



**CEASEFIRE TRANSITIONAL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS MONITORING AND  
VERIFICATION MECHANISM (CTSAMVM)  
EIGHTH MEETING  
JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN  
FEBRUARY 4 - 5, 2019**

<u>DECISIONS</u>		
<u>ATTENDANCE</u>		
Chairman	Maj Gen Desta Abiche Ageno	CTSAMVM
Deputy Chairman	Maj Gen Tarig Abdelkarim Ibrahim	CTSAMVM
Representatives From the Parties	<u>Incumbent TGoNU</u> Maj Gen Rabi Mujung Emmanuel Maj Gen Akol Majok Nyigan Maj Gen John Daniel Kipa Maj Gen Thomas Gador Kic Wur Maj Gen "ndc" Wuoi Mayom Deng Maj Gen Gatkuoth Duop Kuich  <u>SSOA</u> Maj Gen James Gai Gatduel A/Cdr Ywodo John Otor Brig Gen Amos Amin Elia Lupe Brig Gen Peter Mabior Riiny Brig Gen Peter Gatkuoth Thot Bakam	<u>SPLM/SPLA-IO</u> Maj Gen Martin Gama Abucha Brig Gen William Deng Buom Brig Gen/ Dr. Chuol Ruey Kompuok Brig Gen Andrea Mangu Adala Kumer Col Ezekiel How Kuol Gatluak Col Juma Jackson Lasu Lemi  <u>FDs</u> Maj Gen Bior Leek Kuareng
Secretariat	Mr Louis De Leon Mr Joseph Chrizestom Onyango	CTSAMVM CTSAMVM
Recorders	Mr Dan Lizzul John Michael Voss Ms Sarah Mukashaba	CTSAMVM CTSAMVM CTSAMVM Office of Legal Advisor
CTSAMVM Staff	Mr Nigel Milverton Ms Sara Formisano Mr Michael Alexander Ms Cassandra Roberts Ms Alma Laibon Ms Catherine Nyakato Mr Xu MengLin	CTSAMVM D/CoS, JMCO CTSAMVM Civil Affairs Advisor CTSAMVM Chief Military Advisor CTSAMVM Chief of Logistics CTSAMVM Humanitarian Advisor CTSAMVM Gender Advisor CTSAMVM JMCO Reports Officer

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	Ms. Monica Lee Ms. Gloria Pita Kenyi Mr William Taban Mr Philip Serem Mr. Mohamed Adem Maj Endale Getachew	CTSAMVM Human Resources CTSAMVM Finance CTSAMVM Admin. CTSAMVM Ops / Fusion Cell CTSAMVM Translator CTSAMVM Off. of the Chairman
In Attendance as Observers	Cdr. Dr. Olaw Adiang Amadan Ceesay Ammar Ahmed Brig Abdalih Abu Oof  Mr Lars Andersen  Mr Henrik Lunden Joram Mukama Biswaro  Brig Gen Feng Bo  Mr Alan Boswell Ms Francis Collins Ms Sandra Zech Ms Nourane Houas Mr Martin Agure Lt Col Mark Hughes Mr Daniel Sherry Yuki Ikawa  Mr John Kuzee  Maj Gen Charles Machieng Kuol  Mr Charles Luganya Mr Robert Leitch Mr Jeff Mapendere Mr Erik Toft Col Eutyclus Ndegwa Mr Khalif A. Shabell Mr Timothy Timmons  Col Theodomir Bahizi Lt Col Atul Shukla Lt Col Mano Thangarasu	JTSC AU Embassy of Sudan Defense Attaché to South Sudan, Sudan Norwegian Ambassador to South Sudan Counsellor, Royal Norwegian African Union, Ambassador to South Sudan Defense Attaché to South Sudan, China ICG European Union European Union ICRC, Protection Coordinator ICRC, Dep Protection Coord. Defense Attaché to S.Sudan, UK 1 <sup>st</sup> Secretary, UK Emb., S Sudan Embassy of Japan, Economic Affairs and Public Relations Embassy of Canada, Political Advisor Observer from JDB  EKN RJMEC, Security Advisor RJMEC, Senior Security Advisor RJMEC, Sr. Humanitar. Advisor Defense Attaché, S Sudan, Kenya IGAD Political Secretary, Embassy of United States UNMISS UNMISS UNMISS



The Eighth meeting of the CTSAMVM was held on the 4 - 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2019 at the Palm Africa Hotel in Juba (D Day + 145/146 Days). All parties were represented as shown above. Meeting was called to order at 1023am.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Issue/Decision/Agreement</u>	<u>Action</u>
	<p><b><u>Agenda</u></b></p> <p>The agenda was adopted with amendments.</p> <p><b><u>Opening Statement.</u></b></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed the representatives to the 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting in Juba, South Sudan, thanking the Donor countries for their continued financial and political support to CTSAMVM. He also thanked the Party representatives who travelled to Juba to attend this meeting and noted that this was the second meeting to take place in Juba, representing a significant milestone and momentum for progress in the implementation of the revitalized peace agreement.</p> <p>He said since the last meeting, the Permanent Ceasefire was largely holding, and there continues to be encouraging signs of communication and cooperation between the Parties on the ground. He commended the Parties on recent disengagement in Bil Payam and Maridi. He said on 25 January 2019 CTSAMVM visited Bil Payam and met with the SPLM/A-IO leaders and civil leaders there reporting that the area was calm and the disengagement appears to have been successful. In Maridi in Western Equatoria, he said the SPLM/A-IO had moved to an area agreed with SSPDF 6<sup>th</sup> Division, 7 km from Maridi and that 'ground rules' had been set to allow both Parties to coexist peacefully. He also noted that CTSAMVM recently conducted a joint field visit to Yambio where we met with the acting TGoNU governor, the SSPDF and SPLM/A-IO leadership and was happy to report that the logistic truck was released and received by the SPLA-IO.</p> <p>He lamented that the Yei area in Central Equatoria continues to be of concern with continuing clashes between the SSPDF and NAS forces of Thomas Cirillo. Fighting was reported between SSPDF and the NAS forces of Thomas Cirillo on January 20<sup>th</sup> on the Yei-Maridi Road on January 31<sup>st</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2019 at Goja Boma between Kegulu and Umbaci and Kediba in Amadi state. There were also allegations of offensive military movement against NAS forces of Thomas Cirillo positions by SSPDF in Mukaya County on January 18<sup>th</sup> resulting in the displacement of many civilians. He urged the office of the IGAD Special Envoy to South Sudan to resolve the issue of NAS forces of Thomas Cirillo and other armed groups operating in Greater Equatoria and bring them into the revitalized peace agreement. He also urged the government to show restraint and desist from any offensive operations.</p> <p>Regarding denial of access to the CTSAMVM MVTs, he noted that the SPLM/A-IO Division 4B and SSPDF Div 4 were now cooperating with CTSAMVM in their area of responsibilities and that the verification tasks were continuing smoothly. However, he said there were new instances where the SSPDF has denied access to CTSAMVM in conducting its mandate as provided for in the agreement; On February 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 CTSAMVM team was stopped at SSPDF checkpoint at Kegulu on the Lasu road in the Yei River area. He urged the government and all the Parties to allow the CTSAMVM freedom of access to carry out its mandate of monitoring and verifying tasks.</p>	



