



Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission

(JMEC)

MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE RECONSTITUTED JOINT MONITORING AND EVALUATION COMMISSION (RJMEC) HELD ON 19TH NOVEMBER 2018 IN ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

The first meeting of the Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC) was convened in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia by H.E. Dr. Ismail Wais, IGAD Special Envoy for South Sudan, on 19 November 2018. The meeting was called to order at 09:45 am.

Agenda

1. Opening prayers
2. Introduction of members
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Opening statement by IGAD Special Envoy
5. Statement by RJMEC Chairperson
6. Dissemination of IGAD approved RJMEC Terms of Reference
7. Review and adoption of RJMEC draft Rules of Procedure
8. Briefing by the UNMISS DSRSG
9. Briefing from institutions:
 - a. NPTC;
 - b. NCAC; and
 - c. CTSAMVM
10. Date for the next meeting in Juba
11. A.O.B
12. Closing Statement by RJMEC Interim Chairperson
13. Closing prayer

Attendance

For the Parties to the R-ARCSS:

1. Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth (incumbent TGoNU)
2. Hon. Awut Deng Acuil (incumbent TGoNU)
3. Hon. Dr. Dhieu Mathok Diing (incumbent TGoNU)
4. Hon. Sophia Pai Gai (incumbent TGoNU)
5. Mr. Stephen Par Kuol (SPLM/A-IO)
6. Mrs. Sandra Bona Malual (SPLM/A-IO)
7. Hon. Hussein Abdel Bagi Akol (SSOA)
8. Hon. Kosti Manibe (FDs)
9. Hon. Wilson Lodiong Sebit (OPP)

For the Other South Sudanese Stakeholders and Adherents:

1. Rev. John Okumu Hakim Primon (Faith based leaders)
2. Mr. Mohammed Hassan Abdella Morgan (Faith based leaders)

3. Ms. Rita Lopidia (Women Coalition)
4. Mrs. Mary Akech Bior (Women's Bloc)
5. Mr. Akuoch Ajang Nyanhom (CSO Alliance)
6. Mr. Rajab John Mohandis (CSO Forum)
7. Prof. Francis Deng (Eminent Persons)
8. Prof. Moses Macar (Eminent Persons)
9. Mr. Simon Akuei Deng (Business Community)
10. Mrs. Yar Manoa Majok (Business Community)
11. Prof. Pauline Riak (Academia)
12. Dr. Emmily Koiti (Youth)
13. Mr. Malish John Peter (Youth)

For the Regional Guarantors

1. Amb. Fesseha Shawel (Ethiopia)
2. Amb. Moussa Djama Ali (Djibouti)
3. Mr. Ali Mambo (Kenya)
4. Amb. Hussein Haji Ahmed (Somalia)
5. Amb. Adil Ibrahim Mustafa (Sudan)
6. Amb. Brig. Gen. Ronnie Balya (Uganda)
7. Amb. Gordon M. Yekelo (South Africa)
8. Amb. Obinna Chukwuemeka Agbugba (Nigeria)
9. Amb. Tesfeye Negassa (IGAD Secretariat)

For International Partners and Friends of South Sudan

1. Amb. He Xiangdong (China)
2. Ms. Signe Guro Gillen (Norway)
3. Mr. Mark Bell (UK)
4. Mr. Timothy Timmons (USA)
5. Mr. Moustafa Soumare (UNMISS)
6. Amb. Sinead Walsh (EU)
7. Amb. Janet Alberda (Netherlands)

For RJMEC Secretariat

1. Amb. Berhanu Kebede, Chief of Staff, RJMEC
2. Dr. Thomson Fontaine,

Absent with apology

1. Hon. Dr. Martin Elia Lomuro (Incumbent TGoNU).

Min.1/01/18: Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened by a word of prayers led by Rev. John Okumu Hakim Primon and Sheik Mohammed Hassan Abdella Morgan.

Min.2/01/18: Introduction of members

A round of self-introduction was conducted by all members present.

