

# Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC)

## Resolutions of the 29<sup>th</sup> RJMEC Meeting Held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at Beijing Juba Hotel Juba, South Sudan

#### Attendance

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

- 1. Hon. Dr. Martin Elia Lomuro (ITGoNU)
- 2. Hon. Michael Chianjiek Geay (ITGoNU)
- 3. Hon. Gatwech Lam Puoch (SPLM-IO)
- 4. Ms. Sandra Bona Malwal (SPLM/IO)
- 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 Tombe Stephen (Faith-based leader)
- 2. Sheik Jaralnebi Khamis Mursal (Faith-based leaders)
- 3. Professor Pauline Riak (Academia)
- 4. Ms. Mary Akech Bior (Women's Bloc)
- 5. Mr. Taban A. Christopher (CSO Forum)
- 6. Mr. Dabek Mabior Arol (CSO Alliance)
- 7. Ms. Eva Christo Simon (Women Coalition)
- 8. Mr. John Lual Akol (Business Community)
- 9. Ms. Yar Manoa Majok (Business Community)
- 10. Ms. Acayo Nancy Cirino (Youth)
- 11. Mr. Patrick A. Godi (Youth)

#### For the Regional Guarantors:

- 1. H.E. Jamal Abdel Majaed (Sudan)
- 2. Mr. Rabeh Mohamed (Djibouti)
- 3. H.E. Nebil Mahdi Abdullahi (Ethiopia)
- 4. H.E. Maj Gen. (rtd) Samuel Nandwa (Kenya)
- 5. H.E. Idule Amoko James (Uganda)
- 6. Mr. Mohamed Abdi Ali (Somalia)
- 7. H.E. Ibim Charles (Nigeria)
- 8. Mr. Ahmed Y. Hersi (IGAD)
- 9. Mr. Olubukola Akin Arowobusoye (AUMISS)
- 10. Mr. Rendani Nemarude (South Africa)

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

- 1. H.E. Ma Quing (China)
- 2. H.E. Linken Nymann Berryman (Norway)
- 3. H.E. Michael J. Adler (USA)
- 4. H.E. Guy Warrington (UK)
- 5. Mr. Dionyz Hochel (EU)
- 6. H.E. Nicholas Haysom (UNMISS)
- 7. H.E. Marjan Schippers (IPF)

#### For RJMEC Secretariat:

- 1. Dr. Thomson Fontaine, Deputy Chief of Staff
- 2. Ms. Janice James, Senior Economic and Financial Advisor

### For Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms:

- 1. Ustaz Stephen Wiw (Head of Secretariat NTC)
- 2. Lt. Gen. Gabriel Duop Lam (Co-Chair JDB)
- 3. Lt. Gen. Rabi Mujung Emmanuel (JDB)
- 4. Maj. Gen. Charles Machieng Kuol (Head of JDB Secretariat)
- 5. Mr. Angelo Madut, (Head of SDSR Board Secretariat)
- 6. Maj. Gen. Buda John Aban (JMCC)
- 7. Maj. Gen Pal Yiech Lam (Deputy Head of Secretariat JMCC)

- 8. Lt. Gen. Asrat Denero, (Chairperson CTSAMVM)
- 9. Brig. Gen. Yassir Hassab Allah (Deputy Chairperson CTSAMVM)
- 10. Justice Ajonje Perpetua Paya (Head of JRC Secretariat)

#### For Observers:

- 1. H.E. Erdem Mutaf (Turkiye)
- 2. Mr. Tobias Eichner (Germany)
- 3. H.E. Tsutsumi Naohiro (Japan)
- 4. Mr. Georg Stein (Switzerland)
- 5. Mr. Mohamed Elbadry (Egypt)
- 6. H.E. Vishnu Kumar Sharma (India)
- 7. Mr. Tomas Brundin (Sweden)
- 8. Mr. Brian Vere (Zimbabwe)
- 9. Ms. Fenny Hum (UN Women)
- 10. Ms. Catherine Waliaula (UNDP)
- 11. Mr. Flavio Soares Da Gama (African Development Bank)
- 12. Lt. Col. Taifa Kuer (Security Supervision Mechanism)