Regarding disengagement of forces in close proximity, he said CTSAMVM was concerned about the lack of formal disengagement in the country besides Bil Payam and Maridi. He was particularly concerned about the situation in southern Unity State, especially around Leer and Rubkuay. He hoped that the lessons learnt from the successful disengagement in the areas of Bentiu and Maridi can be applied throughout South Sudan, adding that there was need to give attention to reports of clashes, unauthorized movement of troops, denial of access and disengagement of forces at the meetings of the CTSAMVM Technical Committee in addition to other critical issues such as Sexual and Gender Based Violence.

He stated that as reported at the last meeting, the budget constraints continue affecting CTSAMVM activities. He also reported that CTSAMVM was in critical situation since the 2019 budget was not yet secured and that since Nov 2018 the monitors had not been paid. He stated that the budget for the National Monitors to cover the costs of insurance and out of pocket expenses had been discussed with the NPTC, submitted a budget proposal and was awaiting the decision of the TGoNU.

He further stated that CTSAMVM was still awaiting the results from the TGoNU's investigation into the 18 December 2018 incident in Luri in which members of the Juba MVT were detained and abused by personnel from the National Security Service. He urged the government to complete its report on Luri soon and acknowledge CTSAMVM's right to freedom of movement and access.

He said this meeting, was expected to discuss the status of the implementation of the peace agreement, the progress of implementation of 7<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee outcomes including the status of the ceasefire and recent violations. You will also receive an update on community engagement and a briefing on the recent joint field visit to Yambio. He urged all the members to focus on the agenda items and to work together to resolve issues impeding peace and security in South Sudan.

The parties were then asked to make their opening statements:

**The senior representative of SPLM/A-IO stated that** he was glad to be back in Juba. He appreciated the work of CTSAMVM in the last two weeks although with very many challenges. He said he was also grateful that there was finally a JFV to Yambio which had witnessed many sticky issues like child soldiers, violence as well as the vehicle that was detained with foodstuff. He expressed concern that up to this point, CTSAMVM was still not restructured because the participation of national monitors was not yet effected and wondered how the critical stage of cantonment and training would be handled without the participation of national monitors. He said this was a challenge that needed to be overcome quickly because CTSAMVM would not have fulfilled its mandate to restructure.

He noted that there had been several press statements by NAS contrary to the earlier set official channels of communication, adding that the statements from NAS were merely propaganda aimed at scaring away the citizens, saying he was fully aware that there was no military buildup or even NAS forces in Magwi since it was an area he knew too well and that there was no displacement of civilians either in the last three or four months. He said such statements should not be encouraged. He further stated that out of the 240 days provided to implement the security arrangements, only 94 days were left calling for an evaluation of the percentage of success in this regard. He said he was glad to be part of a meeting the day before in which all the security mechanisms charged with the issues of cantonment and training were urged to



redouble their effort. He called on CTSAMVM to increase the pace in which the verification of forces was being done if the task is to be completed.

**The representative of the Former Detainees (FDs)** stated that he was grateful to be back in Juba for the second time and thanked the leadership of CTSAMVM for the good work done so far. He noted that in the past few months there was progress in the field of visits between the parties and community engagement. He however expressed concern over the continued exclusion of national monitors from the monitoring and verification process of CTSAMVM, adding that at this point the reports seem one sided. He said it was sad that the leadership of CTSAMVM was using the matter of national monitors as a begging card and asked that this be stopped henceforth. He added that since the donors had clearly stated that they would not fund national monitors then CTSAMVM should include them in the same budget used to cater for other regional and international monitors. Regarding the issue raised in the 3rd CTSAMVM board meeting by the DA of Kenya about the leadership of CTSAMVM he asked for action to be taken to have representation of other regional countries within the top leadership other than just the chairman and his deputy. He said positions such as the one of the chief of staff or the deputy should be occupied by an IGAD member country.

**The senior representative of the SSOA** observed all protocol and thanked the chairman for the comments in his statement but said there were areas that still needed attention. He said a lot of celebrations had taken place between the SSPDF and SPLM/A-IO in various places in the country and that this was a good sign of peace and example in trust building, but noted that there were recurring violations by the parties. He said it was not proper for parties to celebrate peace yet at the same time violate it since issues of SGBV, occupation of civil buildings and many others still exist. He also wondered why CTSAMVM had decided to prioritise only eleven locations of SSOA out of the 105 that were declared and demanded an explanation as to why all their locations were not being verified.

**The senior representative of TGoNU** observed all protocol and said on behalf of his colleagues from TGoNU he appreciated CTSAMVM for convening the meeting on time. He stated that he wouldn't repeat what the other party members had expressed regarding the fate of the national monitors but concurred with their statements. He said he was saddened that there was growing tension in the Yei River State and hoped that the parties, stakeholders and the mediators like IGAD would help to overcome the crisis so that a peaceful environment can be achieved in the whole country. Regarding the denial of access to CTSAMVM, disengagement processes of forces as per the agreement, the budget constraints of CTSAMVM and also the investigation into the Luri incidence, he said since all these were reflected in the agenda, they would be discussed in detail in due time.

#### **Approval of Minutes from CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting No. 6**

The minutes of the seventh CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting were deliberated, corrected and then approved.



## Status of Implementation Decisions

### Decisions from previous CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meetings which are still open: ongoing issues.