Min3/01/18: Adoption of the Agenda

The draft agenda for the plenary was adopted for discussions with the following amendments:

- a) Briefing from the NPTC was removed from the agenda item as the NPTC Chairperson did not receive the letter of invitation; and
- b) Provision was made for deliberations.

Min.4/01/18: Opening Statement by the IGAD Special Envoy

In his opening statement, the IGAD Special Envoy for South Sudan:

- a) Welcomed members to the first RJMEC meeting, congratulated the South Sudanese Parties to the R-ARCSS and Stakeholders for signing of the R-ARCSS and H.E Amb. Lt. Gen. Augustino S. K. Njoroge upon his appointment as Interim Chairperson for the RJMEC;
- b) Briefed members on the status of establishment/reconstitution of the R-ARCSS institutions and mechanisms, including; the National Pre-Transition Committee (NPTC), the Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements Monitoring and Verification Mechanism (CTSAMVM), and the National Constitution Amendment Committee (NCAC);
- c) Informed members of key institutions still pending establishment and pledged commitment to accomplish those tasks; these Included the; JDB, IBC and TBC..
- d) Congratulated the South Sudanese Parties and Stakeholders for nominating their representatives to the various R-ARCSS institutions and mechanisms on time. He also welcomed the nomination by the UK of its representative to the Technical Boundaries Committee (TBC);
- e) Reported that he had not yet received nominations to the IBC and pledged to follow it up with the AU High Level Ad Hoc Committee on South Sudan (C5);
- f) Committed to persuade the C5 and international partners to sign the R-ARCSS;
- g) Welcomed the peace celebration held in Juba attended by representatives of the Parties to the R-ARCSS as a positive development towards sustainable peace process; and
- h) Concluded that subsequent JMEC meetings would be held in Juba.

Min. 5/01/18: Statement by RJMEC Interim Chairperson

In his opening statement, H.E. Ambassador Lt. Gen. Augustino S. K. Njoroge, the interim Chairperson of RJMEC:

- a) Welcomed the members and congratulated them upon their nominations to the RJMEC. He also congratulated the people of South Sudan, the government and the opposition

- parties for choosing the path of peace and for the historic signing of the R-ARCSS on 12 September 2018;
- b) Paid tribute to H.E Festus G. Mogae, former President of Botswana and Chairperson of JMEC, for his role in the South Sudan peace process;
 - c) Thanked the IGAD Council of Ministers for his appointment as Interim Chairperson of the RJMEC;
 - d) Appealed for support from members and for them to use the RJMEC meetings and office of the Chairperson for resolving any issues that might arise;
 - e) Welcomed the progress in the implementation of the R-ARCSS to-date, including the ratification of the R-ARCSS; nominations of representatives of the Parties and stakeholders' to the various R-ARCSS institutions and mechanisms; and in the establishment of the NPTC and reconstitution of CTSAMVM and NCAC;
 - f) Appealed for expeditious establishment and reconstitution of the remaining Agreement institutions;
 - g) Commended the Parties for the political will and commitment so far demonstrated to implement the R-ARCSS in letter and spirit., and noted that the presence of some members of the opposition in Juba to participate in the work of the NCAC and NPTC;
 - h) Encouraged all Parties to explore more joint initiatives for confidence building including outside Juba, in the States and to neighbouring countries where significant number of South Sudanese citizens reside; and
 - i) Concluded by commending the International Community for their support and appealed for renewed momentum to enable the RJMEC to live up to its responsibility.

Min. 6/01/18: Dissemination of IGAD Approved R-JMEC Terms of Reference

The RJMEC Terms of Reference was disseminated to all members present and was not subject to discussion.

Min. 7/01/18: Review and adoption of R-JMEC draft Rules of Procedure

After deliberations, members adopted the RJMEC Rules of Procedure with amendments. The adopted version was later distributed to all members.

