



Opening Statement

by

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Chairperson CTSAMVM

At the

41st CTSAMVM Board Meeting

Beijing Juba Hotel

23 April, 2024

Your Excellencies,

Ambassadors,

General Officers,

Distinguished Participants,

The Media,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning.

It is an honour and privilege for me to welcome you, on behalf of myself and the CTSAMVM family, to this monthly board meeting. I am glad that our board regularly meets monthly since the beginning of this year. I hope our meeting will have a positive impact on the peace process in the republic of South Sudan. Thank you to everyone participating in this meeting, the honorary board members and the observers. This is encouraging.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

I want to take this opportunity to introduce our new Chief of Staff, Colonel Gabrielson Gummar. We are very happy to have you at CTSAMVM and we are fully confident that you will contribute your part to CTSAMVM and the peace process.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

The agenda for today's meeting includes the current status of the Permanent Ceasefire, the status of implementation of the Transitional Security Arrangements, investigation reports, and incidents and updates since the last board meeting of 19 March 2024.

Starting with the permanent ceasefire, CTSAMVM has identified no verified clashes, in general, between the parties-signatory to the R-ARCSS since the last board meeting. This is an impressive progress and we commend all parties for holding the ceasefire.

Secondly, no additional deployments of the Necessary Unified Forces (NUF) apart from the 6% out of the planned 83000 NUF reported in the last Board meeting, yet their deployment is critical for addressing security issues in the country and a prerequisite for elections. A Joint Defence Board (JDB) representative is in the house to update us on whatever plans are available for the Necessary Unified Forces. Hopefully, he will touch on the reportedly unarmed NUF already deployed to sensitive areas such as Tonga.

Thirdly, pertaining to the status of implementation, you will also receive an update on the status of the critical pre-transitional tasks of cantonment and training of the Necessary Unified Forces. Since the last board meeting, Cantonment Sites and Training Centers

Commanders continue to report the very dire situation with a lack of food and medicines.

Fourthly, there are two reports to discuss today: the recent establishment of a new Division within the South Sudan People's Defence Forces (SSPDF) in Rumbek, Lakes State and a Fatal Incident in Nasir.

CTSAMVM with profound regard to the road map of the Extended Transitional Period urges RTGoNU to quickly implement the remaining unimplemented tasks especially Chapter 2 which concerns the provision of security arrangements.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

As usual, CTSAMVM highly values your opinions and recommendations, so our expectations are as always that you conduct yourselves in order to address the truth and the facts by being independent, neutral, and impartial with no other considerations. This is the history of all of us and also will highly benefit the peace process of the Republic of South Sudan greatly. As always, I request you contribute your part which directly impacts the peace process of this country, South Sudan.

As we deliberate, let us remember that our actions shape the future of South Sudan. I am very confident that we will achieve the objectives of this meeting in the dedicated time. May our discussions

be guided by wisdom, compassion, and a commitment to lasting peace

I would like to remind our members that CTSAMVM relies wholly and fully on donor funding and appreciates the donors for their support. However, CTSAMVM still continues to encounter challenges that affect the effectiveness of our monitoring process which is critical as we approach the election period. CTSAMVM hopes that its donors will boost and forward financial support to facilitate its mandate in regard to the Permanent Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangement (PCTSA) Mechanism.

I look forward to a useful and constructive discussion and hereby declare the meeting open.

Thank you.