



Opening Statement

by

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Chairperson CTSAMVM

At the

43rd CTSAMVM Board Meeting

Beijing Juba Hotel

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Your Excellencies,
Ambassadors,
The Deputy Chairperson,
General Officers,
Distinguished Participants,
The Media,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Good Morning.

Welcome to the 43rd CTSAMVM Board meeting. It is my first CTSAMVM Board meeting since I took over office. I pledge total commitment to work and cooperate with all of you as we navigate through the peace process in South Sudan.

I thank everyone participating in this meeting, the honorable board members, and the observers for your tireless efforts in search of peace for the people of South Sudan.

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, one investigation and an incident report, and updates since the last board meeting held on 20th May 2024.

The permanent ceasefire continues to hold. However, CTSAMVM received information that attacks by unknown armed groups against individuals in different communities are on the rise. Recently in Western Equatoria State, there was an attack involving the Ezo County Paramount Chief.

CTSAMVM has further noted an upsurge of activities suspected to be conducted by the National Salvation Army (NAS) around areas of Yei County, where recruitment of youths to NAS has been reported. Additionally, suspected NAS elements ambushed a commercial vehicle at Loka Boma in Lainya County, killed its driver, and injured an SSPDF soldier who was escorting it. Such incidents affect the implementation of the ongoing peace process in South Sudan.

Since the last board meeting, CTSAMVM has received information that two more Battalions of the Necessary Unified Forces have deployed. This is in addition to the 6 Battalions (3,777 personnel) of the Military as presented by the Head Secretariat of the Joint Defence Board during the 41st CTSAMVM Board meeting on 23rd April 2024. It makes a total of 8 Military Battalions deployed. Other organized forces that graduated in Phase One have not yet been deployed.

The fate of using the Necessary Unified Forces for the anticipated general elections is narrow since deployment is at a slow pace, and the deployment of other organized forces and commencement of Phase Two training remains in balance. Cantonment Sites and

Training Centers Commanders continue to report a very challenging situation with a lack of logistical supplies.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

To achieve progress in our mission, there is a need for concerted efforts of all the stakeholders.

Although CTSAMVM still faces some challenges, I am confident that with your support, we shall achieve the objective of ensuring a faithful and comprehensive implementation of Chapter Two of the R-ARCSS.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

There is one report to discuss today which involves a fighting incident between the Unity State Governor's convoy protection team and SPLM/A-IO forces in Jamus/Barkur.

I plead that we focus on the available information and reports and professionally discuss them to come up with realistic solutions in pursuit of the implementation of Chapter Two of the R-ARCSS and most of all to the protection of the people of South Sudan.

Once again, I welcome your participation and look forward to your active and candid discussion at this meeting.

I hereby declare this meeting open.

Thank you.