- **National Monitor Participation (ONGOING)**

#### *CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- CTSAMVM shall continue engaging partners, donors and IGAD to find funds for all activities including the national monitors.
- As soon as CTSAMVM gets approval of UNMISS for accommodation at the bases and life support and insurance issues, deployment of the national monitors should commence as soon as possible.
- Parties take into consideration the funding challenges CTSAMVM is facing and brief their leadership accordingly.
- CTSAMVM and the senior party representatives shall collectively engage the NPTC as a matter of urgency to find a solution regarding the national monitors.

#### *Updates:*

- This issue has been discussed with NPTC.
- A budget proposal has been submitted.
- CTSAMVM is awaiting the approval of NPTC.

**The senior representative of SPLM/A-IO** stated that the national monitors who are part and parcel of CTSAMVM had been in a hotel without any function for more than two months without a clear way forward adding that it was not proper to continue keeping them in Juba idle. He said it was time to make a decision on what to do with them and stop pretending that they were part of a system when clearly they were not.

**Another SPLM/A-IO representative** said he was concerned about the deployment of the national monitors, reminding members about the decisions taken at the 7<sup>th</sup> CTC meeting, but lamented that nothing had so far been done. He wondered why money was being spent on hotel accommodation for the national monitors in Juba instead of deploying them and urged CTSAMVM to expedite the decision on a way forward. Regarding the Liaison officers, he noted that it was three months since they started working, but CTSAMVM had not paid them anything adding that if they were indeed part of the organization, then they should be paid, or a decision be made if their role was not needed anymore rather than waste their time. He said that it was now apparent that most of the reports produced by international observers were one sided, citing the example of the debate on the issue of child soldiers adding that there was no clarity on the reports, and advised that as we move towards cantonment and training, something must be done.

**A representative of the TGoNU** stated that the issue of national monitors was of concern to all and that a lot of discussion had been made about it but without any solution, adding that unless the national monitors were deployed they would not recognize the reports produced since they would all be one sided.

**A SSOA representative** stated that the issue of national monitors was causing a deadlock within CTSAMVM. He drew the attention of members to the previous meeting in which CTSAMVM was to engage UNMISS regarding accommodation and give updates on the way forward in this meeting but that he was surprised that today



the story had changed to engagement with NPTC. He said the meeting needed to come up with a concrete solution or suspend the whole program. He also expressed concern about the violations reported and the source of information saying they would disregard the reports since they seem one sided.

**The representative of the Former Detainees (FDs)** stated that sometimes he was very hard but it was because he is concerned about the peace agreement. He noted that there appeared to be division within CTSAMVM, adding that it seemed the chairman was under pressure from the international community to report things they want to hear. He cited the example of SGBV which he said was often used to tag the signatory parties as violators. He asked the chairman to explain who monitors the violations within CTSAMVM establishment because he had information that the CTSAMVM Chief of Staff during a CTC meeting in Khartoum had sexually harassed another CTSAMVM staff, but that no action had been taken to address the matter. He urged CTSAMVM to investigate the issue and take appropriate action. He stated that the people of South Sudan had fought many wars before and agreed without the intervention of international community. He noted that this was the reason he insists the deployment at CTSAMVM should reflect regional balance and that those donors that are not interested in funding CTSAMVM should be excluded from observing the meetings of CTSAMVM.

**A TGoNU representative** expressed concern about the implementation process that was excluding national monitors. He said it was also wrong to sit every 14 days to discuss the crucial role of the national monitors then go ahead and sideline them, or to have CTSAMVM meetings without representatives of the parties. He said it was also degrading for the leadership of CTSAMVM to discuss the behavior of the members with their CDF and said it was unacceptable. He said the agreement called for the restructuring of CTSAMVM and wondered how long it would take for this to be done. He said without a decision on the national monitors, there should be no need to proceed with meetings.

**The senior representative of the TGoNU** stated that he had seen the update regarding national monitors but wanted to know who CTSAMVM was responsible to structurally; whether it was to NPTC or IGAD to whom reports were sent. He said the decision by the signatory parties to have CTSAMVM restructured to include national monitors was with a purpose, adding that CTSAMVM should admit that in the current state, CTSAMVM was not restructured as per the interest of the parties and therefore there was no need to proceed. He drew the members' attention to the concerns raised about the fate of the national monitors in RJMEC, CTSAMVM board and the recent workshop. He said enough time had been given to put things in order, but wondered what the way forward would be in the event that the NPTC does not approve the budget given to them by CTSAMVM. He advised that in order to show seriousness, the activities of CTSAMVM be suspended, IGAD be engaged because it was wrong to continue signing reports that were one sided.

**The Chairman** stated that he had no difference with members regarding the importance of national monitors. He said from the time he joined CTSAMVM he had always appreciated the national monitors as a source of access, guidance and advice to CTSAMVM. He said he respected all the comments of the members, and said he would like to see a continuation of engagements with all potential donors to find a solution for funding.

He drew the members' attention to the events of the previous meeting where an



initiative was made to contact the NPTC and that this was done, a proposal submitted and hoped a solution would be found soon. He noted that the engagements of CTSAMVM were not limited to NPTC, but reports had also been made to RJMEC, IGAD CoM clearly stipulating the urgency and critical importance of the national monitors. He said the accommodation issue was being handled in three of the twelve MVT locations and arrangements were underway to create additional space for accommodation. He further said that the deployment of the national monitors was also being affected by lack of insurance and that CTSAMVM sought guidance from NPTC and was still awaiting their decision as to whether they can be deployed without insurance. The chairman also stated that until a decision was made whether to deploy without insurance there was nothing CTSAMVM could do. He said the activities of CTSAMVM are entirely supported by donor funds, adding that IGAD only provides political leadership but not funds. He said the donors should be appreciated for their support and also continue engagements to have more funding.

**The Deputy Chairman** stated that a lot had been discussed about national monitors and urged members to refer to the agreement about the meaning of national monitors. He referred to article 11 of COHA, article 2.4.6 and 7 of the R-ARCSS which urges CTSAMVM to work including national monitors. He said it was not in the interest of CTSAMVM to isolate national monitors, however, he disagreed with the idea that CTSAMVM was not restructured, he clarified that the process was ongoing because the national monitors include the members of the technical committee as well. He expressed concern about the parties' decision not to accept the reports citing bias, but said since the first meeting of the technical committee, the procedure had always been that allegations are raised, investigated and decisions made together, adding that there was no conclusive report presented to members without thorough investigations. He urged members not to victimize CTSAMVM secretariat or the leadership for the shortcomings, saying the challenges of finance were the reason things were not going as expected. He added that CTSAMVM had no hidden interest in accommodating the national monitors without deployment. He further said the meeting with the NPTC was done with the representatives of the parties and that reports had been sent to other responsible bodies like RJMEC and IGAD CoM. He noted that the NPTC had promised to find some funds for the national monitors but to date regardless of the daily reminders, there was no solution. He noted that CTSAMVM was doing everything possible to fulfil its mandate amidst numerous challenges, adding that if CTSAMVM collapsed, other mechanisms would be affected as well.

