



**REPORT OF CEASEFIRE AND TRANSITIONAL SECURITY
ARRANGEMENTS MONITORING AND VERIFICATION MECHANISM
(CTSAMVM) AND OUTCOMES OF CTSAMVM
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN
20 JUNE 2024**

The CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting (CTC) was held on 20 June 2024 at the Beijing Juba Hotel in Juba. All Parties were represented as shown below. The Chairperson Maj Gen Yitayal Gelaw Bitew opened the meeting at 1020Hrs/10:20 am.

ATTENDANCE

Chairperson	Maj Gen Yitayal Gelaw Bitew	CTSAMVM
Deputy Chairperson	Brig Gen Yassir Hassab Alla	CTSAMVM
Representatives from the Parties	ITGoNU Lt Gen Rabi Mujung Emmanuel Maj Gen Gatkuoth Duop Kuich Maj Gen Wuoi Mayom Deng Maj Gen Thomas Gador Kic Wur Maj Gen John Daniel Kepa SSOA Maj Gen Jany Kaway Yoakhor Maj Gen Amos Amin Elia Maj Gen William Bol Kai Maj Gen Peter Riiny Mabior Maj Gen Yuodo John Otor Brig Gen Samuel Chan Mut	SPLM/SPLA-IO Maj Gen Dr. Chuol Ruey Kompuok Maj Gen Johnson Mayen Maj Gen William Deng Buom Maj Gen Andrea Mangu Adala Col Jackson Juma Lasu Col Ezekiel How K Gatluack Former Detainees (FDs) Maj Gen Bior Leek Kuareng
CTSAMVM Secretariat	Mr. Awgichew Fekade	



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CTSAMVM Staff	Mr. Gummar Gabrielson Mr. Gilberts Awuzu Mr. Chen Wengen Mr. Wang Lixin Mr. Hassan A/Rahman Ali Mr. Liu Bo Ms. Yasmin Elhashmi Ms. Samantha Minga Mr. Getachew Jenbere Mr Felix Kioko Ms. Martha Mabior	COS Report Officer Report Officer Senior Advisor CTSAMVM Operations CTSAMVM Fusion Cell Head Gender CTSAMVM Protocol CTSAMVM HR Legal Offr CTSAMVM HR
In Attendance	Maj Gen Etafa Raga Mr. Jeffrey Mapendere Col JD Owino Johnson Loyatum	Defence Attaché (Ethiopia) RJMEC Defence Attache (Kenya) Kenya Embassy

The CTC then reviewed the proposed Agenda.

The agenda was adopted. The Chairperson proceeded with opening remarks:

Item

Opening Remarks by the Chairperson:

Dear Senior Party Representatives and CTC members,
 Deputy Chairperson,
 IGAD Representative,
 RJMEC Representative,
 Defence Attachés,
 CTSAMVM Secretariat,
 Observers,
 Ladies and Gentlemen,



Good morning.

It is with great pleasure and honor that I welcome you to this meeting. I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your presence today as I chair my first CTSAMVM Technical Committee meeting since I took over from the former Chairperson Maj Gen Hailu Gonfa Eddosa. I sincerely thank him for having oriented me the dynamics ongoing issues and trends through the CTSAMVM processes and procedures.

I want to pledge my commitment to continue working and cooperating with you as we navigate through the peace process in South Sudan.

Esteemed Senior Party Representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The change in leadership is inevitable having on that, by the end of June 2024, several International Observers will likewise be rotated. I intently want to affirm that CTSAMVM will continue to conduct its mandate of monitoring, verifying, and reporting on the progress of implementation of the R-ARCSS and report findings by using usual channels.

As the CTSAMVM Technical Committee, we must ensure that what is reported helps to uphold the peace process in South Sudan. Specifically, I want to recognize the contribution of the Senior National

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Liaison Officers who tirelessly coordinate with the National monitors and Field commanders to ensure a smooth flow of CTSAMVM activities albeit with the usual challenges.

Esteemed Senior Party Representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Since the last CTC meeting, have seen attempt of attacks by unknown armed groups attacking individuals in communities has been on the rise. For instance, one of the occurrences involved an attack on the EZO County Paramount Chief, on top of which there has also been an upsurge in inter communal violent conflicts between youths, such as the conflict between Nuer Rubkona County and Leer County communities, all of which continue to affect the peace process.

CTSAMVM has further noted that activities suspected to be conducted by NAS have increased around the area of Yei County, where recruitment of young youths to enroll as their forces have been reported. Additionally, suspected NAS elements ambushed a commercial vehicle at Loka Boma in Lainya County, killed its driver, and injured a soldier from the SSPDF who was escorting it.

In the areas of Western Equatoria State and Western Bar El Ghazal State, there are three categories of groups who are causing insecurity. The first group is Deng Bor cattle keepers who move while armed with guns. Secondly, Central African nomads called Ambororo and they



move with guns. Thirdly, there is an unknown group of people who are moving with guns and not putting on uniforms. These are not good indicators of the peace process.

CTSAMVM has not received any new updates on the deployment of the Necessary Unified Forces. It is imperative that we get correct details as contradicting figures are being presented by government entities other than what is known by CTSAMVM.

The insistent occupation of civilian buildings by Signatory Parties to the Agreement is still in a fearfully manner. On a good note, two occupied civilian areas in Sector Two have been confirmed as vacated. This is commendable, but CTSAMVM reminds SSPDF, in particular, to plan a vacation of the remaining seven areas and urge the Joint Defence Board to deploy the Necessary Unified Forces who are occupying some of the areas to appropriate places so as not to violate the R-ARCSS that created their existence.

Esteemed Senior Party Representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have two reports to discuss today, one is about a fighting incident between the Unity State Governor's convoy protection team and SPLM/A-IO forces in Jamus/Barkuor, and another is an alleged attack on SPLM/A-IO Brigade Two in Mayendit County.

The opinions and recommendations of members as we discuss these

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reports are much valued and further give a broader imprint to the reports. It is therefore imperative for us to focus on information in the reports and discuss them cordially and professionally to yield realistic solutions towards the Ceasefire and peace process of South Sudan.

Now I declare the CTC meeting open and invite Senior Party Representatives to make their opening remarks.

Thank You!

The Senior Representative of SPLM/A-IO stated that;

The Chairperson of the CTSAMVM
The Deputy chairperson CTSAMVM
The Chief of Staff CTSAMVM
All the Dignitaries invited
All the members of CTC present
And media houses

It is a pleasure to express my thanks for this meeting we are sharing together with the new chairperson of the CTSAMVM. Our hope is to have a new approach in managing CTSAMVM. In terms of progress of peace agreement, the implementation process, the ongoing tasks and I urge CTSAMVM to put pressure on signatories to see the peace implementation has smoothly taken shape and have it delivered to South Sudanese without any complaint.

The reports of the CTSAMVM need more efforts to be put in. It appears mostly only 2 reports are being discussed in most of the meetings which shouldn't have been the case and this is not an indicative that the rate of incidents have run down but it is the failure of CTSAMVM to monitor and follow up cases that are taking place in most parts of South Sudan. One of its impact that appears to be reality is the closure of some of the places which create a burden since those supposed to monitor incidences of peace processes in various locations are no more present yet these are locations where incidents are also happening and now



monitoring them from afar makes it very cumbersome. Therefore, CTSAMVM should actually revisit its policies towards the closure of these locations to make the activities to move forward.

