise screening and reorganising of its forces, the JDB would submit the details of its work to the overall Joint Committee for the final unification process. He urged for clear details of the NUFs for remuneration, consistent with their respective agencies/ institutions;
- 9.2.3. appreciated the help of the Parties in the stabilization of Tambura, and the communities who need reconciliation;
- 9.2.4. recommended to the NTC to expedite release of the funds earmarked for the screening, reorganisation and unification process to end the delay in implementation of the TSAs and appealed for support from Partners of South Sudan;
- 9.2.5. expressed the need for trust and confidence-building among the Parties to be strengthened to mitigate discontent and inter-party shifts in allegiance;
- 9.2.6. urged the NTC to expedite the supply of uniforms to the personnel of the Organised Forces in the training centres ahead of their graduation; and
- 9.2.7. commended the leadership of the Parties and the RTGoNU for the support toward the peace process as well as the IGAD Special Envoy and International Partners and Friends of South Sudan for the continued role in ensuring that sustainable peace returns to the country.

iii) Strategic Defence and Security Review Board

9.3. The Chairperson of the Strategic Defence and Review Board (SDSRB):

- 9.3.1. presented a report on the accomplished activities of the SDSR Board which included semi-final reading on the Security Policy Framework; workshop on Security Policy Framework (SPF), semi-final reading and discussion on the Strategic Security Assessment and Security Policy Framework; and Security Sector Reform workshop to discuss the draft Strategic Security Assessment (SSA) document. She commended UNMISS Rule of Law Advisory Section (RoLAS) and RJMEC who supported the workshops;
- 9.3.2. informed of the pending tasks as follows: (a) finalization of the Security Policy Framework; (b) fresh drafting or Revision of the Defence Policy; (c) workshop to incorporate SSA findings into the White Paper on Security and Defence; (d) development of fresh policies for other security sector agencies; and (e) research and knowledge – SDSR-B exposure to regional and international

security infrastructure, policies, and designs; and urged other partners to support the next SDSR Board workshop.

iv) Joint Transitional Security Committee

9.4. The Chairperson of the JTSC reported to the plenary that its report was partly covered by the report from the JDB and RTGoNU. In addition, he stated as follows:

- 9.4.1. the Secretariat and Chairperson of the JTSC were tasked by the JDB to lead a team that was assigned to go to Tambura. Accordingly, the JDB disengaged the fighting forces and deployed security forces, including instituting a curfew in Tambura, demilitarized the town, recovered stolen property, buried bodies, and evacuated the injured to the hospital in Juba. He observed that the level of hatred in Tambura was high and that although the registered death toll is 278 people, many more people could have died. He warned that the community is heavily armed and that financial resources to the community are allegedly being provided by the South Sudanese diaspora;
- 9.4.2. informed that the movement of forces, including those under Nando to Maridi and the community dialogue and reconciliation held on 27th October 2021 involving public expressions of apology by Maj. Gen. James Nando and Angelo Davido; and
- 9.4.3. recommended the following: there is an urgent need to pursue a political solution to the conflict in Tambura, quickly graduate and redeploy the NUF, provide humanitarian aid, basic services such as health and education to be given priority, Parties to undertake reconciliation and healing; and there is need for accountability for the crimes committed in Tambura.

v) Joint Military Ceasefire Commission

9.5. There was no report received from or presented by JMCC to the RJMEC members.

vi) Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission

- 9.6. The Deputy Chairperson of the DDR Commission informed of no progress to report on and highlighted the recurring challenges the Commission faces. They include lack of funding to screen the forces at the training centers, a lack of DDR support in the current UNMISS mandate; and a lack of the entire DDR program budget funding, including for activating the ICRS database and policy implementation.
- 9.7. She concluded with the following recommendations: the NTC needs to mobilize funding for DDRC to prepare for proper demobilization of ex-combatants, and to emphasize to the RTGoNU, UN and all donors the prioritization of DDR program support; RJMEC, UN and donors to use the CVR approach to support the Commission to stabilize the security environment for DDR to start; RJMEC to support the policy dissemination of the approved documents and RJMEC to support the activation of ICRS as it is a pre-requisite of demobilization.

