

OPENING REMARKS

by

Major General Hailu Gonfa Eddosa

Chairperson CTSAMVM

at the

CTC MEETING

Juba

12 March 2024

Dear Senior Party Representatives and CTC members,

Deputy Chairperson,

RJMEC Representative,

Defence Attachés,

CTSAMVM Secretariat,

Observers,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning.

Welcome to this CTC meeting.

The agenda is very straightforward: we will discuss the current state of the ceasefire, issues concerning the deployment of the NUF, one Violation Report and ongoing incidents and issues.

There is little to report. Not much has happened since our last meeting on 7 February. So far as the ceasefire is concerned this is a good thing: there have been no significant ceasefire incidents in the past month. It is disappointing, however, that there have been no concrete developments concerning the NUF. Phase 1 graduates from the NSS, Police, Civil Defence, Wildlife and Prison Service have yet to be deployed, and there are no indications when Phase 2 training and deployment might start.

The formation of the NUF is a vital prerequisite for the upcoming elections; so far only about 6% of the planned

83,000-strong NUF has actually been deployed. Time is running out. Action must be taken.

On a positive note, CTSAMVM has evidence that at least some of those members of the NUF from the SPLM/A-IO and SSOA who have been deployed are now receiving their salaries. There were disturbances in Yambio last week when some NUF soldiers were not paid. This issue was resolved an all soldiers in the unit received salaries.

We have only one Violation Report to discuss today, concerning violations against civilians in Gondokoro committed by SSPDF personnel engaged in disarmament operations over Christmas and the New Year. Too many CTSAMVM reports over the past year have concerned the actions of ill-disciplined soldiers.

Discipline is a command responsibility, and CTSAMVM recommends that senior officers be held to account for the actions of their personnel, and that all soldiers are educated in their responsibilities within both military and civil law, and their obligations under the R-ARCSS to protect civilians.

There are a number of ongoing issues and investigations which we will discuss.

CTSAMVM MVTs continue to be very active in the field. This is reflected in CTSAMVM Daily and Weekly reports and evidenced by the number and frequency of patrols,

investigations and visits. I am very pleased with what CTSAMVM is continuing to achieve, despite the logistic and resource challenges the Mission has to contend with. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our International Observers and National Monitors in the field, and the staff in the headquarters, CTSAMVM continues to fulfill its mandate.

Be aware that CTSAMVM has now completed the downsizing you were informed about at the last CTC meeting. The MVTs in Torit and Bor have been closed, and their areas of responsibility shared between MVTs Juba, Malakal and Bentiu.

I will look forward to a useful and constructive meeting.

I now declare this meeting open, and invite the senior Party Representatives to make opening remarks should they wish to do so.