Min 8/01/18: Briefing by UNMISS

In his briefing to the plenary, H.E Moustapha Soumaré, the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) of the United Nations:

- a) Commended the Parties to the R-ARCSS for their efforts to bring an end to the conflict in South Sudan and commitment to build durable peace;
- b) Further commended IGAD for successfully facilitating the HLRF that led to the R-ARCSS;
- c) noted the reconstitution of JMEC as a milestone in the implementation of the R-ARCSS;
- d) Further noted that the peace celebrations of 31 October 2018, the convening of the second NPTC and NCAC meetings in Juba, the release of some political prisoners and the opening of communication lines between the SSPDF and SPLA-IO commanders in different parts of South Sudan were encouraging and important confidence-building

- measures towards establishing trust between the signatories and creating a conducive environment for all the Parties to return and fully engage in the peace process;
- e) Observed that although clashes persist in some areas in South Sudan, including around Yei and Greater Baggari, there was a marked drop in overall level of fighting since the R-ARCSS was signed. He appealed to the Parties to demonstrate total adherence to the permanent ceasefire;
 - f) Noted that while the humanitarian crisis is no longer escalating, more than 7 million South Sudanese would require assistance in 2019;
 - g) Reported that nearly 60% of the total population faced severe food insecurity at the peak of the lean season between July and August, due to lack of access, prolonged conflict and displacement, with women, adolescent girls and children continuing to bear the brunt of the crisis;
 - h) Also reported that as of 30 October 2018, aid agencies had assisted some 4.7 million people across the country;
 - i) Welcomed the productive joint meeting between the UN Humanitarian Coordinator for South Sudan, the Humanitarian Country Team and Dr. Riek Machar in Khartoum which discussed humanitarian access challenges in SPLM/A-IO held areas;
 - j) Reiterated UNMISS support to the R-ARCSS and encouraged the Parties to continue taking concrete steps to build trust and confidence amongst themselves, with the people of South Sudan, and with the international community; and
 - k) Concluded that such measures should be taken at both grassroots and national levels, through reconciliation and peacebuilding and restoration of the rule of law and that the Parties should also promote, disseminate and advocate for the implementation of the R-ARCSS to all South Sudanese.

Min 9/01/18: Briefing from institutions

I). National Constitution Amendment Committee (NCAC)

In his briefing, the Chairperson of the NCAC:

- a) Informed members about the composition of the reconstituted NCAC, commencement of the Committee's work and its current mandate as provided in the R-ARCSS;
- b) Noted that NCAC's work is critical in laying the legal framework for required reforms during the Pre-Transitional and Transitional Periods;
- c) Further informed members that upon incorporating the R-ARCSS into the Constitution, the NCAC shall complete the review of six (6) security sector laws including, the SPLA Act 2009, the National Security Service Act 2014, the Police Service Act 2009, the Prisons Service Act 2011, The Wildlife Service Act 2011 and the Fire Brigade Act. The Committee is also required to review the Political Parties Act 2012 during the Pre-Transitional Period;
- d) Appreciated continued support to enable NCAC undertake its work and that the Committee is cognizant of the critical importance of its tasks and is committed to complete them within the mandated period.

II). CTSAMVM

In his briefing to the RJMEC Plenary, the outgoing Chairperson of CTSAMVM:

- a) Introduced the incoming Chairperson of CTSAMVM;
- b) Noted that since 12 Sept 2018, the ceasefire held in most parts of the country, with tension that resulted into conflict reported in some areas;
- c) Reported a general improvement in the security situation across the country and that the meetings between commanders of the SSPDF and the SPLA/IO have been a positive and encouraging development;
- d) Reported that CTSAMVM had held four (4) Technical Committee meetings, 1 CTSAMVM Board meeting and a PCTSA workshop;
- e) Further reported ongoing activities, including immediate freezing of forces, release of prisoners of war and detainees, cessation of recruitment and training, vacating all civil buildings by militaries and dissemination of the R-ARCSS;
- f) Reported incidents of non-compliance on the use of child soldiers and denial of access to CTSAMVM;
- g) Observed that immediate disengagement of forces in close proximity was incomplete;
- h) Highlighted CTSAMVM initiatives, including the joint field visits, joint reporting, national monitors, production of a master map of all military units within South Sudan and creation of capacity to engage with the civilian community;
- i) Informed the members that CTSAMVM had submitted three specific violation reports endorsed by the Parties, since the signing of the R-ARCSS;
- j) Concluded by informing the members of the challenges CTSAMVM faces, including the pending establishment/reconstitution of strategic security mechanisms, communication within the Parties' chain of command, lack of ceasefire verification master map and resources/budgetary constraints.

