



Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (JMEC)

MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE RECONSTITUTED JOINT MONITORING AND EVALUATION COMMISSION (RJMEC) HELD ON 12TH DECEMBER 2018 AT PALM AFRICA HOTEL, JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN

The second meeting of the Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC) was convened in Juba, South Sudan, by H.E. Ambassador Lt. General Augustino S. K. Njoroge, the RJMEC Interim Chairperson on 12th December 2018. The meeting was called to order at 09:45 A.M.

Agenda

- 1) Opening Prayers
- 2) Adoption of Agenda
- 3) Statement by RJMEC Interim Chairperson
- 4) Briefing from the NPTC
- 5) Adoption of the minutes of the last meeting
- 6) Discussion
- 7) Report from UNMISS SRSG
- 8) Discussion
- 9) Reports from institutions:
 - i. NCAC
 - ii. JDB
 - iii. SDSR Board
 - iv. CTSAMVM
 - v. JMCC
 - vi. JTSC
- 10). Open Discussion
- 11). Presentation of RJMEC Strategic Plan
- 12). Date for the Next Meeting
- 13). A. O. B
- 14). Resolution of the meeting
- 15). Closing prayer

Attendance

For the Parties to the RARCSS:

1. Hon. Martin Elia Lomuro (incumbent TGoNU)
2. Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth (incumbent TGoNU)
3. Hon. Awut Deng Acuil (incumbent TGoNU)
4. Hon. Dr. Dhieu Mathok Diing (incumbent TGoNU)
5. Hon. Sophia Pai Gai (incumbent TGoNU)
6. Mr. Stephen Par Kuol (SPLM/A-IO)
7. Mrs. Sandra Bona Malwal (SPLM/A-IO)
8. Hon. Hussein Abdelbagi Akol (SSOA)
9. Mr. Isaiah Hakim Garang (FDs)
10. Hon Wilson Lodiong Sebit (OPP)

For the Other South Sudanese Stakeholders and Adherents

1. Rev. John Okumu Hakim Primon (Faith based leader)
2. Mr. Mohammed Hassan Abdella Morgan (Faith based leader)
3. Ms. Riya William Yuyada (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 Person)
8. Ms. Yar Manoa Majok (Business Community)
9. Prof. Pauline Riak (Academia)
10. Ms. Caroline Kibos (Youth)
11. Mr. Farouk Ismael Ukach (Youth)

For the Regional Guarantors

1. Amb. Fesseha Shawel (Ethiopia)
2. Amb. Brig. Gen. Ronnie Balya (Uganda)
3. Amb. Adil Ibrahim Mustafa (Sudan)
4. Amb. Obinna Chukwuemeka Agbuga (Nigeria)
5. Amb. Prof. Joram Biswaro (AU Commission)
6. Amb. Hussein Haji Ahmed (Somalia)
7. Mr. Ali Mambo (Kenya)
8. Mr. Mbalati M. (South Africa)
8. Mr. Tesfeye Negassa (IGAD Secretariat)

For International Partners and Friends of South Sudan

1. Amb. He Xiangdong (China)
2. Amb. Lars Andersen (Norway)
3. Amb. Alison Blackburne (UK)
4. Amb. James Christoff (IPF)
5. Mr. Adam Schumacher (USA)
6. Mr. Moustapha Soumare (UNMISS)
7. Mrs. Frances Lolgins (EU)

For the Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms

1. Hon. Gichira Kibara, Chairperson NCAC
2. Maj. Gen. Desta Abiche (Chairperson CTSAMVM)
4. Lt. General Malek Reuben, Co-Chairperson SDRS Board.
5. Dr. Olaw Adieng - JTSC Representative.

For RJMEC Secretariat

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

Absent with apology

1. Mr. Simon Deng (Business Community)

Min.1/02/18: Opening Prayer

1. The meeting was opened with prayers led by the two representatives of the faith based groups.

Min.2/02/18: Adoption of the Agenda

2. The draft agenda was adopted for discussions with amendments. One item was recorded in any Other Business (AOB) and was included as an additional item of the agenda.

