



Opening Statement

by

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Chairperson CTSAMVM

at the

CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting

Beijing Juba Hotel

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Opening Remarks by the Chairperson:

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

Good morning.

It is my great pleasure to highly welcome you to this CTC meeting. I also want to express my sincere gratitude for your presence today to address the critical issues affecting the peace process in the Republic of South Sudan.

Honourable members, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I want to take this opportunity to introduce the incoming CTSAMVM Chairperson, Maj Gen Yitayal Gelaw Bitew. We are very happy to have him at CTSAMVM, and are fully confident that he will contribute positively to CTSAMVM and to the peace process. I kindly request that you accord him the same support that I have received.

To begin, CTSAMVM continues to conduct its mandate in monitoring, verifying and reporting on the progress of implementation of the R-ARCSS, while diligently reporting to IGAD and RJMEC. We should remind ourselves that CTSAMVM Technical Committee meetings are crucial to the peace process in South Sudan.

Honourable members, Ladies and Gentlemen,

CTSAMVM performs its mandate in some very challenging places in South Sudan. We remain concerned about reports of tensions in Tambura County, Western Equatorial State that has put the lives of many innocent South Sudanese at risk. We welcome the decision of the WES Governor to deploy a security force to de-escalate the tension in that area.

There are incidents of reported violence perpetrated by suspected elements of the National Salvation Front (NAS) in Mundri Counties of Western Equatoria State, especially in Minga and Wiro Payam. About 6,000 people in Minga Payam were displaced to Kediba Payam, Mundri East County, and Rokon in Central Equatorial State.

At the last CTSAMVM Board meeting, the Head Secretariat of the Joint Defence Board provided details of the deployment of the Necessary Unified Forces. There was not much more than what was already known. No police, NSS, prisons, and wildlife graduates have been deployed as of yet.

CTSAMVM welcomes the decision of H.E. President Salva Kiir Mayardit and his first deputy Riek Machar Teny. They have agreed to initiate the training of unified forces in phase two within the next two weeks.

Regarding the implementation of the pre-transitional tasks, CTSAMVM has observed no change in the status of Cantonment Sites and Training Centres. Commanders are still reporting a lack of logistic support.

CTSAMVM remains concerned about the continual occupation of civilian buildings by parties signatory to the Agreement. CTSAMVM reminds SSPDF to plan to vacate those areas and urges the Joint Defence Board to deploy the Necessary Unified Forces correctly.

Honourable members, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have one report to discuss today, which involves the alleged recruitment of soldiers by SSPDF in Mathiang Barracks in Aweil town, North Bahr el Ghazal State.

CTSAMVM highly values your opinions and recommendations. I ask you all to focus on the information and reports and discuss them in a cordial and professional manner. Most importantly, come up with realistic solutions to protect the ceasefire and the people of South Sudan.

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