Last but not the least for the attention for CTSAMVM with respect to the residency of the CTSAMVM members, the change has taken place but then as we get reports International observers and National monitors are being separated. Which was not supported by the CTC and even during the process there are a lot of issues that need to be dealt and in that regard I urge the chairperson of CTSAMVM to immediately convene a meeting of CTC members to resolve some of the outstanding issues that will also paralyze the activities of CTSAMVM. And if you want the CTSAMVM to progress, the Divisions and fragmentation that are taking place should be removed. I urge the current chairperson to take note of this and put this into action

Thank you very much.

The Senior Representative of SSOA stated that;

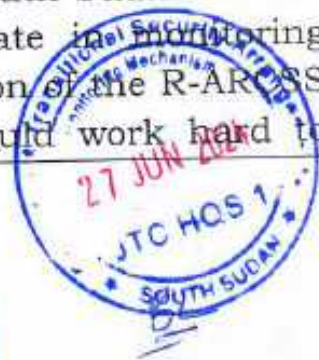
The Chairperson CTSAMVM
The Deputy Chairperson
The CTSAMVM Secretariat
The CTC Members
IGAD Representative
The RJMEC Representatives
The Defence Attaches
International Observers
Ladies and Gentlemen
Good morning

It is my great pleasure to highly welcome you all at this CTC meeting, I would like to address my sincere gratitude for your presence today to address critical issues that can arise or affect the peace process in the Republic of South Sudan. At the beginning, CTSAMVM must continue to conduct its mandate in monitoring verification and reporting fully in the area of the implementation of the R-ARCSS which means it must report to IGAD and RJMEC. We should work hard to

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maintain peace in the country. CTSAMVM Technical Committee meetings are very crucial to the peace process in South Sudan.

I would like to thank the leadership of CTSAMVM for conducting meetings regularly, we are monitoring and reporting violations and giving assurance to the international communities, regional partners on how this agreement is being implemented in a good direction. On behalf of my colleagues and myself, I would like to appreciate and thank our principles the President of the Republic of South Sudan, the First Vice President and the Third Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan for getting together and submitting the list of all unified forces to be signed as soon as possible.

Regarding the incident about the Unity States Governors Convoy protection team and SPLM/A-IO forces in Jamus/Barkou, in fact according to the report as read, the root cause of the conflict was the relocation of SPLM/A-IO forces in Jamus. I think the poor communication of the governors convoy and the SPLM/A-IO Commander may cause the incident, when they were on the way. The question remains who was the first to fire, no one knows to date. It would be typical to condemn who started the shooting because no body has accepted responsibility. It would be better to monitor and investigate carefully to find the facts because the 2 parties should embrace the peace when they were in conflict till now no body accepts to be the first to shoot. Therefore the evidence is not clear.

Secondly, the issue of Notional monitoring team and international observers, as I got the information about the relocation that they are taken somewhere, we need to look very carefully as we are working as a team in CTSAMVM, if there will be something to divide us, then communication should be made priority. We need to work together and live together, there is no difference between South Sudanese Nationals and Internationals we are one, our objective is one, our purpose is one and our mission is one no need for us in dividing our selves. The National Monitors are the eyes of CTSAMVM they are the people going down and working very hard to find exactly the causes of violations, they are the ones who bring information to us, we want them to be happy and know that we love them and they are our subordinates and bring us good report. So let us look back critically and resolve it peacefully.



Finally we should urge the 2 parties should acknowledge the peace among themselves. The SPLM/A-IO and SSPDF to implement the peace rather than clashing, when anything happens they may resolve it peacefully. I believe that peace is a priority in the country and that's why we can manage how the peace process will go well.

Thank you so much and be in good coexistence.

The Senior Representative of Former Detainees stated that;

The Chairperson CTSAMVM
IGAD Representative
The RJMEC Representatives
The Defence Attaches
Colleague from other parties

I welcome you all. It is good that today we have started the meeting of CTSAMVM technical committee although I have very serious reservations about the meeting. It is good that we have Honourable Jeff Mapendere from the RJMEC with us in this hall and he was a member when we were negotiating for peace in Khartoum I recognize him today and he has to answer some of our concerns within the CTSAMVM. The IGAD members why I said I have a serious concern is that it seems CTSAMVM is losing the grip, why they are here, CTSAMVM is here to monitor, verify and report violation of the parties. It is here to help us the Government or Politicians to give us some guidance. That listening to their task here is to report what are the violations between parties, but I have listened to your statement carefully on which you have reported so many issues including the Ambororo in Western Equatoria. It is the responsibility of Government of South Sudan and Governor of that state but not Chairman of CTSAMVM to report such, CTSAMVM also reported about Land demarcation, what about boundaries of south Sudan, we have issues with some of our neighbors which are not resolved then why mention about land demarcation and Land committees?

Lastly before you came, I heard from IGAD and RJMEC that any chairman coming is to go for a workshop of about 2 weeks getting guideline of the agreements to know what is inside the agreements. I have seen the boundaries

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have been exceeded.

Number 2, systematic segregation between CTSAMVM, why I brought it up is the former Chairman closed down 3 MVTs, Bor, Torit and Bentiu(*the closed MVT is Aweil not Bentiu - Secretariat*), he unilaterally closed them down alone, and that is not the responsibility of the chairman of CTSAMVM but of parties to the agreement. My principal wrote a letter to the Chairman of CTSAMVM objecting to the closure of these 3 sectors, but he went ahead. The Vice president of this country called up the Chairman to the office and told him not to close these 3 sectors but the chairman went ahead with the decision, he acted like a commander here. CTSAMVM is not part and partial of the Army where the chairman come from as such to act unilaterally, and that is not acceptable.

Now the National monitors have been sent to different locations and International observers are accommodated somewhere, this one is segregation. This had been discussed since 2019, the international observers are receiving \$6,000 while the National monitors are receiving \$600 this is a serious segregation, how are we going to monitor the agreements when we are not one.

There was request to make the position of chairman rotational among IGAD states. The sticking of the position of Chairman CTSAMVM to one country is hurting us here. Am not happy with it.

From today, because the former chairman did not listen to us, even to the leadership of this country, I will brief my principal today, I think there is no need for me to attend the coming meeting of CTSAMVM, but will stay at home. Because the matter is there and the former chairman is not responding. May be the coming meeting will be for 2 or 3 parties. I will attend the meeting if the CTSAMVM reopens the 3 MVTs.

Thank you.

The Senior Representative of the ITGoNU stated that;

The Chairperson CTSAMVM
The Deputy Chairperson



The Chief of Staff
The Colleagues, CTC Members
The RJMEC Representatives
IGAD Representative
All members attending the meeting
Good morning,

Chairman CTSAMVM is currently facing issues pertaining to our task of monitoring. These issues are obviously reflected in the on ongoing communal conflict.

