



## **Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC)**

### **Resolutions of the 27<sup>th</sup> RJMEC Meeting**

**Beijing Juba Hotel, 02<sup>nd</sup> March 2023  
Juba, South Sudan**

#### **Attendance**

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

1. Hon Dr. Martin Elia Lomuro (ITGoNU)
2. Hon. Michael Makuei Lueth (ITGoNU)
3. Hon. Amb. Stephen Par Kuol (SPLM/IO)
4. Hon. Sandra Bona Malwal (SPLM/IO)
5. Maj. Gen. Bior Leek Kuareng (FDs)

##### **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. Mrs. Stella Bagho (Women Coalition)
4. Mrs Mary Akech (Women Bloc)
5. Mr. Dabek Mabior Arok (CSO - Alliance)
6. Hon. John Gai Yoh (Eminent Personalities)
7. Prof. Pauline Riek (Academia) Online
8. Mrs. Abuk Jervas Makuac (Business Community)
9. Mrs. Yar Manoa Majok (Business Community)
10. Mrs. Acayo Nancy Cirino (Youth)

11. Mr. Patrick A. Godi (Youth) Online

**For the Regional Guarantors:**

1. H.E. Jamal Abdel Majaed (Sudan)
2. Mr. Hassan Robleh Mahamoud (Djibouti)
3. Amb. Markos Tekle Rike (Ethiopia)
4. H.E. Maj Gen. (rtd) Samuel Nandwa (Kenya)
5. Amb. Idule-Amoko James (Uganda)
6. Mr. Mohamed Abdi Ali (Somalia)
7. Mr. Tukur Maigari (Nigeria)
8. Mr. Ahmed Hersi (IGAD)
9. Ms. Varaidzo Mupunga (AUMISS)
10. H.E. Mahlodi Muofhe (South Africa)

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

1. H.E. Ma Quing (China)
2. Mr. Lars P. Henie (Norway)
3. Mr. William Flens (USA)
4. H.E. Jonny Baxter (UK)
5. H.E. Timo Olkkonen (EU)
6. Mr. Guang Cong (UNMISS)
7. H.E. Marjan Schippers (IPF)

**For RJMEC Secretariat:**

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

**For Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms:**

1. Hon. Dr. Dier Tong Ngor (PFM - Oversight Committee)
2. Ustaz Stephen Wiw (Head of Secretariat NTC)
3. Lt. Gen. Rabi Mujung Emmanuel (JDB)
4. Maj. Gen. Charles Machieng Kuol (Head of JDB Secretariat)
5. Hon. Angelina Teny (Chair SDSR Board)

6. Hon. Chol Thon J. Balok (Co-Chair SDSR Board)
7. Mr. Angelo Madut, (Head of SDSR Board Secretariat)
8. Lt. Gen. Koang Gakuoth Kerjok (Chairperson JMCC)
9. Maj. Gen Pal Yiech Lam (Deputy Head of Secretariat JMCC)
10. Hon. Gichira Kibara, (Chairperson NCAC)
11. Lt. Gen. Asrat Denero, (Chairperson CTSAMVM)
12. Hon. Lt. Gen. Ayuen Alier Jongroor (Chairperson, DDR Commission)
13. Hon. Regina Kaba (DDR Deputy Chairperson)
14. Justice Ajonye Perpetua Paya (Head of Secretariat JRC)

**For Observers:**

1. H.E. Erdem Mutaf (Turkiye)
2. Mr. Simon Ruf (Germany)
3. H.E. Tsutsumi Naohiro (Japan)
4. Ms. Lydia Minagano (Switzerland)
5. Mr. Mohamed Elbadry (Egypt)
6. Mr. Charles Jibi (Netherlands)
7. Lt. Col. Nathan Akankunda (SSM)
8. Maj. Patrick Nuwagaba (SSM)
9. Amb. Aida Wande (MoFA)

The 27<sup>th</sup> RJMEC meeting considered the following agenda items:

- a) Statement by RJMEC Interim Chairperson;
- b) Minutes of the last meeting;
- c) Report from RTGoNU;
- d) Report from the NTC on Transitional Security Arrangements;
- e) Briefing from the UNMISS DSGSR;
- f) Reports from Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms (NCAC, PFM - Oversight Committee, CTSAMVM, JRC, JDB, SDSR Board, JMCC, 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 RTGoNU, NTC, NCAC, JRC, CTSAMVM, JDB, JMCC, SDSRB, and DDR Commission, the RJMEC resolved as follows:

1. **Welcomed** the statement of H.E. Amb. Maj. Gen. (rtd) Charles Tai Gituai, the RJMEC Interim Chairperson, his assessment of the status of implementation of the Revitalised Peace Agreement as per the Roadmap as the RTGoNU embarks on the 24-month extended Transitional Period, updates on recent progress registered, recurrent challenges, the critical pending tasks of the R-ARCSS, and endorsed all his recommendations therein;
2. **Adopted** the Minutes of the 26<sup>th</sup> RJMEC meeting with minor amendments;
3. **Congratulated** the RTGoNU upon its third anniversary of the implementation of the Revitalised Peace Agreement, the recent successful hosting of the Ecumenical Peace Pilgrimage, the International Women's Transformational Leadership Conference, and African Union Peace and Security Council visit to Juba and **expressed** optimism that their messages in support of inclusive peace, forgiveness, and reconciliation will yield renewed commitment and accelerated progress towards the full implementation of the Revitalised Peace Agreement in accordance with the Roadmap;
4. **Underscored** that the RTGoNU has now embarked on the 24-month extended Transitional Period and in this regard it **welcomed** the renewed commitment of the RTGoNU to implement the Roadmap in letter and spirit as expressed at its press conference of 21<sup>st</sup> February, and **called upon** the RTGoNU to demonstrate its ownership of the process and its commitment by availing the requisite resources to the implementing mechanisms and institutions and **appealed** to all partners and friends of South Sudan to support the RTGoNU's efforts to facilitate progress;
5. **Commended** the Presidency for resolving the contentious issue which delayed the passage of the National Security Service Bill, on the power of arrest and detention by the National Security Service, and **welcomed** this spirit of compromise as a valuable example which should guide the ongoing implementation of the Roadmap;

6. **Welcomed** the accession by the President of the Republic of South Sudan, H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, to, among others, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Protocol to The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa and **noted** that these international and regional treaties are critical to the safeguarding of the fundamental human rights of the people of South Sudan and called for their immediate operationalisation;
7. **Further welcomed and commended** H.E. the President, and H.E. the First Vice President, for their recent meetings with IDPs, which drew much-needed attention to the plight of the IDPs, and **appreciated** their plans to provide security and basic services at the IDPs points of return. In this regard it **called for** the immediate setting up of the Special Reconstruction Fund and Board, which will pave the way for the pledging conference to support return, recovery and reconstruction efforts, as well as the implementation of the Agreement generally;
8. **Bade farewell** to H.E. Jonny Baxter, outgoing Ambassador of the United Kingdom to South Sudan, for his contribution to the peace process in the Republic of South Sudan, and for his support to RJMEC, and **wished** him success in his next assignment;
9. **Appreciated and took note** of the report from the RTGoNU presented by Hon. Dr. Martin Elia Lomuro, Minister of Cabinet Affairs, and Hon. Dr. Dier Tong Ngor, Minister of Finance and Planning on behalf of the PFM-Oversight Committee, as well as by Hon. Stephen Par Kuol, Minister for Peacebuilding on behalf of the National Transitional Committee (NTC) on the progress being made by the RTGoNU in the implementation of the Revitalised Peace Agreement, **welcomed** their detailed reports and commitment to bring relevant line ministers to regularly brief the RJMEC on their areas of responsibilities, and **encouraged** the RTGoNU to inject the much needed sense of urgency to the implementation of the R-ARCSS in accordance with the Roadmap;
10. **Thanked** Mr. Guang Cong, the UNMISS DSRSG, for his briefing, including detailed updates on the current humanitarian situation, protection of civilians as per its mandate, observations on the status of implementation of the

Agreement, threats posed by growing incidents of intercommunal violence in Upper Nile, Jonglei, the Greater Pibor Administrative Area, the adjacent areas to Abyei and cattle-related violence in Lakes and the Equatorias, and **welcomed** all his recommendations to the RTGoNU in this regard;

11. **Appreciated** all Chairpersons and/or representatives of the NCAC, JRC, CTSAMVM, JDB, SDSR, JMCC, JTSC, and DDR Commission for their reports, took note of the reported progress or lack thereof, challenges identified and endorsed all their recommendations; and **welcomed** the commitment of the RTGoNU High-Level Standing Committee and NTC to facilitate the national members of the NCAC and JRC;
12. **Took note** of the extension of the mandate of the ad hoc Judicial Reform Committee (JRC) established to study and recommend appropriate judicial reforms for an additional 12 months and **urged** the Committee to quickly complete its work in the shortest time possible;
13. **Underscored** that the implementation of the Roadmap, ratified by the reconstituted Transitional National Legislature (TNL) late last year, is already behind schedule with critical timelines missed, for example, reconstitution of the Political Parties Council and the National Elections Commission, and the restructuring and reconstitution of the various commissions and institutions at national level and **urged** the RTGoNU to take concrete steps to fast track implementation of all tasks lagging behind schedule, especially the unification and redeployment of forces, commencement of Phase 2, and the establishment of the institutions and mechanisms which will drive forward the constitution-making process and the preparations for elections;
14. **Took note** of some critical benchmarks achieved since the last plenary, including:
  - a. Submission by NCAC of two draft amendment bills to the Bank of South Sudan Act, 2011 and the Banking Act, 2012 to Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs and commencement of the review by NCAC of the NGO Act 2016 and the Investment Promotion Act, 2009;
  - b. Resolution by the Presidency of the contentious issue on the power of arrest and detention by the National Security Service which had delayed the passage of the National Security Service Bill;