**The senior representative of SPLM/A-IO** disagreed with the assertion that restructuring was ongoing, saying that if CTSAMVM was to implement the agreement, the stage of restructuring must be done and if there are challenges the IGAD should be engaged. He said they were not here to do desk work or research but to see firsthand all the actions taken in disengagement, cantonment, training and others. He said the notion that the agreement would fail if CTSAMVM did not exist was wrong because if the parties are committed to implementing the agreement, it would proceed with or without CTSAMVM. Lastly he reiterated the fact that if the national monitors were not deployed then there was no point to even attend such meetings.

**Another SPLM/A-IO representative** said the discussion on the deployment of national monitors should not be considered as a waste of time. He said it did not make sense to deploy international monitors while the national monitors remain in Juba indefinitely. He urged CTSAMVM to review the decision they had taken regarding



the monitors. He said regardless of them signing the reports earlier, it did not remove the fact that the reports were one sided because it lacked the element of national monitors. He noted that a restructured CTSAMVM should include national monitors and therefore IGAD should take action, adding that the budget proposals should not segregate the funding priorities.

**The Senior representative of the TGoNU** stated that they had keenly listened to the statements of the chairman from the start and deduced that the donors wish to fund CTSAMVM but were not interested in the national monitors. He said they sympathised with the situation and it formed their decision to contact the NPTC, however he noted that the communication to NPTC was about funding to CTSAMVM as a whole and not specific to national monitors. He referred to articles 2.4.5/6 and 7 of the R-ARCSS saying IGAD and RJMEC should be able to fund the activities of CTSAMVM.

He further expressed appreciation for the support of the donors and acknowledged that they have their rights in objecting certain components of funding, but wondered for how long IGAD would rely on donor funds to support their activities. He urged IGAD to draw lessons from the current challenges and work towards self-sustenance.

**Another SSOA representative** appreciated the dilemma CTSAMVM faces but disagreed with some members who advocated sidelining those who refuse to fund implementation of the agreement. He said with or without funding, CTSAMVM and the parties should proceed so that the people of South Sudan can enjoy the peace that they so badly desire.

#### **Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee meeting decided:*

- CTSAMVM reports as a matter of urgency to IGAD CoM and RJMEC that it is unable to operate as it should under article 2.4.5, 2.4.6 and 2.4.7 of the R-ARCSS without national monitors and seeks direction and support.
- IGAD and RJMEC are urged to find sources of funding for CTSAMVM in order to continue operations.
- If the national monitors are not deployed following the decision of IGAD and RJMEC, CTSAMVM might be forced to consider suspending operations.

## **2. Immediate Freezing of Forces (ONGOING)**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- The Parties continue to make every effort to comply with the agreement in this respect.

**Updates:**

- Apart from the area around what is known as Yei River State, CTSAMVM can report that the Parties largely appear to be compliant with this provision.

**The senior representative of TGoNU** commended the updates but asked how the forces of NAS (TC) would be classified? He said SSPDF was always provoked by



forces of NAS (TC) and yet there was no action taken against them. He added that other parties clashing with NAS (TC) were only taking precautionary measures to defend their positions or protect the lives of the soldiers.

**Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee meeting decided:*

- **The Parties continue to make every effort to comply with the agreement in this respect.**

**3. Immediate disengagement of forces in close proximity (ONGOING)**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- Lessons learnt from the successful disengagement in the Bentiu area be applied elsewhere.

**Updates:**

- CTSAMVM visited Bil Payam on 25 Jan 19 and met with SPLM/A – IO military and civil leaders. The area is calm, and the disengagement appears to be successful.
- CTSAMVM has observed that at Maridi in Western Equatoria the SPLM/SPLA-IO have moved to an area agreed with SSPDF 6<sup>th</sup> Division about 7 Km from Maridi, and 'ground rules' have been agreed to allow both Parties to coexist peacefully. CTSAMVM commends the SSPDF, The Governor at Maridi and the SPLM/A-IO for this initiative which constitutes disengagement.
- CTSAMVM is concerned by the lack of any formal disengagement elsewhere in the country. One area of particular concern is in southern Unity State, especially around LEER and RUBKUAY.

**The senior representative of TGoNU** stated that CTSAMVM leadership should write officially to the parties and the JDB recognizing and appreciating the efforts being made to voluntarily disengage forces in close proximity.

**The senior representative of SPLM/A-IO** stated that in addition to the appreciation, it was important to communicate specifically with JDB and JMCC on specific areas like in Leer where efforts to disengage had been observed.

**Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee meeting decided:*

- **That the lessons learned from the Bil Payam and Maridi disengagements should be applied elsewhere.**
- **That the Parties look specifically at the situation in southern Unity State, and work together to disengage in this area.**
- **CTSAMVM write an official letter to JDB and JMCC recognizing and appreciating the initiative of field commanders to voluntarily disengage and encourage others to do the same.**

**4. Ceasefire Map (ONGOING)**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- CTSAMVM should prioritize verification of forces by all MVTs and Sectors.



- SSOA Liaison Officer to accompany the Torit MVT to Bur and Loronyo to verify forces.
- The Parties provide feedback to CTSAMVM on all unverified positions in order to facilitate verification.

**Updates:**

- Verification is ongoing.
- Some SSOA locations are only accessible by helicopter. CTSAMVM helicopters have not been available for a few weeks, but will be back soon and we will be able to verify these positions.
- Updated maps are available.

**VERIFIED LOCATIONS**

Battalion Level and above	Declared	Confirmed	Unavailable
SSPDF	145	112 (+3)	0
SPLM/A - IO	282	59 (+4)	0
SSOA	105	4 (+3)	2

**The senior representative of SPLM/A-IO** observed that approximately 15 days after the last meeting, 12 CTSAMVM teams had only verified 10 locations, he wondered how the work would be completed at this pace. He said he was disappointed that the teams had worked at a very slow pace and advised that such performance should be reviewed. He noted that if the verifications are not concluded and the pace remained this slow, how would CTSAMVM conduct monitoring of disengagement, cantonment or training. He further stated that the opposition forces were barricaded in hard to reach areas and CTSAMVM should devise means of reaching them otherwise at this pace the even the government would be formed without completing verification of forces.