This CTC meeting is highly requested to review the unilateral decision on the closure of the team sites of Bor Torit and Aweil. ITGoNU represented by us here in the CTC is requesting the reopening of the closed team sites and reinstatement of the affected National Monitors by downsizing. Mr Chairman, the ongoing clashes and misunderstanding in Unity State between the parties signatory to the agreement is disturbing and CTSAMVM is asked to reactivate its activities of field visits as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Media Departs

CTSAMVM Report

Implementation Status – the Ceasefire

- The ceasefire is holding, however, CTSAMVM monitoring revealed the following issues recorded since the last CTC meeting.
- By end of May 2024, Unknown group of people attacked EZO County paramount chiefs house but he survived after quick rescue by SSPDF soldiers.
- NAS activities have also increased in the areas of Lasu Payam and Yei County, where they move at night looking for young energetic youth to conscript. Earlier NAS elements abducted 28 civilians in Morobo County, 4 of them escaped, and 24 were intercepted at DR- Congo border.

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- CTSAMVM received information that suspected NAS elements ambushed a commercial vehicle, killed the driver and injured an SSPDF soldier who was an escort at Loca Boma in Lainya County.

CTSAMVM observations:

- The Parties remain vigilant, and take all necessary measures to prevent any violence involving their forces or forces allied to them.
- National Salvation Front to adhere to the Rome Declaration of 12 Jan 2020 and its follow-on resolutions.
- The increased trend of insecurity in WES and WBeGS is likely to affect the livelihood of the communities which may impact the progress of the peace process if not checked.

THE NUF

- CTSAMVM has not received updated data on NUF deployment save for the 6 Bns (about 20% of 53,000 mil troops) deployed as presented by Head Secretariat of the Joint Defence Board to CTSAMVM Board meeting on 23 April 2024.
- The official figure of deployed NUF provided by government representative during RJMEC plenary of 23 May 24 cited a total of phase 1 combatants according to NTC as 55,958 apportioned as 15,150 Army, 3,380 VIP protection, 15,178 SSNP, 4,096 Prisons, 5,605 Civil Defence, 6,261 Wildlife and 6,315 NSS.
- CTSAMVM also has information that the list of SPLM/A-IO and SSOA for phase 2 training has been submitted to presidents office for confirmation.
- The status of Phase 1 deployment remains the same as that at last CTC meeting. No Police, NSS, Civil Defence, Wildlife or Prison Service Phase 1 Graduates have been deployed.



- CTSAMVM also received information that in Moum training centre ever since the Unified forces have been deployed, only instructors are in the camp and awaiting for phase II NUF training but without any supplies. This trend is the same in all training centres.

CTSAMVM observations:

- The delay in training and deployment of the NUF goes contrary to the provisions of the R-ARCSS and specifically Article 2.2.1 and 2.3.1 on the training and deployment.
- Since the last CTC meeting, there have been no changes on the status of the deployment of phase 1 Necessary Unified Force (NUF).
- It would be helpful if the JDB could share date of commencement of phase 2 training.
- The TGoNU is urged to ensure JDB provides correct data in respect to the deployment of NUF.

The Occupied Civilian buildings

- On 6th Jun 2024 MVT MALAKAL physically visited and confirmed that Nasir Wecyar Adieu civilian area and Wau Shulluk Primary School in Malakal and Nyirol Waat Payam in Jonglei State which had been occupied by the SSPDF for a long time were vacated, this is commendable.
- CTSAMVM will continue visiting the remaining occupied buildings in the future to ensure Parties comply with Article 2.2.3.1 as well as SSPDF General Order of 14 Aug 2013 on the demilitarization of civilian areas.

CTSAMVM observations:

- Parties are reminded that occupying civilian areas is a continued violation of the R-ARCSS specifically Article 2.2.3.1. Parties are urged to vacate occupied civilian areas as a matter of urgency.

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- JDB to develop a plan for forces to vacate the remaining occupied buildings and ensure they are deployed correctly.

MVT	LOCATION	PARTY AFFILIATION		
		SSPDF	SPLM/A-IO	NUF
YAMBIO	Tindoka Primary School			3
	Yambio Municipality			
	Badi primary School			
	Yambio Municipality			
	Nabaagu Primary School (the NUF established their camp 200m away from the school) Yambio Municipality			
YEI	Goli Primary School. Yei county, Tor e Payam	2		
	Lasu Payam Hqr. Yei county, Lasu Payam			
	<i>BORI Primary School</i>	2 ALLEGEDLY VACATED BUT NOT VERIFIED BY CTSAMVM		
	<i>Kajo keji County</i>			
	<i>Kirwa Health Center</i>			
	<i>Kajo keji County</i>			
CURRENT TOTAL		7		

- CTSAMVM would like to again remind the Party that continual occupation of civilian areas is a violation of the R-ARCSS Art 2.2.3. 1. Civilian areas shall be immediately demilitarized. Therefore, forces of parties with the agreement shall promptly vacate from civilian facilities as fast as possible.

CTSAMVM REPORTS

There are two CTSAMVM Reports:



- 2024/08 – Fighting incident between the Unity State Governor's convoy protection team and SPLM/A-IO forces in Jamus/Barkuor.
- 2024/09 – Alleged attack on SPLM/A-IO Brigade two in Mayendit County (the report has been refereed back to JMCO by CTC)

CTSAMVM REPORT 2024/08 FIGHTING INCIDENT BETWEEN UNITY STATE GOVERNORS CONVOY PROTECTION TEAM AND SPLM/A-IO FORCES IN JAMUS/BARKUR

- On 29th January 2024 CTSAMVM received allegations of a fighting incident between the Unity State Governor's convoy protection team and SPLM/A-IO forces in JAMUS/Barkur.
- Before the incident, SPLM/A-IO troops in JAMUS were informed by the Rubkona County Commissioner to relocate to a Place called area sixteen which is about 2km from their current location to create space for civilians to settle and also establish a market.
- The Battalion commander in JAMUS advised the county commissioner to communicate with the SPLM/A-IO leadership in Tong. The SPLM/A-IO leaders agreed to relocate but requested for more time.
- On the fateful day, the Governor was visiting his people in JAMUS when the fighting erupted as soon as he arrived. It is not clear who started the fight.
- **Findings:** CTSAMVM visited Jamus from 19 - 21 of April 2024 and found the following:
- The Governor of Unity State had planned to address the people of

- Barkur/Jamus on 29 January 2024.
- Before 29 January 2024, the Rubkona County commissioner made communication for SPLM/A-IO in Barkur/Jamus to relocate to a place called Area Sixteen (16) about 1.5 - 2km from Jamus to settle the increasing number of civilians and also create space for the market.
- The SSPDF forces and SPLM/A-IO forces were deployed in Jamus by the Governor to protect workers of the road construction from Rubkona to Mayom.
- In May 2022, SSPDF forces moved 4 km towards Mayom while SPLM/A-IO remained in Jamus and were to relocate to area sixteen (16) after harvesting their crops in 2023.
- On 27 January 2024 the County Commissioner went to Jamus and informed the Commander of SPLM/A-IO to relocate, he was advised to approach the Leadership of SPLM/A-IO in Tong who agreed.
- On 28 January 2024, the security advisor called the sector commander of SPLM/A-IO and informed him to accompany the Governor to Jamus the next day. He accepted but said he had to transport the soldiers first to Bentiu and would follow them the next day.
- On 29 January 2024, the County Commissioner brought a bulldozer to clear the road to area Sixteen and the site for the new camp for the SPLM/A-IO forces.
- The Governor informed the County Commissioner that he will address the



civilians in Jamus on his way back from Nornikur (Mayom County), the Commissioner then joined and traveled with the Governor.