## The 29<sup>th</sup> RJMEC meeting considered the following agenda items:

- a) Opening prayers
- b) Statement by RJMEC Interim Chairperson;
- c) Minutes of the last meeting;
- d) Report from RTGoNU;
- e) Report from the NTC on Transitional Security Arrangements;
- f) Briefing from the UNMISS SRSG;
- g) Reports from Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms (NCAC, PFM -Oversight Committee, CTSAMVM, JRC, JDB, SDSR Board, JTSC, JMCC, DDR Commission);
- h) Discussions on the RJMEC Interim Chairperson's statement, UNMISS SRSG briefing and reports from Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms;
- i) Review of Resolution;
- j) Date of the next RJMEC meeting;
- k) A.O.B
- I) Chairperson's closing remarks
- m) Closing Prayers

Following the statement by the Interim Chairperson, briefing by UNMISS SRSG, and after considering the reports from RTGoNU, NTC, CTSAMVM, JDB, JMCC and JRC, the RJMEC resolved as follows:

- Welcomed the statement of H.E. Amb. Maj. Gen. (rtd) Charles Tai Gituai, the RJMEC Interim Chairperson which contained his assessment of the status of implementation of the Revitalised Peace Agreement as per the Roadmap, updates on recent progress, recurrent challenges, critical pending tasks, and endorsed all recommendations therein;
- 2. **Congratulated** the African Union for commemorating the 'Africa Day', marking 60 years since its establishment on 25<sup>th</sup> May 1963, and in recognition of its vision and milestones achieved towards an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa.
- 3. Adopted the Minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> RJMEC meeting without amendment;
- 4. Underscored that the RTGoNU is over three months into the 24-month extended Transitional Period and just over one-and-a-half years until elections are due in December 2024, but noted with concern the criticality of the present moment, both in the country and within the region, given that conflict broke out in Sudan in mid-April, causing loss of life, civilian displacement and destruction of property;
- 5. **Commended** IGAD for its initiative to establish a high-level delegation to mediate the conflict in Sudan, led by H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan, and also comprising the Presidents of the Republic of Kenya and Republic of Djibouti, whose efforts complement the Jeddah initiatives;
- 6. Further commended South Sudan for readily opening its border with Sudan to allow returnees and refugees escaping the conflict to enter the country, and thanked the RTGoNU and humanitarian agencies for providing much-needed support; in this regard, appealed for more assistance to the returnees and refugees, with particular attention to be paid to the needs of women and children; and urged the RTGoNU to investigate alleged occupation of property belonging to returnees;

- 7. **Encouraged** by the RTGoNU reassurance to the South Sudanese people of its focus, commitments and will to implement the R-ARCSS, including to hold elections as scheduled;
- 8. **Welcomed** the recent engagements of the RJMEC Interim Chairperson on the status of implementation and stressing the importance of the RTGoNU adhering to the Roadmap timelines, including briefing the reconstituted Transitional National Legislative Assembly (TNLA), the President of Kenya, the Executive Secretary of IGAD, and the IGAD Special Envoy for South Sudan;
- 9. **Welcomed** the report from the RTGoNU presented by Hon. Michael Chianjiek Geay (ITGoNU) as well as by Ustaz Stephen Wiw, Head of NTC Secretariat on behalf of the National Transitional Committee (NTC) on the progress being made by the RTGoNU in the implementation of the Revitalised Peace Agreement;
- 10. Thanked Mr. Nicholas Haysom, UNMISS SRSG, for his briefing and updates on the current humanitarian situation in South Sudan and protection of civilians as per UNMISS mandate, including observations on the status of implementation of the Agreement, and welcomed all his recommendations to the RTGoNU in this regard;
- 11. **Appreciated** all the reports presented by the Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms, namely CTSAMVM, JDB, JMCC and JRC, **took note** of the progress or lack thereof, challenges identifed and endorsed all their recommendations;
- 12. **Took note** of the revised laws such as the National Security Services Act (Amendment) Bill and the Public Financial Management and Accountability Act (Amendment) Bill which have been tabled before the reconstituted Transitional National Legislature (TNL) and **urged** the TNL to immediately enact them;
- 13. **Encouraged** the reconstituted TNL to expedite the enactment of the draft National Elections Act (Amendment) Bill 2023, to pave the way for the reconstitution of the National Elections Commission, a critical institution for conducting elections;
- 14. Expressed concern that the mandate of the National Constitutional Amendment Committee (NCAC) is due to lapse at the end of May 2023 with six critical laws pending review; expressed further concern that the national members of the NCAC began a boycott of their work over the non-payment of their allowances in March 2023, a situation which remains unresolved; in that regard, appealed