**The chairman** stated that the challenge had been with the helicopters but said the US representative had given assurances that the problem would be solved soon. He noted that the verification area was too vast for example Bunj and therefore needed an additional team as well as force protection. He added that some areas were hard to reach by road but on a positive note, he said most Div commanders were cooperating except a few, but that there was no clear information regarding the size of forces.

**A representative of the SSOA** wondered why CTSAMVM was slow in verifying



SSOA locations because prior communication had been made to the commanders on the ground but CTSAMVM had failed to reach them. He also wondered why only 7 out of 105 locations had been verified.

**CTSAMVM Fusion officer** explained the slow pace saying some numbers given to them were not reachable, that some areas were only reachable by helicopter, yet others had no forces available in the declared locations.

**Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee meeting decided:*

- CTSAMVM should prioritize verification of forces by all MVTs and Sectors.
- SSOA Liaison Officer to accompany the Torit MVT to Bur and Loronyo to verify forces.
- The Parties provide feedback to CTSAMVM on all unverified positions in order to facilitate verification.

**5. Cease recruitment and training (ONGOING)**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- CTSAMVM will continue to investigate and report accordingly.

**Updates:**

- CTSAMVM has not yet visited Makerdit to verify the allegations of recruitment by Maj Gen Ujang. We will follow this up.
- CTSAMVM has received fresh allegations which we will discuss later.

**Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee meeting decided:*

- CTSAMVM will continue to investigate and report accordingly.

**6. Parties will vacate all civil buildings (ONGOING)**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- The Parties redouble their efforts to vacate all civilian buildings.

**Updates:**

- No updates at this time, apart from confirmation that SPLM/SPLA-IO forces are occupying the school at ATAR which we will discuss later.
- CTSAMVM can report no positive progress

**The senior representative of SPLM/A-IO** stated that the issue of Atar had already been reported to the senior command and it would be handled and ensure compliance.

**Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee meeting decided:*

- CTSAMVM will provide an updated list of occupied buildings at the next CTC meeting.



- **The Parties make this a priority issue.**

**7. CTSAMVM will facilitate better relations among Party representatives and commanders in Yei, Wau, and Bentiu (NOT COMPLETE)**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- CTSAMVM awaits the decision or clarification from the SSOA leadership regarding the issue of the Torit MVT nominee.

Updates:

- We have no update, but will discuss the issue of the nominee with SSOA.

**The representative of SSOA** stated that the party still needed ample time to resolve the matter internally and report accordingly.

**Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee meeting decided:*

- CTSAMVM awaits the decision of SSOA
- CTSAMVM closes this issue.

**8. Continuing denial of access to CTSAMVM teams (ONGOING)**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- CTSAMVM urges TGoNU to ensure full compliance with the Agreement by all forces including the NSS.
- CTSAMVM urges SPLM/A-IO to ensure full compliance with the Agreement by all forces especially Div 4B.
- CTSAMVM requests TGoNU to resolve the issue of the NSS checkpoint at Luri.

Updates:

- SPLA-IO Division 4b is now cooperating with CTSAMVM with verification tasks.
- SSPDF Forces in Leer are now cooperating with CTSAMVM and allowing verification.

Incidents of denial of access:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Division and 5<sup>th</sup> Division SSPDF continue to deny access to CTSAMVM for verification. On 21 Jan 19 both Divisional Headquarters claimed they had yet to receive authorisation from SSPDF HQ, and this was reconfirmed by visits to HQ 3 Div on 24 and 30 Jan 19.
- On 19 Jan 19, SSPDF Div.6 Commander Maj Gen Simon Yein Makuach said that verification of SSPDF should be done only after the National Monitors are reintegrated with CTSAMVM. During the visit by the JFV to Yambio on 31 Jan 19 the commander of SSPDF 16 Brigade of 6 Division Brigadier Jordan Oting said he had not received any guidance from his commander.
- On 21 Jan 19, MVT Malakal conducted Verification Exercise to 04 Brigade at Kaldak of Div.2 of SSPDF. The Commander Col Daniel Deng, refused to give



the MVT the location of his units and the names of the commanders. MVT Malakal Verification Report 20190122

- On 17 Jan 19, CTSAMVM team was denied access by security detail under the command of lieutenant by the name Baabat, at the gate of 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, Tiger Division, SSPDF.
- On 30 Jan 19, MVT Torit while conducting integrated DAP to Narus, in Kapoeta East the MVT member requested the 122 BN, 1 Bde, 7 Div SSPDF, Commander to assist in completing the verification form but the commander said that he cannot verify his forces without authority from his superior commanders.
- On 1 Feb19, CTSAMVM team was stopped at an SSPDF checkpoint at Kegulu on the Lasu road in what is known as Yei River State. The Checkpoint Commander, Captain Luka Kumanda Ali, would not allow the team to proceed without authority from his commander, Brigadier Malong Agat, who he was unable to contact. Captain Ali appeared ignorant of the provisions of the R-ARCSS and the status of CTSAMVM.

**The senior representative of TGoNU** reminded the chairman about the meeting he had with the SSPDF CDF in which such issues were raised. He said whereas CTSAMVM was free to move around, the movements should be coordinated since all military establishments had restricted access to some areas. He said since the JDB was functional and they command all forces on the ground, CTSAMVM should endeavor to obtain a blanket authorization from JDB and JMCC. He also urged CTSAMVM to have a discussion with these mechanisms so that the challenge of denial of access can be resolved. He suggested that CTSAMVM requests the JDB and JMCC to avail updates on the information earlier declared and submitted to CTSAMVM.

**The chairman** stated that during the JFV to Yambio, the commander of 16 Brig denied receiving guidelines from his Div commander. He asked the DCoS to clarify on the meaning of verification of forces since it seemed to create confusion among the commanders on the ground and the MVTs. He noted that the responsibility of CTSAMVM was only to monitor and verify the information declared by the parties.

**The DCoS** stated that CTSAMVM only verified what they are told and what they see.

**The deputy chairman** stated that after verifying the force disposition, CTSAMVM would then send the MVTs to verify the forces and their equipment. He said he received complaints about the MVTs asking about issues like small arms ammunition storage, but said it would be corrected. He said this verification would help in the completion of the ceasefire map and urged the parties to cooperate with CTSAMVM.