Min. 10 /19/21: Discussions on Statements and Reports

10. During the discussions session, the RJMEC members raised the following.

- 10.1. The African Union Commission representative observed that the main challenge is on slow implementation of the R-ARCSS. Raised the following questions: (a) timeline of implementation of the R-ARCSS and requested the RTGoNU to respond to the concerns; (b) on the NTC report, he wondered whether the fund (USD 40 million) was earmarked and available for graduation of the NUF; (c) on the report from JTSC on the Tambura incident, he expressed concerns on earlier reports that the conflict in that area was partly being fueled by some politicians in Juba.
- 10.2. A representative of the Women Coalition commended CTSAMVM for the extensive reports and made a specific comment on the SGBV report. Raised a concern that parties should not accept perpetrators of SGBV in their rank and file. She appealed to the SSPDF to update the plenary on the whereabouts of the perpetrators. The request was filed on the 18th of October and needed to have been reflected in the statement of the Chairperson. In addition, she asked the JDB whether there were women in the Committees visiting the training centres. To the RTGoNU, she urged that the Specialized Committees of the TNLA should be headed by women and that the State Parliament should adhere to the 35% women quota.
- 10.3. The RTGoNU representative requested that the Parties should be given time to discuss the R-ARCSS tasks which needed to be completed. He wondered what happened to the 9 months added to the Pre-Transitional Period. Informed that the previous week, the Political Parties Act was passed at the level of the Governance Cluster and passed to the Council of Ministers. Observed that the existence of more officers than soldiers in the organized forces was unconventional and urged that SPLM/A-IO and SSOA organize the forces to align them with conventional practices. He also cited the arms embargo on South Sudan as problematic to the TSA. On the 35% women representation, he stated that it was not the responsibility of the RTGoNU but rather of the Parties to the R-ARCSS. He reminded members of the pledge of the President to increase the number of women in government demonstrated by the appointment of the female Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Council of States respectively. Previously, there were fewer number of women elected during the 2010 elections.
- 10.4. The RTGoNU representative also informed that the NTC was obliged to report to the plenary despite the challenges it faced. The NTC reports are to be brought to the attention of the RTGoNU. On the issue of the frozen accounts, he stated that they had to be frozen due to the information that some of the Government institutions were involved in the black market. The decision was for all the Government institutions to have local currency bank accounts. Additionally, he stated that the Government was keen to go for election as it would bring sustainable peace to South Sudan. He reminded the members that RTGoNU was aware of the delays and slow implementation of the R-ARCSS. He concluded by urging the Partners to exercise patience since it was a challenge to establish a county and to make it stable within a short time.
- 10.5. A JDB representative corrected the impression created on the USD 40 million clarifying that the entire amount was mentioned as a budget for Phase I and II of the unification of forces. Regarding women representation in the DDR special committee for screening, reorganizing and graduation to be done before the forces are redeployed, he informed that the Child Protection, Gender and Social Welfare Department was still expected to submit the names of their representatives. He therefore appealed to the political leaders to hire an expert to assist in the process. On Tambura, people have been mobilizing support for their communities for conflict. He warned about future emerging *Tamburas* if the graduation of forces continues to

be delayed. On the SGBV cases, the report has been discussed; SSPDF requested the full list of the soldiers involved in the violation. The MoD and Veteran Affairs added that the organized forces should not be a sanctuary for criminals and defections when the forces are graduated.