- The reception of the Unity State Governor was preceded by organizing the women and youth to line up along the roadside.
- The Governor's convoy arrived led by 3 cars with a protection team leading the way, followed by a motorcycle with two policemen and then 3 white cars.
- All the Politicians and Commanders in the convoy had their protection force and normal escort cars.
- The civilians coexisted with the SPLM/A-IO soldiers peacefully with no problem, on the fateful day they were lining up together to receive the Governor. The County Commissioner had also been visiting the camp before.
- When the Governor's convoy was about to reach Jamus fighting started between the Convoy protection force and the SPLM/A-IO at Jamus lasting for about 10 - 15 minutes and there was chaos.
- The initial claim that the governor's convoy was fired upon as it passed where SPLM/A-IO soldiers were lining up, prompting return fire from the convoy's protection force was refuted by the SPLM/A-IO's Sector II chief of Mil intelligence stating that their soldiers were attacked at the check point. They reported casualties, including a Captain who was saluting the convoy being shot in the stomach and six soldiers killed. The skirmish lasted approximately 10 minutes, but it remains unclear who initiated the shooting.

- 4 SSPDF soldiers died including their commander a 1st Lieutenant and 9 SPLM/A-IO soldiers also died on spot. One civilian was wounded.
- The wounded including the Director of Military Intelligence Div 4 SSPDF, the Director of Wildlife Services in Unity State and a small boy were evacuated to Juba and those from SPLM/A-IO were evacuated to SPLM/A-IO base in GARIA at Sudan Border.
- SPLM/A-IO soldiers also later shot the Bulldozer operator breaking his leg and took him captive to their camp in Garia 20kms north of Jamus.
- A youthful civilian woman in Jamus said they scampered to safety from where they were lining up to receive the Governor, as they heard gunshots but could not know who started the shooting, she reported that goods in shops and animal were looted.
- After the shootout, the SPLM/A-IO forces left to their base in Garia as such it was not possible for CTSAMVM to interview the SPLM/A-IO commander whose unit was involved. Currently the new location at Area Sixteen (16) coded as K10 is being occupied by the police and the SSPDF.
- The root cause of the conflict was the relocation of the SPLM/A-IO forces in Jamus.

Conclusion:

- It is the conclusion of CTSAMVM that the 2 Parties; the SSPDF and SPLM/A-IO uphold and respect the Agreements by cessation of all hostile military actions and protection of civilians as provided for under Article 2.1.10.7.2 of



the R-ARCSS and Article 3.2(a) and 5.1 of the ACOH.

Ongoing issues and Updates:

- Alleged attack by the SSPDF against SPLM/A-IO positions near Wunaliet, 12 February 2024. Juba MVT conducted LDP to the Area but has not yet interviewed SPLM/A-IO officers. The location was initially water logged due to rains posing access challenges both by air and road. This had also been exacerbated by communication problems due to poor coverage. The area is now dry and efforts to have the officers interviewed was thwarted because the Kawari outpost is closed. Since the incident has taken considerably long time to investigate, the JMCO proposed that the task be closed.
- Killing of SSPDF soldiers and resultant alleged revenge burning of civilian houses and SGBV by the SSPDF in the Wonduruba Payam on 5 February 2024. The MVT is ready to visit and investigate once JVMM clearance for the flight is secured.
- Tambura Incident: A report indicated that several killings of innocent civilians occurred from 25 – 28 April 2024 including killing of a Priest-Fr. Luka Yugue in Tambura County. These killings are alleged to be done by the Azande and Balanda ethnic groups. There is fear that the situation of 2021 Tambura crisis may return. A report about the Tambura incident has been submitted by MVT Yambio and report is being reviewed by JMCO.
- Allegations of training in Central Equatoria State: On 11 March 2024 CTSAMVM received a letter dated 6 March 2024 from the Deputy Chairman of the SPLM/A-IO containing a series of allegations of military training by

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Government security forces in Central Equatoria State. The report is being reviewed by JMCO.

DISCUSSION ON CTSAMVM REPORT – IMPORTANT ISSUES AND EVENTS, JMCO UPDATES TO INCLUDE PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS, UPDATES AND INCIDENTS UNDER INVESTIGATION

Action

SPLM/A-IO representative

Informed colleagues in the meeting that, being entrusted by the principles to be here in the mechanism and we are going to inform them correctly, today he was not happy for this report because the report is very wrong, if the report is like this then there is no need for CTSAMVM to continue because there is nothing to report now, they are reporting about the communal fight which is not a mandate of CTSAMVM, that means there is need for us to inform our principals that CTSAMVM mandate should not continue but be shut down.

He also said that, if that is what is talked here, how about the incident that happened in Malakal, instead of putting it correctly as Unity state - Rubkona County which is a different location, there is no need to report this wrongly to us, as we are Generals and know all places in the country. You get these here in the Headquarter because you are foreigners without verifying. Why don't you work with us? You need to go back to your countries if you come in such a way because there is no need anyway, either the mandate is not being presented well, why to waste our time here.

He also said that, I thought that these people that must be assigned in CTSAMVM must be military, but it happens that now the civilians are



here, and thinks that those to be assigned in the Secretariat should be Military guys, if then they put names of people here what type of security is there in the report. They are bringing problems to these people. The things that are being reported here are past things, that's why I suggest we need to go to our principals to inform them mandate of CTSAMVM is over, if there is fighting we shall see, because now our problems are complicated, as South Sudanese we are to solve our problems alone. When we want, our colleagues/friends that we thought can do best for us now become different stating different tribal clashes, which causes incitement which is not the required report.

He said we came here to see what can be best for our country not to mind about communal fighting as if we are a court. What we see we must report accurately but not as a court to rule, we are dealing only with parties. Pigi county is in Jonglei county not Malakal, these mix ups is indeed because people here are all new and he now agrees with what the senior representative of FD said that, people need to go for training, it happened that in last meeting, they called the Vice President a Deputy Vice President, we don't have a Deputy Vice President in this country. The Vice president needs to be called according to what is written in the agreement not bringing here another language which will be different.

He further said he is not happy because CTSAMVM is no longer doing the best expected of them, hence need to inform our leaders accurately because we are the eyes and we are here to represent and inform them accurately. In the start of CTSAMVM, we were aware of everything when it happened that people are discussing things which are out of the mandate like land demarcation which is not our business and interfere

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with the affairs of the nation. Why not depend on ceasefire, if there is no report why don't we stay in our houses not to come here and discuss the things that are very raw, even the secretariat I don't know why they are here because they come from different countries to report here to be on the secretariat, somebody who even doesn't know much about South Sudan. Because fighting is everywhere, people can fight and come together again. He urges the chair to read the mandate in R-ARCSS.

He notes the issue of Malakal was a communal fighting, sighting a local person(Native) and Shulluk, does it mean Shulluk are foreigners there? There is need to consult the Liaison officers who are there to direct what is happening? but you do not want to even inform them. The idea of them being with you is to work together but if they are not being respected why not close CTSAMVM if it cannot work with Liaison Officers, is it so that we leave the mandate and go for local things which are out of our mandate?

SPLM/A-IO Senior representative

He thanked the chair CTSAMVM and said, he is sorry that the Chairman met with challenges and questions, some of which are not meant to be responded by him, but because of the timing, he is now taking the burden and thinks it will be a lesson learnt and the fear is the fate of CTSAMVM, subject to scrutiny and how will it be sustainable, it is good that there are a number of IGAD and RJMEC representatives present to hear the concerns of the CTC and the MVTs.

