



Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC)

Resolution of the RJMEC 21st RJMEC Meeting

Palm Africa Hotel, 10 February 2022
Juba, South Sudan

The 21st meeting of the Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC) convened in Juba, South Sudan, on 10 February 2022 chaired by the Interim Chairperson of the RJMEC, Maj. General Charles Tai Gituai (rtd).

In attendance were the representatives of the Parties and Stakeholders in RJMEC, namely:

For the Parties to the R-ARCSS:

1. Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth (ITGoNU)
2. Hon. Dr. Martin Elia Lomuro (ITGoNU)
3. Hon. Stephen Par Kuol (SPLM/A-IO)
4. Hon. Gatwech Lam Puoch (SPLM/A-IO)
5. Hon. Malong Thiik Riny (SSOA)
6. Hon. Wilson Lodiong Sebit (OPP)

For the Other South Sudanese Stakeholders and Adherents

1. Bishop (rtd) Enock Tombe Stephen (Faith-based leader)
2. Mr. Dabek Mabior Arok (CSO Alliance)
3. Prof. Pauline Riak (Academia)
4. Ms. Christine Kide (Youth)
5. Mr. Soro Wilson Sebit (Youth)
6. Ms. Mary Ajith Goch (CSO Forum)
7. Hon. Ayak Ngor Malek (Women's Bloc)
8. Ms. Yar Manoa Majok (Business Comm)
9. Ms. Abuk Jarvas Makuac (Business Comm)
10. Ms. Zabib Musa Loro (Women's Coalition)

For the Regional Guarantors

1. Mr. Gamal Goraish (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. Mr. Lutendo Ratshibya (South Africa)
8. Mr. Kataps Gaius Keafon (Nigeria)
9. H.E. Prof. Joram M. Biswaro (AUMISS)
10. Col. Khalif A. Shabel (IGAD Juba Liaison Office)

For International Partners and Friends of South Sudan

1. Mr. Ma Wenjin (China)
2. Mr. Jonas Huus Ervic (Norway)
3. Mr. David Renz (USA)
4. H.E Jonny Baxter (UK)
5. Mr. Guang Cong (UNMISS)
6. Mr. Wim Vandenbroucke (EU)
7. Mr. Marcello DiFranco (IPF)

For RJMEC Secretariat

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

For the Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms

1. Gen. Saeed Mohamed El-Shiekh, Deputy Chairperson, CTSAMVM
2. Mr. Arun Pal, Chief of Staff, CTSAMVM
3. Lt. Gen. Gabriel Duop Lam, Co-Chair, JDB
4. Lt. Gen. Julius Tabuley, Co-Chair, JDB
5. Lt. Gen. Rabi Mujung Emmanuel, representing JDB Chair
6. Maj. Gen. Charles Machieng Kuol, Head of JDB Secretariat
7. Hon. Angelina Teny, Chairperson, SDSR Board
8. Hon. Lt. Gen. Ayuen Alier Jongroor, Chairperson, DDR Commission
9. Hon. Regina Joseph Kapa, Deputy Chairperson, DDR Commission
10. Mr. Wilson Lual Lual, Executive Director DDR Commission
11. Dr. Olaw Adiang, Head of JSTC Secretariat

Observers

1. H.E. Marc Trouyet (France)
2. Mr. Mohamed Elbadry (Egypt)
3. Ms. Riko Kato (Japan)
4. H.E. Tobias Eichner (Germany)
5. Mr. Peterson Magoola (UN Women)
6. H.E. Erdem Mutaf (Turkey)

7. Mr. Georg Stein (Switzerland)
8. Mr. Joachim Waen (Sweden)

The 21st RJMEC meeting considered the following agenda items:

- a) The minutes of the last meeting;
- b) Statement by RJMEC Interim Chairperson;
- c) Report from RTGoNU;
- d) Report from the NTC;
- e) Briefing from the UNMISS DSRSG;
- f) Reports from Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms (CTSAMVM, JDB, SDSR Board, JTSC, and DDR Commission);
- g) Discussion on the RJMEC Interim Chairperson's statement, UNMISS DSRSG briefing and reports from Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms; and
- h) Date of the next RJMEC meeting.