**The senior representative of the SPLM/A-IO** referred to article 2.2.2(page 34) of the R-ARCSS. He said when the MVTs go out, they verify what has been declared. Armament should for example not have increased. He said members need to agree on what the MVTs are able to verify, but emphasized that we must follow the agreement as it is written.

**The representative of the Former Detainees (FDs)** stated that the issue of verification had been discussed and advised that the commanders should first declare what they have then verification can proceed.

**A TGoNU representative** stated that it was the responsibility of JDB and JMCC to request declaration of military equipment.



**Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee meeting decided:*

- It is unacceptable that the SSPDF continues to deny CTSAMVM access for verification. There is obviously no clear SSPDF policy on this because some Divisions facilitate access and some do not (3, 5 and 6 Divisions).
- SSPDF HQ should provide clear direction to Divisional Commanders on this issue.
- This continued denial of access is recorded as a clear violation of the R-ARCSS.
- Parties should submit to CTSAMVM updated declaration of equipment in their possession in accordance with the provisions of the R-ARCSS (*secretariat to review and provide the parties a detailed declaration form*)

**9. Dissemination of the agreement (ONGOING)**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- It is recommended that the Parties continue to focus on this issue, and where possible work together to facilitate dissemination.

Updates:

- CTSAMVM is encouraged by initiatives such as that taken by the youth in Torit who have been using art to explain the R-ARCSS.
- The Civil Affairs Adviser has devised a strategy for dissemination in refugee camps in Uganda which she will brief us on later.

The representative of the TGoNU asked what happened to the decision that CTSAMVM would produce a synopsis of chapter 2 of the agreement.

The Chairman stated that the promise by CTSAMVM was hampered by the challenges of finance and said if the conditions improve, then the books would be provided.

**Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:*

- The Parties continue to focus on this issue, and where possible work together to facilitate dissemination.

**Outstanding issues concerning allegations still open**

**1. Clashes in Mir Mir.**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- CTSAMVM should arrange a two-day JFV to the Bentiu/Mir Mir/Leer area as soon as possible to close the matter.



**Updates:**

- No further information.

**Decisions:**

***The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:***

- CTSAMVM close this issue.

**2. The issue of Detainees (Senior SSOA officers held at Mandeng, now resolved)**

***CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:***

- The parties provide updates on all other detainees.

**Updates:**

- CTSAMVM reported 3 NAS POW's being held by the SPLM/A-IO in Mudubai near Maridi.
- On 30 Jan 19 when visiting SPLM/A-IO HQ at Diel it was reported that the IO has 14 POW's who had been captured in Ayod in 2014. They are waiting for coordination with the ICRC.
- Do the Parties have any updates on other detainees?

**The representative of the SPLM/A-IO** stated that this was the first time an issue like this was coming up, but said they would look into the matter and if they are there, they would be released.

**The representative of the FDs** asked how CTSAMVM obtained reports or information from NAS, but this was clarified by the DCoS who said the information was obtained from the SPLM/A-IO unit in Mudubai.

**Decisions:**

***The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:***

- The specific cases mentioned be addressed by the SPLM/A-IO.
- The parties provide updates on all other detainees.

**3. Use of and Demobilisation of Child Soldiers, Concerning observations in Bentiu and Yambio areas.**

***CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:***

- To arrange a JFV to Yambio.
- Discuss the report of Bentiu at the next meeting.
- Parties to update at the next meeting on any information they have on Child Soldiers, and what they are doing to demobilise those in their ranks.
- CTSAMVM continues to monitor the issue of Child Soldiers and report accordingly.

**Updates:**

- Bentiu: CTSAMVM was in touch with SSPDF 4 Div on 31 Jan 19 about this issue. The demobilisation programme is ongoing, although there are challenges. A more detailed report will be submitted in due course.
- Yambio: JFV 21 Jan 19 – all the Parties said they were not recruiting, however



the SPLM/A-IO did say they are taking in "orphans". UNICEF were at the meeting.

Incidents of observed child soldiers or children associated with armed forces:

- NDM forces arrived at SSPDF Div.3 HQ at Wunyiik on 14 Jan 18. On 16 Jan 19 MVT Aweil visited them, and met with NDM Commander and his 30 men & 6 women. The NDM Commander said that their main purpose is peace building. However, **MVT Aweil noted that NDM had Child Soldiers among them and UNMISS Child Protection Unit (CPU) raised the matter with the NDM Cmdr. CTSAMVM DSR 20190113-20190119**
- On 17 Jan 19, MVT Yambio conducted DAP to Mudubai, Maridi and Araka village, during interaction with the SPLM/A-IO 2 Bde Commander in Mudubai, **the Commander admitted that they had 02 child soldiers as well as 18 children who are orphans.**
- On 28/29 Jan 19 CTSAMVM observed **6 apparent Child Soldiers as young as 13 with SSPDF forces** at Karpeto in what is known as Jubek State.
- SPLM/SPLA-IO Division 9B Commander, Maj Gen James Nado, confirmed during the JFV to Yambio on 31 Jan 19 he had 42 "orphans" in the Division, but would take the necessary steps to have them registered.

Incidents of the release of child soldiers:

- On 31 Jan 18 68 Child Soldiers were released in Yambio under the auspices of UNICEF, UNMISS and the DDR Commission. These were from the SSNLM and the release of the children was a result of the SSNLM being integrated into the SSPDF.

**The senior representative of the TGoNU** wanted to know how the MVTs come to conclusion that one was a child soldier, adding that if the conclusion was deduced by merely looking at someone then it would be inaccurate.

**The sector one coordinator** stated that the teams always ask them about their age and also compared with their physical appearance. He added that in their meeting with the minister of Education in Yambio, they were told that over 900 child soldiers had been released.

**The chairman** stated that it was difficult to ascertain whether one was a child soldier or not and called for the collective cooperation of the parties to comply with the provisions of the agreement in this regard.

**The representative of the Former detainees (FD)s** stated that the best time to identify the child soldiers would be during cantonment, otherwise it is difficult to know whether one was a child or not.

**A SSOA representative** stated that it was wrong for CTSAMVM to say they saw child soldiers in the ranks of NDM yet they claim they had not verified any of the NDM locations. He also wondered how the child soldiers were identified; whether they were found in uniform or carrying guns.