The way things began from the time the agreement was signed, things



have greatly changed. This may be because the rate of the incidents went down and that would have been an appreciation to the warring parties because they are implementing R-ARCSS. Instead of pursuing that path, it appears that the reports are being manipulated or may be because of the closure of some of the sectors has brought these issues and some of the areas are messed up seriously especially Pigi in Jonglei county and Rubkona county in Unity State. And this is the mess of reporting without knowing the locations of incidents by the regional and international observers without involvement of national monitors. We are very sure the Senior Liaison Officers who are present within the CTSAMVM, if the senior CTC members cannot be there, can be able to qualify to represent the CTC and present correct reports. This is something that needs a serious scrutiny.

He said this is showing something is wrong within CTSAMVM that needs serious attention, that is why in the opening remarks I emphasized the Chairman of CTSAMVM needs to call an urgent meeting with the CTC to have an administrative meeting to streamline some of these administrative pending issues. If some of these issues are not resolved, it will be difficult for some of us to come and attend any CTSAMVM meeting thereafter. This can not be a CTSAMVM meeting because some of the reports brought for discussion here are communal fights which are issues to be handled by courts and we are now blaming parties to be initiating these fights. How could this be sincere, or the reports are made up such that the funding comes.

He also said that CTSAMVM is not complying with the mandates of the CTC, and if so, this is going to be my last meeting with CTSAMVM if

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some of these problems are not handled properly and responded positively by the CTSAMVM Chairman. This is my clear stand, I will convene a meeting with the rest of the SPLM/A-IO to decide and also discuss with the rest of the members of CTC on how they should continue with CTSAMVM.

SSOA representative

Thanked the chair and said, actually you are new and it is your first time to conduct the meeting and we are here to justify the reports and it is our role to justify the reports whether it has problems, if not it is then passed, that means that it is a problem of CTSAMVM, it is not your problem because you are new, what I want to assure you is to check your people on how they report, because this report will not end here but will go ahead.

He noted the issue of Malakal as said by colleagues, does not need to be reported in the CTC but what I wanted you to know is what our mandate is and what is the role of the government. Yes I can say that the MVTs have one area and the government have others duties to do within the areas, so if the MVTs want to report areas that is run by Government which is out of our mandate, we have to look for something different, we have to look for violations or our role is to look for violation.

He concluded that the issue of cows is ruled by the court and is already finished and if there is any thing wrong among them, it is Police to handle. That is why the report is not good and concur with the other colleagues who said are not happy, its not his problem not to be happy



but things are not going well. But it is still our role also to advise them to allow things to come on the right way because as CTSAMVM we are included in the making of the reports, it is also our advise that to update the way the reports are made.

FD Senior representative

Thanked the chair, saying the chairman may be shocked by the way people are talking here since he is new here, he said he is proud of himself because he has made 4 years in CTC and the chairman will make some of the people to run away from here.

You know Chair why we are deployed here is to scale down the rate of the people who are indicted/sanctioned. Because it was happening in CTSAMVM that people are sanctioned based on such a report, like now the report on the violation of Unity State, the commissioner is from SSOA and have nothing to do with the violations so the 2 violations here are police case and court cases.

He said there is a report of Malakal and that of Ezo county where the paramount chief is targeted, since the attackers are unknown, that is a police case too. The issue of SPLM/A-IO Brigade 2 arresting a member of Brigade 4 is an internal case of SPLM/A-IO. I propose these you need to re-consult with the Liaison officers.

He emphasized that today suppose the meeting wont take place since I was out of the country and my absence would make the meeting not to take place, even other parties wont accept since we are all signatories to

this agreement, he had to come, what they asked you for him to travel here , someone asked him to delegate someone, it is not acceptable in the party because what we agree here will end up in court and in the court including you and 4 of us will stand in that court if someone is indicted. Because we are a witness to that violation. Suppose today I delegate someone to come here, tomorrow he will deny it, and why should I delegate someone to come, he summed that he will not make any decision here.

We have a long way to go he said, this place was full of people but they withdrew because they started with complications here citing figures like 100 x 15 or 100 x 28 have been raped in 3 days, I don't know the rape case that used to happen in the western, it was complications, it was a false report. Now we squeeze them here in CTSAMVM Technical committee because this agreement was to make this country ungovernable. It is based on intelligence so that we continue in crisis here. It is very difficult to be exploited and we know who are the ones who make this one by one plus other countries who want to sanction all the South Sudanese, so be careful, read the agreements and hope Mr Jeff is there and can take the Chairman through for 2 weeks and understand the R-ARCSS so that the reports are written on who violated the agreement not communities, it is work of the government. Reporting about community X ambushing community A is not the duty of CTSAMVM.

ITGONU representative

He said as SSPDF, we kept silent and you may think what we may think



is contrary to what the other 3 parties are saying, ITGoNU is always talking about reporting since the beginning because we have experience of how the report is to be written, and it is what we have been saying since 2019 to date and there is completely no improvement and can not put it because the personnel are always from one country, because we are always claiming every year is the same thing and please we need a workshop to be done so that we know the boundaries and care about our mandate in a very good way so that others to recommend what we are doing here.

Everything is done with a purpose, CTSAMVM needs a purpose which is the interest of the peace and if we have to write this way now, other South Sudanese may not take us serious. If every month we are sitting and there is nothing we are doing, it means our interest is somewhere else, it may be that we are defending our material interest rather than doing technical work which we are brought here to do.

He said now if we say this one is to be trashed, this can be a good decision because this one cannot be the standard, we don't have a good English to talk, or we can have it written well again to represent the standard we need.

He called on brothers in the leadership of CTSAMVM that it seems the Senior Liaison officers are not consulted here, and if we were to say who wrote it, it may be a different person and the liaison officers are here to represent you and guide you on some of the location names. The mix up of names of different locations in different states is not a good thing to present to the Generals, and has no good military writing because a

report has one principle where the actual thing is to be mentioned exactly.

He said he talked to support what was talked, otherwise we are almost at the end of the game. We were continuing such that we have nothing wrong, when we return to our countries we will be commanded by the leadership of the respective countries that you have done a good job and be given another assignment to do it and with the experience you gain here. If you do it in this way you will take wrong models from here at the end of the exercise there shall be recommendation. So Chair CTSAMVM you are lucky but is good to see what we have been doing that there is no improvement.

ITGoNU representative

Informed Chairman CTSAMVM that he is shocked with this report because the situation update was not discussed at the JMCO, it would not be right to talk because as a member of JMCO everything is to be discussed there before sending to CTC, now the confusion happened here because of the mix up of places because they very far apart if checked on the map. Being in the CTSAMVM, we the liaison officers guide and coordinate everything and if the report happens to be like that it seems we are not doing anything but just sitting in CTSAMVM.

The demarcation of land is the work of Governor and commissioners, while the issue of Cows was objected at the JMCO and that it was already resolved by the court.



