



Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC)

Resolution of the RJMEC

5th RJMEC Meeting

Palm Africa Hotel, 12th April 2019, Juba, South Sudan

The 5th meeting of the Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC) convened in Juba, South Sudan, on 12th April 2019 chaired by the Interim Chairperson of the RJMEC, Ambassador Lt. General Augustino S.K Njoroge (Rtd).

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

For the Parties to the R-ARCSS:

1. Hon. Martin Elia Lomuro (Incumbent TGoNU)
2. Hon. Awut Deng Acuil (Incumbent TGoNU)
3. Amb. Stephen Par Kuol (SPLM/A-IO)
4. Mr. Gatwech Lam Puoch (SPLM/A-IO)
5. Hon. Hussein Abdelbagi Akol (SSOA)
6. Mr. Bior Leek Kuareng (FDs)
7. Hon Wilson Lodiong Sebit (OPP)

For the Other South Sudanese Stakeholders and Adherents

1. Rev. John Okumu (Faith based leader)
2. Ms. Rita Lopidia (Women Coalition)
3. Ms. Maria Gideon (Women's Bloc)
4. Mr. Akuoch Ajang Nyanhom (CSO Alliance)
5. Mr. Jacob Bul Bior (CSO Forum)
6. Mr. Simon Akuei Deng (Business Community)
7. Ms. Yar Manoa Majok (Business Community)
8. Prof. Pauline Riak (Academia)
9. Ms. Caroline Kibos (Youth)
10. Geoffrey Lou Duke (Youth).

For the Regional Guarantors

1. Mr. Zelalem Birhan (Ethiopia)
2. H.E. Chris K. Mburu (Kenya)
3. H.E. Hussein Haji Ahmed (Somalia)

4. Mr. Isam I. Ibrahim (Sudan)
5. H.E. Brig. Gen. Ronnie Balya (Uganda)
6. Mr. Mlungisi Mbalati (South Africa)
7. Mr. Tesfaye Negassa (IGAD Juba Liaison Office)
8. Amb. Prof. Joram M. Biswaro (AUMISS)

For International Partners and Friends of South Sudan

1. H.E. Hua Ning (China)
2. H.E. Lars Andersen (Norway)
3. H.E. Thomas Hushek (USA)
4. H.E. Alison Blackburne (UK)
5. Mr. Alain Noudehou (UNMISS)
6. H.E. Sinead Walsh (EU)
7. H.E. James Christoff (IPF)

For RJMEC Secretariat

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

For the Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms

1. Amb. Magid Yousif, Deputy Chairperson, NCAC
2. Maj. Gen. Desta Abiche, Chairperson CTSAMVM
3. Gen. Gabriel Jok Riak, Chairperson JDB
4. Mr. Denay Chagor, SDSR Board
5. Dr. Olaw Adiang, JTSC

Observers

1. H.E. Jan Hendrick van Thiel (Germany)
2. H.E. Dr. Ahmed Bahaa Eldin (Egypt)
3. Ms. Joane Holliger (Switzerland)
4. Mr. Mitsuhiro Toyama (Japan)
5. Ms. Fumi Balogun (UN Women).

The 5th RJMEC meeting considered the following agenda items:

- a) Statement by RJMEC Interim Chairperson;
- b) Report from the National Pre-Transitional Committee (NPTC);
- c) The minutes of the last meeting;
- d) Briefing from the UNMISS SRSG;
- e) Report from Agreement institutions and implementation mechanisms (NCAC, CTSAMVM, JDB, SDSR Board, JTSC and JMCC);
- f) Briefing on RJMEC Working Committees;
- g) Presentation from the Civil Society; and
- h) Date of the next RJMEC meeting.

