

Opening Statement

by

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Chairperson CTSAMVM

At the

48th CTSAMVM Board Meeting

Beijing Juba Hotel

21 November 2024

Your Excellencies,

Ambassadors,

General Officers,

Distinguished Participants,

The Media,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning.

I welcome all the distinguished attendees to the 48th CTSAMVM Board Meeting. Firstly, I express my sincere gratitude for your continued resolve to attend to the issues affecting the peace process in the Republic of South Sudan.

We shall adhere to the standard Board Meeting agenda, focusing on incidents affecting the Permanent Ceasefire, the progress of implementing the Transitional Security Arrangements, and noteworthy updates since the previous board meeting convened on 23rd October 2024.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The ceasefire remains in effect in the areas CTSAMVM Monitoring and Verification Teams have accessed during this reporting period. However, incidents of violence against both civilians and the State Security Services

by armed groups continue to ruin the South Sudanese security landscape. CTSAMVM strongly condemns these irresponsible acts of hostile intent and urges all organized armed groups to engage in constructive dialogue to resolve grievances. This is essential for allowing the citizens of South Sudan to enjoy lasting peace and stability.

Today, there is no report to discuss. However, we express our discontent with the frequency to which CTSAMVM's planned operational activities have been constrained. Several patrols have been canceled or rescheduled during this reporting period due to procedural discrepancies. The timely granting of Flight Safety Assurances to facilitate CTSAMVM Dynamic Air Patrols is critical if investigations are to be credible and relevant. CTSAMVM urges all entities responsible for enabling CTSAMVM operations to extend their full support toward the timely investigation of allegations.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

CTSAMVM Monitoring and Verification Teams (MVTs) recently returned from two long-duration patrols—one to Maridi and Mundri West and a second to Yei. The MVTs visited a Training Centre and a Cantonment site and conducted specific verification activities. The findings of these patrols will be discussed within the Joint Monitoring Coordination Office and CTSAMVM Technical Committee and presented to the CTSAMVM Board during our next meeting.

Additionally, CTSAMVM, in support of RJMEC and UNMISS outreach initiatives, participated in three workshops. On 17 October, at Lemon Gaba in Juba to promote the importance of civil space and community

engagement within the Revitalized Peace Agreement. Attendees were updated on the current status, pending tasks, and next steps regarding the extension of the Transitional Government of National Unity (TGoNU) mandate.

On 6 November, CTSAMVM presented at a civil society event hosted by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Alumni Association at Juba Regency. The presentation focused on the mandate of CTSAMVM, the protection of civilians, and provided an update on the implementation of Chapter 2 of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS).

On 7 November, CTSAMVM presented at the UNMISS grassroots outreach event in Munuki. The audience included 60 faith-based leaders, and the discussion centered on the peace process - specifically on the unification of forces, protection of civilians, recruitment of child soldiers, and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).

I have previously stated that CTSAMVM, as a mechanism, has a framework capable of embracing new opportunities. Outreach activities such as these demonstrate the versatility of CTSAMVM to go beyond traditional monitoring tasks and actively advocate for R-ARCSS within South Sudanese communities.

I now welcome your active contributions to what I trust will be a constructive discussion and declare the meeting open.