Following the statement by the Interim Chairperson, briefing by UNMISS DSRSG, and after considering the reports from the CTSAMVM, JDB, SDSRB, JSTC, and DDR Commission, the RJMEC resolved as follows:

1. **Adopted** the minutes of the 20th RJMEC meeting held in Juba, South Sudan on 09 December 2021 without any amendment;
2. **Welcomed** the statement of H.E. Maj Gen Charles Tai Gituai (rtd), the RJMEC Interim Chairperson, his detailed assessment of the status of implementation and challenges of the R-ARCSS two years into the Transitional Period and more than three years since the R-ARCSS was signed, and **endorsed** his recommendations to the RTGoNU to develop a detailed roadmap and strategy for the implementation of the critical pending tasks in the remaining period of the Transitional Period and on the way forward;
3. **Welcomed** the new Ambassador designate of Canada to the Republic of South Sudan, Marcello DiFranco, Co-Chair of the IGAD Partners Forum (IPF) in RJMEC, **expressed** optimism in a cordial working relationship with him and Canada pursuant to the implementation of the Revitalised Peace Agreement in the Republic of South Sudan;
4. **Wished** all members a Happy New Year, this being RJMEC's first meeting for the new year 2022;
5. **Congratulated** the Revitalised Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGoNU) on its two years' anniversary following its establishment on 22 February 2020, **commended** the Parties for staying the course of peace, and **urged** the RTGoNU to develop a clear roadmap with a strategy on how to implement the outstanding critical tasks as the end of the Transitional Period approaches;

6. **Appreciated** Hon. Martin Elia Lomuro, Cabinet Affairs Minister of the RTGoNU for his detailed report on behalf of the RTGoNU to RJMEC on the status of implementation of the R-ARCSS, its recommendations and commitment to develop and present a clear roadmap towards elections at the end of the Transitional Period in due course. In this regard, it **appealed** to all partners to scrutinise the RTGoNU report especially the challenges identified, and to extend all available support to enhance its implementation of the Agreement;
7. **Thanked** Mr. Guang Cong, the UNMISS Deputy SRSG, for his briefing, and all Chairpersons and/or representatives of the CTSAMVM, JDB, SDSR, JSTC, and DDR Commission for their reports, expressed concerns over the JMCC non attendance of the meeting as well as the other Institutions and Mechanisms of the Agreement which did not submit written reports, and **urged** all mechanisms to submit written reports in advance for all RJMEC monthly meetings;
8. **Observed** that with barely twelve months left of the Transitional Period, key tasks such as the enactment of revised security, political parties, elections and constitutional making laws remains pending; armed forces are not unified and redeployed; the Special Reconstruction Fund and Board are yet to be established; public financial management reforms are ongoing; key transitional justice mechanisms are not established, and the permanent constitution-making process is yet to take off. In this regard, it **recommended** a special RJMEC meeting to evaluate the status of implementation of the R-ARCSS two years into the Transitional Period and to consider the RTGoNU strategy on the way forward;
9. **Welcomed** the enactment by the Reconstituted Transitional National Legislative Assembly (TNLA) and the signing into law by the President of the Republic of South Sudan of the two Constitutional Amendment Bills, No.8 and No. 9 of 2021, which fully incorporated the R-ARCSS into the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan 2011, as amended, and name changes in the revised security bills which are now pending ratification by the Reconstituted TNLA. It further **congratulated** the Reconstituted TNLA upon the formation of its Specialized Committees and commencement of their work;
10. **Welcomed** the reconstitution of State Legislative Assemblies in all the ten states, and their ongoing inauguration. In this regard, it **urged** all the Governors to expeditiously swear in their assemblies so that they can discharge their oversight and legislative functions;
11. **Noted with concern** the outstanding governance related tasks including the restructuring and reconstitution of the Commissions and Institutions at the national levels, and the establishment of the ad-hoc Judicial Reforms Committee (JRC). In this regard, it **welcomed** the assurance by the RTGoNU representative that efforts are underway to reconstitute all the Commissions and Institutions at the national level in due course and also **welcomed** the nomination by all Parties of their representatives to the JRC as well as IGAD for the appointment of the Chair and Deputy and **urged** IGAD to operationalise the JRC as soon as possible;