Following the statement by the Interim Chairperson, brief by UNMISS SRSG, presentation from the Civil Society and after considering the reports from the NPTC, CTSAMVM, NCAC, JDB, SDSR Board, JTSC and JMCC, the RJMEC resolved as follows:

1. **Adopted** the minutes of the 4th RJMEC meeting held in Juba, South Sudan on 7th March 2019 with amendments, including the concerns raised by the Incumbent TGoNU, and the responses of the other Parties;
2. **Welcomed** the recommendations contained in the statement of the RJMEC Interim Chairperson, H.E Lt. Gen. Augustino S.K Njoroge (Rtd), and his assessment on the status of implementation of the key Pre-Transitional tasks;
3. **Took note** of the written report of the NPTC, which was submitted to RJMEC, **congratulated** the Committee on securing the US \$10 million pledged by the Incumbent TGoNU and **appreciated** the latter for fulfilling its pledge to the NPTC Fund and **urged** the NPTC to channel these funds to the appropriate mechanisms to expedite the start of the cantonment process. In this respect it **appealed** to the Incumbent TGoNU to explore and avail additional resources within its means to ensure smooth implementation of the Peace Agreement;
4. **Thanked** the UNMISS Deputy SRSG UN RC/HC Mr. Alain Noudehou for his briefing and the Chairpersons of the NCAC, CTSAMVM, JDB, SDSR Board, JTSC and JMCC for their reports, and **appreciated** all the institutions and mechanisms of the Agreement who submitted their reports to the RJMEC Secretariat at least three days in advance of the plenary;
5. **Appreciated** the South Sudan Civil Society Forum (SSCSF) for the presentation of its observations on the status of implementation of the R-ARCSS, its unwavering commitment in engaging the Parties to pursue lasting peace as a bridge between the citizens and the political actors, and in this regard assured the Civil Society of RJMEC's full support;
6. **Congratulated** the Technical Boundary Committee (TBC) for completing its work in a timely manner since its formation and for handing over its report to the IGAD Mediation, including a detailed briefing to the Independent Boundaries Commission (IBC) on the report and **called upon** the IBC to build on this milestone and take all necessary steps to expedite its work;
7. **Encouraged** by the UNMISS report that improved security in most parts of the country is leading to increased humanitarian access and population movements, including people returning to their homes, thus creating impetus to scale up existing support for humanitarian assistance and for recovery activities to begin. In this regard, it **appealed** to the Parties to work relentlessly to further improve the security situation in all parts of the country and support the voluntary and dignified return of refugees and IDPs;
8. **Noted with appreciation** the ongoing efforts between the Humanitarian actors/partners, UN Country Team and the Incumbent TGoNU to further improve the humanitarian and recovery efforts, **appreciated** all those who contributed resources towards these noble efforts, **further**

noted the threat of Ebola outbreak in the neighboring DRC, and **welcomed** the call for caution and all preventive measures and response plans to be put in place;

9. **Further encouraged** by the statements of the international partners and friends of South Sudan pledging their full support to the implementation of the Peace Agreement, including by the European Union and Norway who continue to explore additional resources to support the peace process;
10. **Commended** the JDB for the progress made in kickstarting the cantonment of forces in Payame and **urged** all Parties to take necessary steps to expedite the cantonment process to facilitate the joint training and unification of forces. It **further commended** the JDB for its role in defusing the tensions between SPLM/A-IO and SSPDF forces in Mandeng and Nasir and **encouraged** them to continue with the joint confidence building process;
11. **Took further note** of the report of the SDSR and JTSC on the status of their completed, ongoing and pending tasks, **welcomed** the progress made and **appealed** to the NPTC to engage with and support these mechanisms to expedite all pending activities. In this regard, it **noted with concern** the reported challenges of communication and inadequate consultations within the various security mechanisms and **recommended** to the JDB to urgently convene a joint meeting of all the security mechanisms to enhance coordination, and establish information sharing and consultation mechanisms, before the next RJMEC meeting;
12. **Regretted** reports of continuing denial of access to CTSAMVM Monitoring and Verification Teams (MVTs) in their force verification missions by some field commanders of the SSPDF and SPLM/A-IO with ten (10) incidents: 9 by the SSPDF and 01 by the SPLM/A-IO reported since the last RJMEC meeting. In this regard it **recommended** to the CDF of the SSPDF and the Chief of Staff of the SPLM/A-IO to engage the specified divisions where obstructions have occurred to urgently address this matter;
13. **Further welcomed** the reports submitted to RJMEC Secretariat by some of the institutions and mechanisms of the R-ARCSS, **applauded** the progress made thus far, **called on** all mechanisms to take practical steps to expedite the implementation of all pending Pre-Transitional tasks and in this regard **reminded** all mechanisms to adhere to the three days report submission deadline;
14. **Took note** that the reconstitution of the DDR Commission is still pending, and commended the Incumbent TGoNU, SSOA and OPP for submitting names of their representatives to the Committee established to consider modalities for the reconstitution of the DDR Commission, and **urged** the SPLM/A-IO and FDs to immediately submit the names of their representatives to expedite this process;
15. **Acknowledged** the significant progress made by the NCAC in its review and amendment of the relevant security and governance laws required in the Pre-Transitional Period and called upon the relevant authorities to expedite enactment of these amended laws within their competence;