#### Decisions:

**The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:**

- SSOA address the issue of Child Soldiers in NDM.
- That all Parties should actively support programmes for the



demobilisation of all Child Soldiers in their ranks.

- That the SPLM/A-IO make enquiries about the child soldiers in Mudubai and in Division 9B, and that the SSPDF do the same about those seen at Karpeto and report back to the next meeting.
- Request the SSPDF child protection unit to brief CTSAMVM.

#### 11. Humanitarian Access.

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- The CTSAMVM Humanitarian Adviser will provide an update at the next meeting.

Updates:

- In general terms CTSAMVM can report continued improvement in humanitarian access since the signing of the R-ARCSS.

**The senior representative of SPLM/A-IO** stated that it would be good to be clear regarding the meaning of the denials. He said since it appears in the report, CTSAMVM should endeavor to aggregate the responsibility in the denial of access.

**The RJMEC humanitarian advisor** stated that it would be better to call it humanitarian impediment because it ranges from detention of aid workers, looting, harassment and others. He added that the details about would be discussed in the monthly meetings conducted by the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs.

**The senior representative of the TGoNU** concurred with the SPLM/A-IO representative regarding inclusion of specifics and wondered what measures OCHA was taking to have the situation normalized or improved.

**The DCoS** stated that CTSAMVM would not be in position to give specific details about Humanitarian access because the agencies are often reluctant to release details for fear of being victimized. He requested that the members proceed with the available information since there was an improvement already.

#### Decisions:

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:*

**CTSAMVM would in future only report Humanitarian Access issues it observes and verifies.**

#### Outstanding issues concerning old allegations still open

**1. Kpongo Killing 23 November 2018 – 2 SSPDF soldiers killed whilst hunting 100 Km west of Wau.**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- CTSAMVM double check the information on original allegation and report accordingly at the next meeting before closing the incident.

Updates:

- CTSAMVM MVT in Wau has looked into this and spoken to both SSPDF and SPLM/A-IO officers.



- The SPLM/A-IO deny any knowledge of this.
- There is no new information from the SSPDF
- The area is very difficult to access. CTSAMVM is unable to realistically investigate this incident.

**The senior representative of the TGoNU** stated that any issue regarding the killing of a human being cannot just be closed. He advised that before the matter was closed more information should be obtained. He said that in future, if the MVTs are not sure about any given information, they would rather not avail it to be discussed in the meeting. He added that such information could be false and aimed at tarnishing a particular party.

**The chairman** stated that since CTSAMVM was unable to obtain further information, he urged SSPDF to further investigate the issue.

#### **Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:*

- CTSAMVM will provide an update on this incident so that it can be closed at the next meeting.
- CTSAMVM will give feedback to Div 5 SSPDF who made the allegation.

#### **2. Abduction at Rupchak – the alleged abduction of 2 SSPDF soldiers near Leer.**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- To arrange a JFV as soon as possible.

Updates:

- CTSAMVM has made further enquiries but has no new information about this incident.

#### **Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:*

- CTSAMVM will provide an update on this incident so that it can be closed at the next meeting.
- CTSAMVM will give feedback to Div 4 SSPDF who made the allegation.

#### **3. Fighting between SSPDF and NAS (TC) on the Yei-Maridi Road (NAS (TC) destroyed Goli/Tore Bridge on 7 Dec 18 and the SSPDF allegedly conducted offensive operations against NAS (TC) on 16 Dec 18.**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- The committee considers how best to reduce tensions in the area.
- CTSAMVM requests IGAD CoM to engage Gen Thomas Cirillo and other parties not signatories to R-ARCSS.

Update:

- This incident has been rather overtaken by events. We will provide further updates later about the situation as a whole.



**Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:*

- CTSAMVM close this particular incident.

**4. Clashes at Kaikang 1 North of Unity State on 12 Dec between SPLM/A- IO and SSUM/SSUAF resulting in civilian casualties.**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- SPLM/A-IO and SSOA clarify the situation in Kaikang at the next meeting.

**Updates:**

- The SSOA and SPLM/A-IO are asked to provide updates as agreed at the last meeting.

**The representative of the SSOA** stated that there was no detainee in their custody because those who had been briefly detained were released.

**The senior representative of SPLM/A-IO** stated that SSOA should provide the names and dates of their release so that the matter can be closed.

**Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:*

- CTSAMVM close this incident, unless further information becomes available which requires action.

**5. Luri Incident – Detention and abuse of CTSAMVM MVT on 18 Dec 18.**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- TGoNU provides assurances that future investigations into alleged training at Luri will be able to proceed unhindered.
- TGoNU ensures that members of NSS understand the R-ARCSS and are also made aware that it applies to them as much as any other security forces.
- JDB is requested to clarify its statements about this issue, and supports publicly and acknowledges CTSAMVM's right to freedom of movement and access.

**Updates:**

- There has been no report forthcoming from TGoNU.
- CTSAMVM has yet to receive any clarification from JDB about the statements it made concerning notification.

**Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:*

- CTSAMVM will continue to investigate the allegations of training at Luri.
- CTSAMVM urges TGoNU (SSPDF and NSS) to expedite their investigation into the incident and ensure measures are put in place to stop similar violations being committed again.



**Allegations and incidents discussed at the 7<sup>th</sup> CTC Meeting**

**1. Killing of civilians and SSPDF soldiers at Tisharo (Gorom) 3 January 2019.**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- The SSPDF provides CTSAMVM access to the SSPDF officers involved with the incident.
- CTSAMVM shall continue to undertake investigations in an impartial manner by themselves.

*Updates:*

- CTSAMVM has not attempted a follow-up visit to Tisharo since the last meeting for a number of reasons including security and practicality.
- CTSAMVM has no further information about this issue at this time.

**The senior representative of SPLM/A-IO** stated that the incident involves mass killing of civilians and should be escalated and prioritized instead.

**The senior representative of TGoNU** stated that CTSAMVM had earlier expressed reservation about being escorted by government forces to carry out investigations and that the message had already reached the SSPDF leadership. He said the escort was done in good faith but if CTSAMVM wishes to investigate independently then they should do so freely.

**Decisions:**

***The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:***

- CTSAMVM tasks sector 1 to continue investigating this issue and report back at the next meeting.

**2. Alleged attack on 9 Jan 19 by NAS (TC) against SPLM/A-IO positions at Mudubai Payam in what is known as Maridi State, and the looting of the villages of Arak and Munari.**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- CTSAMVM will report accordingly.