12. **Regretted** the very slow pace of implementation of the Transitional Security Arrangements (TSAs), and in particular, the unification, graduation and redeployment of the Necessary Unified Forces for Phase One and **urged** the RTGoNU and NTC to provide the requisite resources to expedite the implementation of all the TSA tasks, especially the unification of the forces, including their graduation and redeployment, and **tasked** the JDB Implementation Committee to update RJMEC on progress. In this regard, it **welcomed** the initiative of the President of the Republic of Uganda to host a retreat of the RTGoNU Parties to unlock stalemates in the implementation of the Agreement going forward;
13. **Urged** the RTGoNU to provide the DDR Commission with the requisite financial and logistical support and **welcomed** the Joint RTGoNU and Friends of South Sudan Community Violence Reduction/DDR pilot initiative which is currently underway to complement the DDR Commission strategy;
14. **Expressed serious concerns** over the four violation reports from CTSAMVM regarding: i) the attack, rape and abduction of civilians in August 2021 attributed to NAS; ii) the killing and detention of civilians during clashes between SSPDF and NAS forces in September 2021; iii) forced recruitment of civilians by the SPLA/IO between October and December 2021; and iv) an attack on an SSPDF Barracks by NAS forces in November 2021, and **urged** the Chiefs of Defence Forces of SSPDF, the SPLA-IO, and NAS to take steps to ensure that their forces adhere to their obligations under COHA of December 2017 and to take action against perpetrators. In this regard, it **regretted** that cases of SGBV continue to be reported by CTSAMVM and called upon the JDB to ensure accountability for all SGBV related violations committed by the forces;
15. **Expressed** concerns about continuing community-based violence, including recently in Jonglei State and its resulting displacement of civilians, which added the need for and increased the strain on the delivery of humanitarian services, and **urged** the RTGoNU to undertake measures to address the cycles of violence across the country and build durable peace, including by establishing a fully functioning government at the states' level;
16. **Took note** of the recent Kit Gwang agreements, urged all parties to such conflicts to observe and work within the parameters of the R-ARCSS in achieving durable peace. In this regard, it **reiterated** RJMECs position that encouraging military defection or accepting defections by parties to the Agreement is contrary to the letter and spirit of the Agreement and **regretted** that delay in the completion of the TSAs, especially the graduation and unification of the forces, is a major contributor to defections.
17. **Urged** the parties to the Rome peace process to adhere to their commitments to the Rome Resolutions and Declaration and **welcomed** the resumption of talks under the auspices of the Community of Sant'Egidio and **expressed** optimism that it will help address the insecurities in the Equatorias.

18. **Took note** of the reported increase in the number of returnees estimated as over 270,000 refugees during the year 2021, with over 28,440 in December 2021 alone, and **commended** the UNHCR and the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission for their efforts to enable the movement of voluntary returnees. In this regard, it **urged** the RTGoNU and its partners to put in place additional steps to expedite voluntary return, including through establishment of the Special Reconstruction Fund and Board as well as the operationalisation of mechanisms such as the State and National Level Task Forces on Durable Solutions;
19. **Commended** the RTGoNU and its partners for the ongoing efforts to catalyse the development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises through the newly launched Enterprise Development project and **underscored** the need to improve transparency and accountability in the management of public resources to ensure sustainable peace and development in the country and **urged** RTGoNU to finalise the review of the National Land Policy and Land Act. In this regard, it **tasked** the RTGoNU to provide an update on the reconstitution of the Commissions and Institutions at the national level in the next RJMEC monthly meeting;
20. **Welcomed** the disbursement of \$60,000 by the RTGoNU to the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs to support the work of the Technical Committee on the establishment of the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing (CTRH) and **requested** other partners to support efforts to establish the critical transitional justice mechanisms under the Agreement. It **commended** the UN Commission for Human Rights in South Sudan and its partners for the recent conference it convened in Nairobi to ensure stakeholders work towards a shared vision for a holistic approach to transitional justice in the country and **urged** the RTGoNU and the African Union Commission to push forward with establishment of the Hybrid Court for South Sudan, and urged the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs to commence the public consultations on the CTRH;
21. **Regretted** the delay by the Reconstituted TNLA to enact the Constitution Making Process Bill 2021 which has halted progress in the permanent constitution making process. In this regard, it **urged** the parties and stakeholders to commence preparations for their nominations of representatives to the different constitution-making institutions and mechanisms pending the enactment of the bill;
22. **Reiterated** its call to the RTGoNU to allocate and provide predictable resources for continued implementation of the Agreement and further **appealed** to the regional and international partners and friends of South Sudan to provide additional support to the implementation of the R-ARCSS;
23. **Agreed** that the date for the next RJMEC meeting will be communicated by the Secretariat; and
24. **Decided** to remain seized of all RJMEC matters.

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