- 10.6. The UK representative appreciated the reconstitution of the TNLA but expressed concerns about an alleged recess at a time it has a critical role to play and urged for the formation of State Legislative Assemblies. On Tambura, he raised concerns on reports of violence against civilians and hope that situation would continue to improve and there would be no return to violence. Asked the government to share its plans on the situation in Tambura and expedite the graduation of the forces.
- 10.7. The Sudan representative stated that on the visit to Magenis that there was no objection from the Sudanese authorities to the mission to visit Magenis. He informed that a request from IGAD was channeled to the Government of Sudan for flight clearance. In addition, on 19th October, CTSAMVM requested to access Magenis through a different route and the request was also communicated to Khartoum.
- 10.8. A youth representative raised concerns on the DDR, which was not being prioritized by the RTGoNU, urging that the DDR should be taken as an important mechanism for the success of the TSA. On TNLA four months recess, she noted that it was very concerning. In addition, on the NTC financial report, she observed that the issue of frozen accounts was unclear and needed clarification.
- 10.9. The EU representative commented on the Tambura report stating that the matter has been a challenge since July 2021. The representative urged the Parties to implement the R-ARCSS especially TSA and Judicial review. Raised a concern regarding the safety of humanitarian workers.
- 10.10. While commenting on the CTSAMVM report, the NTC representative demanded to know the number of barracks and cantonment sites in the country. The representative asserted that DDR Commission was the most important mechanism of the TSA since it involved disarmament and demobilization hence it should be based and undertaken at cantonment sites and in barracks so that those selected for training are in fact qualified. He observed that the critical thing to be addressed was the issue of Kit-Gwang and Magenis. The Kit-Gwang group has refused to address the issue as SPLM/A-IO internal issue but had started a dialogue with the ITGoNU even before resolving their grievances internally.
- 10.11. The DDR Commission informed that most donors do not want to fund a classical DDR programme. Expressed the funding challenges facing the DDR Commission. The Commission had introduced a classical DDR, which the donors were neither happy nor interested to support. There was a community pilot DDR that was ongoing to see how the DDR can be managed. He then urged the NTC to include the DDR budget of activities in its plan, observing that since the ex-combatants were not disarmed, they could disrupt communities. On screening of forces for training, the JTSC was reminded that women who were pregnant or lactating should not be disqualified.

Min. 11/19/21: Date for the Next Meeting

11. Members suggested that the date for the 19th RJMEC monthly meeting would be confirmed and communicated to the members by the RJMEC Secretariat.

Min. 12/19 /21: A.O.B

12. There was no issue raised under this agenda item.

Min.13/19/21: Resolution of the Meeting

13. A draft Resolution of the 19th RJMEC monthly meeting was circulated to all members, reviewed, and adopted. The RJMEC Secretariat was then directed to share the final Resolution with all the members.

Min.14/19/21: Chairman's Closing Remarks

14. The RJMEC Interim Chairperson commended the members for their fruitful deliberations, appealed to all members to give due attention to the regular meetings of RJMEC; urged the members to be in problem-solving mode; and further appealed to Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms to submit authentic and endorsed reports in a timely manner.

Min.15/19/21: Closing Prayers

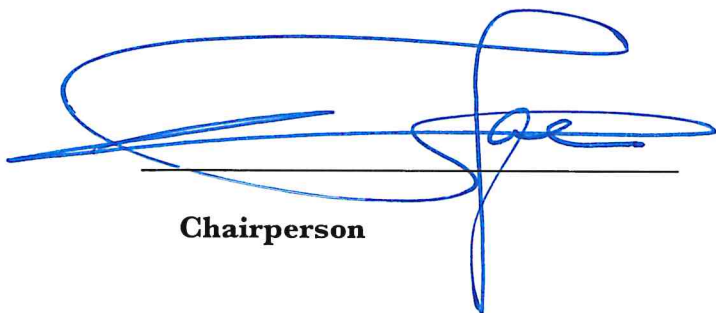
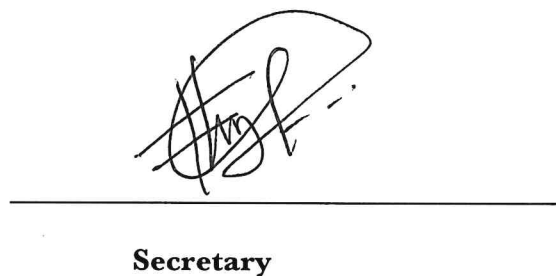
15. The representative of the faith-based organizations led a closing prayer. There being no other business, the 19th RJMEC monthly meeting was adjourned at 16h04, CAT.

The minutes are hereby proposed and seconded by the undermentioned as the true record of the meeting.

Proposer: Lt. Gen. Julius Tabuley, Co-Chairperson JDB

Seconder: Hon. Angelina Teny, SDSR Board Chairperson

The minutes are hereby approved and endorsed as a true record of the 19th RJMEC monthly meeting.


Chairperson
Secretary