Min.3/02/18: Statement by RJMEC Interim Chairperson

3. In his opening statement, H.E. Ambassador Lt. Gen. Augustino S. K. Njoroge, the interim Chairperson of RJMEC:
 - 3.1. Welcomed members and noted that the implementation of the revitalized peace agreement had started gathering pace and momentum, and he thanked all RJMEC members for their efforts.
 - 3.2. Appreciated the role of all agreement institutions especially the NPTC for its overall responsibility of coordinating and overseeing the implementation of the crucial pre-transitional activities.
 - 3.3. Called on the NPTC and incumbent TGoNU to; take the lead in mobilizing the required resources for the implementation of the revitalized Peace Agreement, establish effective mechanisms for disbursing the funds, and support other Agreement institutions to carry out their tasks without delay. He thanked international Partners and friends for their financial contribution and appealed for continued support.
 - 3.4. Requested the NPTC and other agreement institutions to submit their monthly written reports in a timely manner to enable RJMEC to assess the progress of the implementation in advance of the next plenary.
 - 3.5. Commended the good progress of the NCAC in incorporating provisions of the revitalized agreement into the transitional Constitution of the republic of South Sudan.
 - 3.6. Informed members that all the transitional security arrangements mechanisms had been formed and or reconstituted by the end of November 2018 in Khartoum and these included; The Joint Defence Board, the Joint Military Ceasefire Commission, the Joint transitional Security Committee and the Strategic Defence and Security Review Board. He further noted that plans had been made for them to hold their first meetings in Juba.
 - 3.7. Noted the need for the Security mechanisms to ensure the silencing of guns across the country for sustainable peace to be achieved and urged that the Independent Boundaries Commission be established and steps taken to recover lost time.
 - 3.8. Commended CTSAMVM for its work especially the joint field visits and meetings between commanders of warring parties, noting that according to the CTSAMV reports, the overall security situation was improving with all parties demonstrating efforts to comply with the provisions of the peace agreement. He also noted reports of non-compliance in regard to recruitment of child soldiers as reported by CTSAMVM
 - 3.9. Encouraged that gender mainstreaming should be incorporated in all agreement institutions and mechanisms and throughout all aspects of the implementation of the R-ARCSS.
 - 3.10. Noted that delivery of Humanitarian aid remains challenging and called on authorities to ensure granting full access to humanitarian workers.

- 3.11. Noted the strengthening of the exchange rate and decline in the overall rate of inflation which he welcomed as positive news.
- 3.12. Called on TGoNU to ensure these and other gains are sustained.

Min. 4/02/18: Report from NPTC

4. The Secretary National Pre-Transitional Committee (NPTC) briefed members on the progress registered since its establishment. He reported that:
 - 4.1. NPTC was established on 25th September 2018 in accordance with chapter 1 of R-ACRSSH and it held its first meeting from 21st to 22nd October 2018 in Khartoum, and it was well attended with all Parties represented. The meeting concluded with full agreement on the road map, Rules of Procedure among others; and all resolutions of that meeting had been implemented by the reporting time
 - 4.2. NPTC opened two bank accounts in both US dollars and South Sudanese pounds and a partners' account for accountability of the resources. As per the directive of the Council of Ministers, the Ministry of finance had deposited one hundred million South Sudanese pounds (100 m SSP) and one million dollars (\$ 1m) in the accounts respectively; (Noted that the 1M dollars not credited yet)
 - 4.3. NPTC was in talks with Jubek State Government and planned to accommodate ministers in official residences other than hotels;
 - 4.4. Thanked the international partners for their support, noting the contribution and support from Japan;
 - 4.5. For accountability, there was a plan to sign an MoU with any donor on how to deal with funds and also proposed to recruit a special Accountant for donor funds management;
 - 4.6. NPTC established its structure and committees divided amongst all the Parties to the R-ARCSS and had approved its activities;
 - 4.7. NPTC agreed with IGAD on sharing resources from the Government of Japan and awaited the budgets from committees to enable the finance team do the overall costing;
 - 4.8. Reported that the Government team had started dissemination of the R-ARCSS and had received a positive response from governors. The NPTC looked forward to a full plan from the dissemination unit.
 - 4.9. Informed members of the visit of the members of the AU C5 countries to South Sudan and to discuss expectations of their role in the peace process. He noted that during the interactions incumbent TGoNU raised its concerns especially in the delay in the formation of the TBC and IBC ; and
 - 4.10. Noted that NPTC is not responsible for individuals outside their mandate like transporting members for the RJMEC meetings.