On the issue of NAS, he said they are fighting SSPDF and SPLM/A-IO in the areas of Yei in Western Equatoria, sometimes in Eastern Equatoria. But I want to put this clear because sometimes if there is anything that happens in the area controlled by NAS and CTSAMVM requests permission of the government to visit the area. But today to clear our position because any area under NAS especially Wonderuba, SSPDF is controlling only the base within the area, the barracks but the wider area is under NAS, so we will be very concerned of this issue, when CTSAMVM wishes to visit the area in Wonderuba, they should seek clearance from NAS because they control the area outside the Town. As we discuss about NAS we know what they do in the area but can not assure safety, SSPDF cannot give clearance because there are a lot of ambushes in Yei road, Lainya road etc, SSPDF soldiers are dying everyday.

He concluded that, CTSAMVM do not have responsibility to go and find out anything in the area because NAS is out of the agreement and a rebel outfit fighting the government. NAS should be the one to clear the movement not SSPDF.

ITGoNU representative

He Wished to observe that what everyone is talking about is the quality of the report which is the concern of everyone here but it is still okay since the report is for discussion because we are supposed to discuss and say which one is okay and which one is not okay and must be removed, it's a discussion, if there was a final ruling that it has to pass that is where complication will come, but this is a presentation and the

CTC is aqt liberty to edit it.

He said indeed with the quality of the report today there is nothing much serious and all are police case. Hopefully for the monthly meetings to be held if there is no strong agenda, it should be pushed ahead because if we stick to the meetings to remain monthly such reports will be expected because there will be nothing to report.

He said that what is making more confusion is that if Senior National Liaison officers are part of the report, we will be blaming ourselves, since they are south Sudanese they would have pointed out the locations clearly. The person making the report may not be from the country. We cant know which one to discuss and have not seen anybody saying this one I have a point or that, he proposes that the report goes back to JMCO and let everyone including the Liaison officer participate, it's a humble suggestion.

SPLM/A-IO representative

Some concern on the report as per quality is the concern, as we take the structure of CTSAMVM as a whole from JMCO, CTC and the Board. When this report gets out from CTSAMVM and is going to RJMEC, IGAD and outside the country. We are here representing parties and the country. If the report is not of good quality because there are spelling mistakes of places, it can be pronounced but with wrong spelling meaning some of the reports coming to the secretariat desk do not involve the MVTs, because if the MVTs are involved, they could be the one to write the correct spelling of names, like Loka Boma. This tells that the secretariat did not consult the



MVTs because we come from those areas and know how they are spelled. These are concerns when out there will be asked and it shouldn't be an assumption that the South Sudanese are like this or that, but we are together.

Also these vacated civilian areas, honestly when you go on ground they are still occupied, there is need to verify information before presenting here. CTSAMVM used to work with other mechanisms but now it seems we don't work together, like the JDB because information about list submitted to the president for further consideration, should be verified if it is true.

Urge to work together, Chairman being new, should remember that a bad beginning makes a good ending. Things said here are not that anybody is against you but you came when things are not good but strive to make them better.

FD Senior representative

The land issues of South Sudan are problem for the borders is very important for CTSAMVM to be aware and issues of Upper Nile are political issues between Shulluk and Dinka are political issues and can be sorted out in the state, other cases are; Uganda, Kenya and Ethiopia have encroached South Sudan land, as father of security need to know this.

The 2 people killed in Jonglei state was indicated as being in Malakal, there is need to remove Malakal and remain with Jonglei state. Also others need to be corrected.

He believes the report should go back to the be corrected with Liaison officers and remove the issues of communal fighting which is not related to

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our report then as proposed by other colleagues and hope they will agree since they talked about these issues.

SPLM/A-IO representative

He wished to ask about occupation of civilian buildings saying on 6 June 2024 MVT Malakal physically visited Nasir Wecyar Adieu civilian area and Wau Shulluk Primary School and Nyirol Waat Payam, the secretariat to confirm if these places in the same area and are really vacated.

RJMEC representative

Welcomed the chair to Juba as he is meeting him for the first since he himself had been away for a while. He came from RJMEC, is the chief secretary for the RJMEC and point person for all the work of CTSAMVM and RJMEC, happy to meet all the Generals here also. Have a few comments on the discussion he listen to well knowing he is an observer but as a family member is obliged to guide.

The issue about information brought to the members of CTC which is irrelevant such as inter communal violence, he reads the Daily monitoring report (DMR) and weekly summary of CTSAMVM also read everything that comes out of CTC and the Board. He appreciated the DMR because he knows the MVTs report everything they hear in the field to the Headquarter and when I read its just situation update and some of the issues for sure are not within the CTSAMVM mandate like inter communal violence and criminal activities. When it comes to issue of reports, when being presented here sometimes there are issues of names of places and had sent



to fusion cell one time to correct a name in Yambio when it was mixed with those in another country. Strongly believe that the issues raised here are of great importance because this is wrong information and if it is read by anybody outside the country, will take the matter as it is yet it bears serious implication.

The reports sent to RJMEC are shared to the Parliament, the Cabinet, the IGAD, the African Union, UNSC now if something is wrong then it will have serious implication and be acted upon, encourages CTSAMVM Hq to do their best and check the accuracy of their information so that we don't get any serious issues and also these information comes from the ground in the MVTs where there are national monitors who verify this information as the first screen of information, in the CTSAMVM Hq the Senior liaison officers are another layer to screen the information, also the fusion cell, the JMCO, the CTC, the reason why we have these layers is because we need to improve the credibility of these reports so that when they are passed to the cabinet and the international community they are correct. He said he also checks to make sure the reports are correct because he also has experience.

Sometimes when there are rotations from the MVTs sometimes the quality of the reports drop as we lose institutional memories but the best remedy is thorough induction training and the issue also raised about understanding the agreement which the RJMEC also can offer.

He said he saw in the report presented as per the figure of NUF which was said to have been presented in RJMEC plenary of 23 May 2024 citing the figure 53,000, this figure if it is graduated NUF can be correct but the

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deployed figure can not be any near that much. It can be 5000 more or less because the number should have been 55,000 and this figure is for the soldiers that graduated between 13 August 2022 and 14 January 2023, but will verify from the government.

Reports officer

Clarified that, matter on the current events as revealed by CTSAMVM was to bring to the attention of members how use of Guns is increasing among the communities during the inter communal fights, sources of these guns could point to support by any member of the parties, also guns in the communities need to be withdrawn if used to kill each other, in the end there was conclusion to activate DDR . On the occupied buildings the Wicyhar Adieu Civilian area, there is no building but the military occupied a civilian area which they vacated in 2023 but the verification has been done by our MVT on 6 June 2024 similarly the Nyiro Waat Payam. The deployed NUF figure which we received from JDB as presented to CTSAMVM was 3,777 which figure was disputed during the last RJMEC plenary, that is why we seek to get new updates.

Legal Officer

Clarified that the issue of reporting is not only on violation but also compliance in Chapter 2 of R-ARCSS because all these impact on the whole of the agreement (R-ARCSS). The NUF training and deployment are also issues of compliance. When we only concentrate on the reports we may forget to report on other issues which are important and they help in the whole mechanism especially in the whole agreement because we only deal



with Chapter 2.

Chief of Staff

Clarified the issue of spelling is a familial problem from the MVTs where there may be use of different alphabets or names some cited using oral tradition or names of places not on maps and these names are communicated by word of mouth and the way each one writes may be different.