- c. Extension of the mandate of the JRC for 12 months to study and recommend appropriate judicial reforms to the RTGoNU;
- d. Holding of the permanent ceasefire and announcement of RTGoNU return to the Rome Peace process; and
- e. Progress in the drafting of the Commission of Reconciliation, Truth and Healing (CTRH) and Compensation and Reparation Authority (CRA) bills by the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, which are now awaiting a March stakeholder consultation workshop;

15. **Reiterated** its appeal to the RTGoNU to expedite the operationalisation of all the enacted laws, especially by reconstituting the Political Parties Council which is central for the registration of political parties and creating political space, and the National Constitutional Review Commission to spearhead the constitution-making process, without further delay, and to enact the other pending revised laws, especially the National Elections Act (Amendment) Bill and Anti-Corruption Commission Act (Amendment) Bill;

16. **Noted with concern** reports of further incidents of intercommunal violence, such as the recent ones in Kajo Keji, Central Equatoria, Twic East County in Jonglei, Greater Pibor Administrative Area as well as in Lakes State and reiterated the core responsibility of the RTGoNU to restore permanent and sustainable peace, security, and stability throughout the country. In this regard it **welcomed** the announcement by the President on the resumption of the Rome peace process and encouraged all concerned parties to seize this opportunity of dialogue to contribute to the ongoing peacebuilding efforts;

17. **Expressed disappointment** that CTSAMVM Monitoring and Verification Teams are unable to operate as per their mandate due to the non-payment of 10 months' allowances of the National Monitors, which has led to their boycott. In this regard it **underscored** the important role of CTSAMVM in monitoring and reporting on compliance and violations of the permanent ceasefire and the transitional security arrangements with reports that are objective, impartial and balanced which build confidence and trust among the Parties to the Agreement, and **emphasised** that the RTGoNU has a responsibility to ensure their members play their part and **appealed** to the RTGoNU to immediately provide funds for the payment of CTSAMVM's National Monitors, and the national members of all the Agreement mechanisms;

18. **Expressed concerns** that key economic, resource and financial management-related amendment bills which should govern the ongoing reforms, submitted by the NCAC to the RTGoNU beginning in June 2022, have not yet been enacted into law including the Anti-Corruption Commission Bill, the National Audit Chamber Bill, the Public Financial Management and Accountability Bill, and the Petroleum Revenue Management Bill, and **urged** the RTGoNU to enact and operationalise these bills without delay to underpin the PFM reform process outlined in the Roadmap. In this regard, it also **encouraged** the RTGoNU to finalise the review, legislation and implementation of the Land Policy and the Land Act 2008, as this would address land administration challenges, including the resettlement of the IDPs and refugees;
19. **Expressed serious concerns** that critical timelines for the making of the Permanent Constitution have already been missed as per the Constitution-making Process Act 2022, including submission by parties and stakeholders of the lists of nominees to the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs to reconstitute the National Constitutional Review Commission (NCRC) and establish the Preparatory Sub-Committee (PSC). Further, the recruitment of members to the Constitutional Drafting Committee (CDC) should be ongoing, and **urged** the RTGoNU to expedite the operationalisation of the Act as these delays seriously undermine the progress of the entire constitution-making process, and consequently, the elections;
20. **Noted with concern** that the RTGoNU is already behind its own schedule with specific benchmarks set out in the Roadmap on redeployment of Phase 1, preparations for elections and the permanent constitution-making process. In that regard, **observed** that a lot of work remains to be done this year in particular, and **appealed** to the RTGoNU to take concrete and deliberate steps to expedite implementation of these critical pending tasks, and **encouraged** all RJMEC members and partners to reconsider their current approaches and to avail the requisite support to the implementation of the Peace Agreement with a focus on accelerating progress;
21. **Recommended** that the RTGoNU should urgently undertake the following remedial actions:



- a) Provide adequate funding of the Roadmap tasks in a clear and predictable manner;
- b) Operationalise all the enacted laws, particularly those related to the permanent constitution and elections processes, to expedite the reconstitution of the Political Parties Council and the establishment of the bodies required by the Constitution-Making Process Act 2022, and expedite the enactment of the National Elections Bill;
- c) Expedite the redeployment of the graduated forces, the harmonisation of ranks of the mid and lower-level commanders, the commencement of Phase 2 of unification of forces, the collection and management of weapons and munitions, and Demobilisation, Disarmament, and Reintegration (DDR);
- d) Facilitate the National Members of CTSAMVM to return to work, and pay allowances of all national members in the Peace Agreement mechanisms;
- e) Facilitate the resettlement, reintegration and the rebuilding of livelihoods of returnees and IDPs;
- f) Enact and operationalise all PFM-related bills to facilitate the reforms and to improve transparency and accountability; and
- g) Complete the process of drafting the CTRH and CRA legislation and submit to the reconstituted TNL for enactment.

22.**Agreed** that the date for the next meeting shall be on 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2023; and

23.**Decided** to remain seized of all RJMEC matters.

- End –