16. **Condemned** the recent incident of rape of two females in Karpeto by members of the SSPDF and **demanding** that the apprehended suspects should face the full force of the law;
17. **Took note** of the decision by the CTSAMVM to resort to centralized operations as a result of financial constraints, **expressed** concerns that any reduction in CTSAMVM operations impacts the entire implementation of the Peace Agreement and **appealed** for financial support to CTSAMVM to ensure that this situation is addressed as soon as possible;
18. **Observed** that the security situation in most parts of the country remains stable, with all Parties adhering to the permanent ceasefire, but regretted that tensions remain high in and around Yei River area, due to the existence of NAS forces of Gen Thomas Cirilo, a non-adherent to the R-ARCSS;
19. **Further expressed** concerns on reported incidents of deaths resulting from recurring cattle rustling, particularly in Western Bahr el Ghazal, Northern Liech State and Twic State.
20. **Reviewed** the status of the implementation of key tasks of the Pre-Transitional Period and identified those that have been completed, ongoing, and yet to begin. It **observed in this regard** that the ‘pending’ and ‘ongoing’ tasks were most critical and consequential, and, **urged** the leadership of the Parties to the Agreement to urgently meet and agree on a roadmap on the way forward;
21. **Further recommended** that IGAD urgently convenes the Council of Ministers meeting and summit of the IGAD Heads of State and Government to take stock of the status of implementation of the Peace Agreement;
22. **Encouraged** the Parties to the Agreement to continue with more trust and confidence building measures and undertake at the highest political level joint peace dissemination and outreach activities. In this regard, it **expressed deep gratitude** to His Holiness, Pope Francis and the Vatican for being seized of the peace process in South Sudan, and for the ongoing spiritual retreat with the leadership of Parties to the Peace Agreement and church leaders. In this regard, it **urged** all the Parties to the Peace Agreement to honor the humility of His Holiness the Pope and implement the R-ARCSS in letter and spirit;
23. **Reiterated** its request to the Incumbent TGoNU to make available to RJMEC the report of its investigation into the alleged incident of sexual and gender-based violence in Bentiu and noted the Government response that it is unable to provide any further details on the Luri incident investigation;
24. **Urged** the Parties to treat the immediate cantonment of all forces as top priority and take all necessary steps to ensure that Parties who have declared forces immediately move all their troops into designated cantonment sites;

25. **Further reiterated** its call to all the Parties to the Peace Agreement to observe the thirty-five (35) percent women's representation in the executive of the RTGoNU and in all the remaining Agreement institutions and implementation mechanisms to be formed during the Transitional Period;
26. **Agreed** that the date for the next regular RJMEC meeting shall be Wednesday 8th May 2019; and
27. **Decided** to remain seized of all RJMEC matters.

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