Min. 5/02/18: Review and adoption of the minutes of the 1st RJMEC Meeting

5. Members perused through the minutes of the previous meeting and adopted it with amendments.

Min 6/02/18: Briefing by UNMISS

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

- 6.1. Welcomed the return of RJMEC meetings to Juba and expressed hope of all other committee meetings doing the same and conducting business from Juba and also looked forward to the return of all senior opposition figures to Juba;
- 6.2. Called on International partners to share information to avoid duplication of activities;
- 6.3. Noted with concern the reports of clashes between SSPDF and SPLA -IO forces in Unity, expressed concern about Sexual and Gender Based Violence reported in Bentiu and informed members that UNMISS had established temporary presence in the area, welcomed the SSPDF patrols in the area and called on the Government to fully investigate the matter and ensure justice is done and the perpetrators held accountable;
- 6.4. Noted relative improvement in the humanitarian access and called for more joint intervention; and
- 6.5. He informed members about the launch of a humanitarian action response plan.

Min 7/02/18: Discussion and matters arising

7. During discussions and matters arising:
 - 7.1. members welcomed the opening statement of the RJMEC Interim Chairperson, the briefing from the NPTC and the report of UNMISS;
 - 7.2. Noted that the NPTC is central in funding implementation of the Peace Agreement during the transitional period and welcomed the involvement of Japan in funding the peace process;
 - 7.3. Called for close cooperation among all the Agreement institutions and mechanism in breaking hurdles when they arise;
 - 7.4. Members urged that the reports to the Plenary should cover only what has happened during the reporting period to be more practical and called for prompt reporting of incidences especially the CTSAMVM denial of access for immediate intervention other than waiting to report in the meeting;
 - 7.5. Called on CTSAMVM to be clear in violation reports and state the exact violators so that they are held accountable;
 - 7.6. Members extensively discussed and condemned the reported rape in Bentiu and the incumbent TGoNU informed members that the President had taken serious action and issued directives. He called for more information on the incidents to enable proper intervention adding that a team would be dispatched to the area for further investigation and fact finding. They further discussed that such reports should not be released to the public before they are verified as they can have serious negative impacts;
 - 7.7. Called on IGAD and RJMEC to make an effort to resolve the SSOA crisis and also intervene on the matter of those who were fighting and are not party to the R-ARCSS. The RJMEC chairperson noted that RJMEC and the IGAD Special Envoy for South Sudan had taken note and are seized of the matter;
 - 7.8. Members expressed concern on the budget needed for the humanitarian work noting it required further clarification on how the aid would reach the targeted needy people;
 - 7.9. Called for strengthening of the working relationship between the incumbent TGoNU and RJMEC; and
 - 7.10. Called upon the AU C5 to live up to their expectations in the peace process in South Sudan.

Min 8/02/18: Reports from Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms

a) National Constitution Amendment Committee (NCAC)

8. In his report, the Chairperson of the NCAC noted that:
 - 8.1. the NCAC had completed deliberations on the incorporation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) into the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan (TCRSS) 2011 (as amended).
 - 8.2. the NCAC had conducted daily meetings in Juba from 5 -28 November 2018 which were attended by representatives of all the Parties including those who travelled from outside the country. The level of participation and contribution during deliberations was a clear demonstration of the commitment by all Parties to the timely implementation of the R-ARCSS;
 - 8.3. the NCAC was unable to reach consensus on the issue of the description of the system of governance as provided for in Article 1(4) of the Constitution with the contentious issue being whether to describe the system of governance during the Pre-Transitional/Transitional periods as either 'decentralized' or 'devolved';and
 - 8.4. given the sensitivity of the issue and the strong positions taken by the Parties on the same, the Committee refrained from voting on the issue in the spirit of confidence building and instead referred it to RJMEC, pursuant to Chapter 7 Articles 7.7 and 7.8 of the R-ARCSS. RJMEC was asked to facilitate consultations with the parties with a view to achieving consensus on the issue. He urged RJMEC to facilitate consultation among the parties and resolution of the issue, in order to expedite the incorporation process.