Recently he said there was a situation where we had a name of a place which was said to be wrong, we changed it and still it was said to be wrong too by another person. This is a familiarity challenge, one way to arrest this is to put in alternative spellings when we have more than one spelling of a word.

Chairman guided that

He said that, according to the report, he tried to assess back to verify that there is a big difference on the reports, however if there are drawbacks or limitations or misspelling of names of places, it is our responsibility as CTC members.

Also the report is not only compiled by international observers from the MVTs but also there are other stakeholders like the members of National monitors in the MVTs so that a report has many elements, that is used to review it. So it is our responsibility to amend or re-correct the report accordingly to ensure it matches the required standard. The main issue is to tackle the background of the problem, the issues about the spelling can then be corrected. that's the advise I can offer.

Secondly concerning the report, let us concentrate on the root cause, as we monitor, verify and report the actual facts on ground that lead to perpetual conflicts to eliminate deeply the ongoing problems in South Sudan. Wish to inform all to concentrate on the main agenda. The international communities are looking upon our contribution on the peace process in South Sudan.

Another issue is about international observers who come to support the peace process in South Sudan including the chair, it is not in their own interest but its that they are all from IGAD countries and seconded according to requirements of CTSAMVM. There may be draw backs in operating in such arrangement which we should cordially accept and be on our side and we solve it together.

If we raise all the challenges there are so many of them but we should concentrate in looking for solutions we can make a difference. We have the same conflicts in different countries around us and it has a spillover effect for us also. Unless otherwise we struggle to solve the conflicts in South Sudan, it has a negative impact on other neighboring countries that's why IGAD thinks day and night to solve problems in all IGAD Countries in a peaceful manner.

The conflicts are inevitable and the way how to handle varies from person to person, group to group even country to country. And also we have a potential to solve the problem by discussion. This is South Sudan, let us set our mind to understand the problems and come up with possible solutions.



I really appreciate all the ideas raised here, how ever the possible solution is in our hands. Conclusively on the report issue, let us manage and re correct it.

SPLM/A-IO Representative:

Wished to reiterate that the issue of report can not be the Chair but the people who have been here because you came recently. You may be misled because people are going to tell you the CTC members are like this and that but because we used to argue with the leaders here not to manipulate what is going on. The South Sudanese are good people even people are not appreciating us and we welcome every one and don't segregate, we sometimes become angry when we see we are undermined. The report about Youth is not right because they are civilians and the military are compliant.

We need to go and revisit the agreement very well, and if anybody comes for ceasefire, then must read the agreement and understand it very well so that they can report correctly.

We need to understand our self, because we don't have any problem, if there is someone who comes from somewhere and says we have a problem, it is wrong and we are telling you as our leader. But if we say there are some stakeholders who are involved in the report, what kind of stake holders, are we involving the UNMISS and others. We are the people dealing with our mandate not any other who are not involved in the peace agreement.

The issue of names if not corrected will mislead the area and the report can lead to making wrong decision, you will understand us, as military you can make understand it.

Propose the report is referred back and corrected, the leader will not sign if not corrected.

The issue of appointments is a matter of the appointing authority which is IGAD, not to be taken personally, as South Sudanese we need cooperation.

Conclusively the report to be taken back and be rearranged so that it can be taken to the CTSAMVM board.

SSOA REPRESENTATIVE

Noted that the situation of children in hospitals is appalling, they are dying and yet the IGAD community and African Countries and leaders do not care about what is going on in South Sudan. What needs to be understood is peace doesn't come from nothing. The one who was head of CPA was President Mwai Kibaki of Kenya, but now what are the leaders doing, if we are here and IGAD does not listen to our voice. They are laughing at us because our leaders also cannot solve our problems. I know our leaders are suffering because IGAD is not able to pressure the Parties to take affirmative action.

ITGoNU REPRESENTATIVE

Suggest that the report be taken back and an emergency meeting can be called so as not to affect the Board meeting. And propose the liaison officers to sign the reports and bring it back here for discussion.

SSOA REPRESENTATIVE

Said he has seen as other colleagues observed there is some mistake on report coming from ground. When the reports coming from ground needs to be looked carefully, some reports from the ground are not clear. Sometimes the international Observers may not spell the names well due to accent issues.

Concurs with the guidance from the RJMEC representative because for the



report to go a head it must have quality. Also the National monitors need to be deployed where they are born to be so familiar with the places that they will be reporting about.

Chairman guided that:

The report is composed mostly from the ground fact, however as mentioned there may be some wrong naming of places, spelling issues and other discrepancies the reports officer to bear responsibility to correct all the errors.

DECISIONS CTSAMVM CTC on 16 April 24:

The CTSAMVM Technical Committee decided that:

Regarding the Ceasefire:

- The Parties remain vigilant, and take all necessary measures to prevent any violence involving their forces or forces allied to them.
- National Salvation Front to adhere to the Rome Declaration of 12 Jan 2020 and its follow-on resolutions.

Regarding NUF:

- The delay in training and deployment of the NUF goes contrary to the provisions of the R-ARCSS and specifically Article 2.2.1 and 2.3.1 on the training and deployment.
- The ITGoNU to prevail upon JDB to provide updated data in respect to the deployment of NUF and date of commencement of phase 2 training..

Regarding Occupied buildings:

- The number of occupied buildings to remain 9 as the 2 Occupied buildings declared in Sector 2 (Malakal) as vacated are still occupied.

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- Parties are reminded that occupying civilian areas is a continued violation of the R-ARCSS specifically Article 2.2.3.1. Parties are urged to vacate occupied civilian areas as a matter of urgency.
- JDB to develop a plan for forces to vacate the remaining occupied buildings and ensure they are deployed correctly.

Regarding the CTSAMVM Report 24/08;

- The Governor, an appointed government official, should at least coordinate and use proper channels of communication to ensure that such violent clashes do not occur in the future.
- The state leaders should at least use the NUF for protection and in the case of more than 1 official visiting the same area, they may consider using escort detail of the principal official only.
- The JDB to fast track deployment of the Necessary Unified Force to the affected area. especially the Unified Police.
- When incidents between parties do occur, JDB should take action to de-escalating the situation.
- Parties should remain vigilant and take all the necessary measures to avoid outbreak of violence.
- Parties should ensure that their forces are cantoned in officially recognized areas as provided for under Article 2.2.3.3 and 2.2.3.4 of the R-ARCSS.
- CTSAMVM should always be informed of movement of forces prior as per the provisions of Article 11.6 of the ACOH.

Regarding the CTSAMVM Report 24/09;

- The report be referred back to JMCO.



Regarding Updates and ongoing issues:

- Alleged attack by the SSPDF against SPLM/A-IO positions near Wunaliet, 12 February 2024. Since the Kawari outpost is closed, the task can be closed.
- The JVMM clearance for the Flight Safety Assurance (FSA) by SSPDF is difficult as the general area is occupied by NAS, the task of investigating Killing of SSPDF soldiers and resultant alleged revenge burning of civilian houses and SGBV by the SSPDF in the Wonduruba Payam on 5 February 2024 to be closed for now.
- JMCO to pay keen attention on Tasks and SNLOs to sign on reports to ensure reports being presented at CTC has their input.

Any Other Business:**ITGoNU Representative**

Request the meeting to look into the matter of closure and downsizing of the team sites, number of National Monitors who are affected. We wish to understand as CTC what ignited the decision and why and who took the decision.