- to the RTGoNU to address the NCAC concerns, including by providing guidance on their request for the mandate extension;
- 15. Appreciated the RTGoNU for paying the allowances of the national members of the JRC; encouraged by the report that the JRC plans to hold public hearings and stakeholder meetings in the States and Administrative Areas; but noted with concern the report from the JRC that it may not complete its work due to the shortage of funding for the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson by end-August 2023;
- 16. Reiterated its appeal to the RTGoNU to operationalise the Political Parties Act, noting that the Political Parties Council is still not yet reconstituted, despite the law's enactment over ten months ago; in this regard, it welcomed the RTGoNU report that the reconstitution of the Political Parties Council will be completed this week;
- 17. Welcomed the report from the RTGoNU that matters related to the removal of the Minister of Defence and Veteran Affairs and the swap of the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs with the Ministry of Interior between SPLM/A-IO and ITGoNU have been resolved, with the SPLM/A-IO to nominate the Minister of Interior;
- 18. **Took note** of the report from the RTGoNU that the Council of Ministers approved SSP 3.6 billion for emergency food and non-food items, and **appealed to** the Ministry of Finance and Planning to release the funds immediately; in this regard, **noted** the RTGoNU report that the Presidency has directed the NTC and JDB to expedite the completion of the Transitional Security Arrangements;
- 19. Expressed concern that the appointment of officers in the mid and lower echelons of the security institutions is not proceeding quickly enough, and urged that the parties concerned complete this task in support of the completion of the unification of forces;
- 20. Encouraged by the ongoing law enforcement reform initiatives led by the National Police Service (NPS) and the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs; welcomed the first training in April of the Judiciary Police officers and Investigators on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) and Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV);

- 21. **Further encouraged** by the return of CTSAMVM's national monitors to work, and that there is an agreement that allows its Monitoring and Verification Teams to use UNMISS flights and helicopters; and **appreciated** Japan and the Kingdom of Norway for making this happen;
- 22. Expressed concern that the already dire humanitarian situation in South Sudan is compounded by the influx of returnees and refugees from Sudan following an outbreak of conflict there, and onset of rains in South Sudan; commended the RTGoNU for allocating \$15 million of the IMF's Food Shock Window Facility to the World Food Programme in support of the emergency response, and thanked all the partners for their continued support in meeting their humanitarian needs;
- 23. **Urged** the RTGoNU to use the momentum created by the launch of the AU-IGAD Post-Conflict Needs Assessment for South Sudan, whose outcomes will include highlighting opportunities for support, including modalities for the establishment and operationalisation of the Special Reconstruction Fund;
- 24. Welcomed the RTGoNU's continued steps to further advance the effectiveness and transparency of public finances, the budgetary process, monetary and fiscal policy management, and capacity building; further welcomed the inauguration of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Assets Board; however, urged the RTGoNU to publish proceeds from the sales of oil in accordance with article 4.8.1.14.1 of the Revitalised Peace Agreement;
- 25. **Welcomed** the recent conference on Transitional Justice Mechanisms held in May in Juba, South Sudan; **expressed** its expectation that the perspectives generated at the conference will enrich the draft Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing (CTRH) Bill and the draft Compensation and Reparation Authority (CRA) Bill, and **urged** the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs to fast-track completion of the two draft bills and to present them for enactment by the reconstituted TNL;
- 26. Welcomed the report and the assurance from the RTGoNU that efforts are underway towards reconstituting the National Constitutional Review Commission (NCRC) and establishment of the Constitutional Drafting Committee (CDC) and the various other organs related to the constitution-making process within a week;

- 27. Noted the ongoing support of the international community and peace partners towards the South Sudan peace process, and appealed for increased funding for the implementation of the Revitalised Peace Agreement;
- 28. **Encouraged** the RTGoNU to inject additional impetus into the implementation of the Agreement to reach the milestones it set for itself in the Roadmap;
- 29. Recommended that the RTGoNU undertakes the remedial actions, including by settling the outstanding allowances of the NCAC national members; redeploying Phase 1 of the Necessary Unified Forces and to proceed to Phase 2, and instituting DDR programmes; expediting the establishment of the Special Reconstruction Fund and Board to help avail funds at this critical time, and completing the drafting and submission of the CTRH and CRA legislation, following the end of the Transitional Justice conference;
- 30. Agreed that the next meeting shall be held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023; and
- 31. **Decided** to remain seized of all RJMEC matters.

– End –