b) CTSAMVM

9. The CTSAMVM chairperson in his report to the meeting:
 - 9.1. Welcomed members, acknowledged and appreciated donors for supporting activities to help it achieve its mandate and provided members with copies of the outcomes of the CTSAMVM Technical Committee meeting held in Khartoum;
 - 9.2. Noted that the Ceasefire continues to hold despite reports of some fighting in Unity State between the SSPDF and SPLA IO;
 - 9.3. on the reports of GBV in Bentiu, he informed the members that he had visited Bentiu and held discussions with the leadership and they agreed to hold joint investigations to get to the truth of the matter;
 - 9.4. noted that the Joint field visits continue in Wau and Tor;
 - 9.5. In a bid to enhance its monitoring capabilities, CTSAMVM had trained and inducted national monitors to be deployed.
 - 9.6. Reported on attempted denial of access in Bentiu areas, where the SSPDF commander ordered access and resolved the problem;
 - 9.7. He noted with concern the challenge of Cash flow and budgetary constraints.

c). SDSR

10. The Co-Chairperson of the SDSR Board:

- 10.1. congratulated the RJMEC Interim Chairperson upon his appointment and welcomed the reconstitution of RJMEC;
- 10.2. informed members that Madam Angelina had been appointed as the SDSR Board chairperson;
- 10.3. appreciated IGAD, RJMEC and all partners for the support extended to the SDSR Board and called for its continuation;
- 10.4. informed members that the work of the board will continue building on what it had achieved before the revitalization process; and
- 10.5. pledged the readiness and commitment of the SDSR in playing its rightful role in the peace process.

d). Apology from the JDB

e). JTSC

11. The Secretary to JTSC:

- 11.1. informed members that they had not received invitation to attend the Plenary and so there was no official report from the mechanism. He however made some remarks in which he noted the crucial nature of the JTSC mandate in the peace process;
- 11.2. informed members that the JTSC Conducted its 1st meeting on 28th November 2018 and elected the leadership with the chair coming from SSPDF, vice chair from IO and Secretary from SSOA. The next meeting was to be held on 7th January to adopt the terms of reference and budget; and
- 11.3. called for expedition of formation of the secretariat of NPTC so as to give proper guidance on the way forward.

Min.9/02/18 Discussion on the reports

12. While deliberating on the reports, members:

- 12.1. welcomed, appreciated and commended the reports from the institutions.
- 12.2. Called on CTSAMVM to consider gender balance as they recruit and train the national monitors to disaggregate their data and give full details in their reports. In response, CTSAMVM welcomed remarks to its report and noted that the national monitors were appointed by the Parties and encouraged them to be gender sensitive in their appointment. CTSAMVM further noted that the Board discussed the same and urged the Parties to be gender sensitive in their nominations within the existing set numbers.
- 12.3. Expressed concern that the release of PoWs should be fast tracked and the details of the remaining persons be made available. The CTSAMVM chair in response said the matter is in process and that they will report once they have full and conclusive information.
- 12.4. Some members called on CTSAMVM to verify the dismantling of a bridge in Yoli near Yei by forces which are non-signatories to the R-ARCSS;
- 12.5. Youth expressed fear about the slow progress of the implementation of chapter 2.
- 12.6. On the NCAC matter, it was deliberated and agreed that the Chairperson of RJMEC should establish a small sub- committee to consider and decide on the issue referred to RJMEC by NCAC regarding the Parties disagreement on the “description of system of government” during the Transitional Period.

Min.10/02/18 Overview of the RJMEC Strategy

13. The RJMEC strategic document was distributed to all members and an overview into the document given by the RJMEC Secretariat. It was agreed that members would provide feedback on the document to the Secretariat.

Min.11/02/18 Date for the next meeting

14. It was agreed that the next RJMEC meeting should be convened in the 3rd week of January 2019, and the date would be communicated by the Secretariat.

Min.12/02/18 A.O.B

15. There had been only one matter registered under A.O.B regarding the travel of members for the RJMEC meetings. It was discussed that the best way to resolve it is by agreement between IGAD and NPTC on the usage of the available funds.

Min.13/02/18 Resolution of the meeting

16. It was read out, amended and adopted by members.

Min.14/02/18 Closing prayer

17. Closing prayers were led by the representatives of the religious leaders and there being no any other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20pm

-- Ends --