SPLM/A-IO Representative

Said on the same note of MVT, when the predecessor was here but still expect briefing, the concern is the officers who were in those MVTs are now here in Juba, what could be their fate because it is not known how their welfare is catered for. Are they getting normal pay? Because it was not their choice.

Wished to also know if the predecessor briefed the current chairman on programme of field visit involving members of CTC to know the ground situation.

The Chairman said

The closure of MVTs is clear for all of us, as we are all aware most donors are not

continuing to support the mission as they used to do, most of them withdrew their support from IGAD and CTSAMVM. One of the measure taken from management of CTSAMVM is to downsize the MVTs. A few weeks ago there was a fundraising program through Diplomatic missions here in Juba, from the look of things most donors don't have appetite to support the mechanism because of a lot of cases.

The mechanism prepared so many scenarios and the last was to close CTSAMVM where by if closed there will be no reports, and joint meetings and what happens in the fields remain unreported. The best alternative was to down size which was not taken by CTSAMVM.

As mentioned before its better to concentrate on finding the root cause of the problem but not to raise a lot of problems. For example what is happening now, due to challenges of finance, CTSAMVM changed accommodation to reduce on costs. Indeed when change happens sometimes resistance is met but change is inevitable.

Indeed many issues have been raised, one about training, as chairman he believes in training and it is a very essential, important and crucial issue. But the problem is financial issue, but if there is support for the financial issue it is welcome.

ITGoNU representative

Great to know that since as the chair, having been fully oriented by the former chairman, have taken note of how best he will run the Mechanism after accepting the facts of the change. He wished to remind chairman that decisions in the CTC are to be reached by consensus. So the decision for downsizing the MVTs who took it because as members of CTC the decision was not taken by them.

FD Senior representative

Think we all know the agreement very well and the agreement has three



categories, the Parties, Stake holders and IGAD. The agreement on the part of parties is for consensus we have to agree the 4 plus the Chairman to make 5 people. No body is against appointment of any General from any country and bear no grievance with anybody. Here the people are very humble and don't segregate any body.

The financial issue has been cited as the cause of down sizing, why then insist to let CTSAMVM stay on if IGAD is not supporting you, the donors left CTSAMVM because of the reason they know, because they present to us in order to support CTSAMVM, we have to support their country's agenda. They give us money so that in return we have to support the violations, which we stopped. Why insist is the areas CTSAMVM has been renting are on community basis like Canada hotel, the rent of Canada and CTSAMVM Hq is very high, yet in other places the rent is as low as \$3,000. there is a lot of money wasted in Canada and CTSAMVM Hq. There have been many chairmen of CTSAMVM and I know how they operated. To spend more time and have travels is quite expensive to maintain the former Chairman, previously one of the Chairman when replaced went back the following day. Extra expenses can make the donors to run away, these funds can be used to maintain the sectors and keep CTSAMVM alive.

He said there is also another serious crisis because an e-mail was sent on complaint about the the Gender sector in the Headquarter, it is indeed a serious problem. That is the area which is used to hurt this country, they use the gender so that they report wrongly about this country, this is a matter you should sort administratively.

SPLM/A-IO representative

Wish to comment on the issue of gender, because the former chairman may have made this arrangement, you the new chairman you are innocent. That position is for South Sudanese.

Chairman Guided that

Pleaded to be understood because his reference is not individual but the TOR. The position of senior Gender Officer have its own stand, if anything is beyond

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the TOR it should be referred he can not handle.

SPLM/A-IO representative

Raised that if the TOR is to be followed rigidly even the position of the Chairman should come from another country. It may not be good to rigidly hold on to something which we have ability to change. The position is not for IGAD, there was a Kenyan lady and she was sent back and the position has all along been held by South Sudanese national. Now the lady who is there has written to members of CTC and it is their mandate to solve such matters, it does not in any way mean who ever is there should be send back to the country of origin, but stay in CTSAMVM. But make sure the leader must come from South Sudan then other people can be a deputy or staff.

Chairman Concluded that:

If any violations is expected or occurs you can mention to the RTGoNU what has happened and report to whom it is concerned with, if anything violated by CTSAMVM chairperson or IGAD, you can mention the Article violated and report to the committee concerned. We were not part of decision makers for that matter.

SPLM/A-IO representative

Said we were to discuss a point and then bring the other point of why you closed the areas and send away National monitors for peace. We have talked about donors, we know that these are the donors of money but not peace, we send away donors of peace because of donors of money. What we need to know is why send away South Sudanese who are the the owners of the peace? Why are you closing down or demolishing the structures of peace?

Chairman responded that:

The administrative issues given to the CTSAMVM and the political ones given but if something happens wrong then it can be reported according to the articles that is violated by us.



Even the MVTs after downsizing, they are working in proper way as much as possible by considering the constraints of the work we face so that if anything happens we shall discuss balancing the budgetary issues, by communicating with each other, that's much which I can say.

ITGoNU representative said that:

Said that, there are 2 National monitors who are not deployed anywhere and they are the owners of peace, we want to know where the decision is taken. We are working with the TOR which clearly states that decisions are by consensus. These may not be your challenges but for those who were here before. You need to sit down and agree to sending them away or keep them.

Even the financial gap for International Observers and National monitors is big. Even we can suggest to keep all the National Monitors and share the money to them all. If there is something to justify it must be written down and seniors must know, but now they have not known even us we don't know. We should be satisfied.

ITGoNU representatives that:

Wished to add voice on the downsizing, it happened when you were not here but you were giving answers based on what was written on papers, propose chairman gives himself time and understand the real reason why the downsizing was done, if satisfied then call the team leaders not all members and discuss everything after understanding. Because we are talking about election now you need to be well equipped with everything. Even finance now you can spread what is available for everybody so that work continues, Generals cannot be there if there are no small people. If you take it in a good way they will understand. To be strong you need to have people, always lobby for finances in all ways.

FD Senior representative:

Retorted that all the letters were addressed to the senior representatives after receiving the letter we responded and then we went to our principles they

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brought the letter to the chairman after that instead of listening to us, the chairman called us for meeting and went to Djibouti and brought a letter from the executive director of IGAD for the closure of the 3 MVTs. After that this letter was not circulated, and the executive director directed the letter to the principle that is the President and vice President of the country, and the letter was not circulated. I was called up to the senior to go raise the matter, the executive director has no rule to write to the principal of closure of MVTs. May be it will be different this time.

The estimate given to our government was too much, \$11 million and we decided that if our government is going to give that money then the chairman should come from South Sudan, so everything was aborted. This is what happened and the leadership is aware that they were not consulted.

Chairman

Thanked the Generals for the advise and promised to go through with all discussions with South Sudan's government.

The chair then guided that the secretariat corrects the reports with the Senior Liaison Officers before the Senior Party Representatives will be called to sign the outcome.

Date of Next Meeting:

The date for the next meeting; is **16 July 2024**

Meeting End: 1350

Signed on June 2024.



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Lt GEN RABI MUJUNG EMMANUEL
ITGoNU



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MAJ GEN DR. CHUOL RUEY KOMPIUK
SPLM/A-IO





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Maj Gen JANY KAWAY YOAKHOR
SSOA



.....
Maj Gen BIOR LEEK KUARENG
FDs



.....
Maj Gen YITAYAL GELAW BITEW
CHAIRPERSON