Min.10/01/18: Discussions and action points

Following the opening statements and briefings from various R-ARCSS institutions and mechanisms, members extensively deliberated and resolved as follows:

- a) Welcomed and commended the opening statements and briefings from R-ARCSS institutions, noting the progress made thus far;
- b) Welcomed and appreciated the release of some political detainees and appealed for the release of all Prisoners of War;
- c) RJMEC is a Commission and should not be referred to as a Council;
- d) retain the word plenary in reference to the RJMEC monthly meetings so as to differentiate it from other meetings;
- e) RJMEC is used in reference to the Reconstituted JMEC not Revitalized JMEC and it should be reflected as such in all documents;
- f) The RJMEC Interim Chairperson and the IGAD Special Envoy took note of the matter of the State of Emergency raised during the discussion of the Rules of Procedure. It was agreed that it should not be included in the Rules of Procedure as it is not a permanent situation.;
- g) The RJMEC Secretariat would issue identification cards for all JMEC members attending the plenary;
- h) Called for proper use of resources available for the implementation of R-ARCSS and not for personal gain;
- i) Called for removal of all checkpoints in the spirit of R-ARCSS;

- j) All Parties to desist from using hostile languages which do not build peace but derail its efforts;
- k) Peace messages should be disseminated to the grass roots levels so as to bring confidence at all levels;
- l) Political leaders should accept reports of CTSAMVM and that these reports be considered for corrective measures;
- m) IGAD to fast-track the establishment and reconstitution of the remaining R-ARCSS institutions and mechanisms that are behind schedule;
- n) The structure of the reconstituted JMEC to be shared with members in the next plenary meeting.

In his final remarks, the Special Envoy informed members that:

- a) Nigeria had signed the R-ARCSS and that China had also promised to sign the Agreement;
- b) The identification of experts for IBC was underway and the UK had already sent its nomination;
- c) On the principle of 35% women representation in all levels of government, the Parties and Stakeholders' nominations to the R-ARCSS institutions and mechanisms do not reflect this aspiration.
- d) On peace detractors, he noted that IGAD Council of Ministers was looking into ways of dealing with the matter.

Min. 11/01/18: Date for the Next Meeting in Juba

Members agreed on 12th December 2018 as the date for the next Plenary to be held in Juba.

Min.12/01/18: A.O.B

Members raised the following issues for consideration:

- a) Appealed to the International Partners to sign the R-ARCSS;
- b) Called for action on 35% women representation to be adhered to in the implementation of the R-ARCSS.

Min.13/01/18: Closing Statement by the RJMEC Interim Chairperson

In his concluding remarks, the JMEC Interim Chairperson;

- a) Welcomed the reconstitution of the RJMEC by IGAD and expressed deep appreciation to the IGAD Special Envoy for South Sudan for his personal contribution that led to the success of the HLRF;
- b) Commended the Parties for the positive steps in the implementation of the R-ARCSS in particular nominations of representatives to the various institutions and mechanisms of the Agreement and for the ongoing confidence-building and encouraged further progress;

- c) Welcomed the reports of the UNMISS, NCAC and CTSAMVM and urged immediate implementation of their recommendations;
- d) Appealed to the International Partners and Friends of South Sudan to continue their support to the Implementation of the Pre-Transitional activities of the R-ARCSS; and called upon the IGAD Office of the Special Envoy to ensure the immediate formation of the JDB, IBC and TBC.

Min.14/01/18: Closing Prayer

- a) Closing prayer was led by one of the religious leaders.
- b) There being no any other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm

-- Ends --