*Updates:*

- CTSAMVM has investigated and this incident is the subject of a violation report to be discussed later.

**3. Movement of SPLM/A-IO Forces in Atar and subsequent displacement of civilians.**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- The occupation of a school and displacement of civilians – as clearly admitted by Gen Olony – are clear violations of the Agreement. It is recommended that the SPLM/A-IO take immediate steps to move their forces away from civilian areas.
- The movement of forces without prior notification is also in clear violation of



the Agreement, and should be recorded as such.

- The SPLM/A-IO are asked to clarify the situation in Atar, and if they are unable to do so now to report back as soon as possible.

Updates:

- CTSAMVM visited Atar on 21 Jan 19 to verify the Agwelek Division, SPLM/SPLA-IO. The Division, commanded by Maj Gen Sabit Daniel Orach, had its headquarters in the school.

**The senior representative of SPLM/A-IO** stated that the information about this issue had been sent to their higher command and believed action would be taken.

**Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:*

- **The SPLM/A-IO evacuate from the facility immediately and report back at the next meeting.**

**4. Alleged recruitment and training (including Child Soldiers) by SPLM/A-IO in Khor-Wai Payam.**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- CTSAMVM will follow up and report accordingly.

Updates:

- No update available yet. CTSAMVM is planning to visit as soon as practical.

**Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:*

- **CTSAMVM will follow up and report accordingly.**

**5. Allegations of military build-up and offensive movement in the Yei Area.**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- CTSAMVM will continue to monitor the situation closely.
- SSPDF should not react until investigations are carried out.

Updates:

- R-JMEC recently published a statement about this.
- Further allegations by the non-signatory NAS(TC) that SSPDF are planning offensive operations in the area.
- On 29 Jan 19 CTSAMVM physically observed an SSPDF convoy composed of 7 Land Cruisers and 5 APCs heading from Yei towards Morobo.
- This issue has been overtaken by events, with reports of further fighting between the SSPDF and NAS (TC) in the Yei area.

**The representative of the Former detainees (FDs)** stated that he did not understand how CTSAMVM received information from NAS yet there was communication directly with NAS. He added that there was a risk of picking up false propaganda from persons or organisations with unknown intentions. He said there was no military buildup in Yei as stated. He urged CTSAMVM to establish contact with Thomas



Cirillo in order to clarify the ambiguities.

**The senior representative of SPLM/A-IO** stated that in the previous meetings it was agreed that only information sent officially to CTSAMVM should be recorded but not media releases. He wondered how then CTSAMVM would register allegations extracted from press releases. He said those who intend to stir insurgency and create fear would always use social media and that such practices should not be condoned or such information discussed in this forum without verification.

**The deputy Chairman** stated that it was good to listen and note all information, however, only formal communication sent to CTSAMVM should be registered to avoid doubts.

**The senior representative of the TGoNU** stated that allegations of military buildup in Yei River state were unclear and the source of information suspicious adding that it was not therefore proper to include it in the report.

**The chairman** stated that the information about the buildup came from the CTSAMVM MVTs observations in the area but agreed that only official communication to CTSAMVM would be registered. He urged the parties to always notify CTSAMVM in advance before their forces move. He also said allegations from TC would not be recorded but their activities would be discussed nonetheless.

#### **Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:*

- CTSAMVM requests the SSPDF to explain why no prior notification was given about the convoy observed on 29 Jan 19.
- CTSAMVM will not consider or discuss any allegations from non-signatories that cannot be corroborated.

#### **6. Holding of SPLM/A-IO supply vehicles in the Yambio area.**

*CTSAMVM No. 7 decided:*

- TGoNU and SPLM/A-IO resolve this issue as soon as possible and update the next meeting.

Updates:

- Following the JFV to Yambio on 31 Jan 19 the truck has been released.

**The chairman** extended appreciation to the governor and deputy governor of Yambio and commended their effort in resolving the issue. He urged the parties in future to follow the legal guidelines and work with the authorities to avoid any such incidents.

#### **Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:*

- CTSAMVM to close this incident.

**Ceasefire Status**



- CTSAMVM can report that in general the situation remains similar to the last meeting – the ceasefire is holding, and there continue to be encouraging signs of communications and cooperation between the Parties on the ground.
- However, in Central Equatoria the level of violence is increasing, with clashes between the SSPDF and NAS (TC). The situation remains confused, but it appears that both Parties are mounting offensive military operations. It is becoming increasingly important to resolve the issue of NAS (TC) and other armed groups operating in Greater Equatoria.

### **New Allegations**

CTSAMVM has received 11 allegations/reports of incidents since the 7th CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting.

### **Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:*

**The new allegations and incidents would be referred back to the Joint Monitoring and Coordination Office (JMCO)**

### **UPDF**

UPDF forces in Central Equatoria

Observations:

- At about 18.00 Hrs on 16 Jan 19 CTSAMVM observed about 50-60 UPDF soldiers in Yei around the Youth Garden Hotel. They had 7 vehicles, 3 Land Cruisers and 4 APC's.
- On 17 Jan 19 CTSAMVM was informed by a TGoNU official in Yei that the soldiers were escorting an engineering team that was working on the Yei-Kaya road, and that they returned to Uganda that day.

**The representative of TGoNU** stated that his team did not have details since they only heard it in the media. He said they would consult and report back in the next meeting.

**The representative of the Former detainees (FDs)** stated that the matter should be taken seriously because such movements could be used as a means to move logistics. He asked for clarification regarding this issue adding that if they were there for a purpose then they should present agreements to this effect.

**The senior representative of the SPLM/A-IO** stated that it was only proper that CTSAMVM writes officially to the CDF and seeks a response regarding this issue.

**Another SPLM/A-IO representative** stated that such movement by a foreign force seemed fishy and explanations should be given as to why a foreign force was in the territory of South Sudan against the requirement of the agreement.

**The SSOA representative** stated that this was an incursion that should not be accepted and since the agreement was clear about such actions then it should be treated as a violation. He hoped the SSPDF can investigate and respond accordingly at



the next meeting.

**Decisions:**

***The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:***

- CTSAMVM requests SSPDF to clarify the presence and role of UPDF troops in the South Sudan territory and report at the next meeting.
- TGoNU explains why CTSAMVM was given no prior notification of this movement by the UPDF.

**Violation Reports**

**Attack on 9 Jan 19 by NAS (TC) against SPLM/SPLA-IO positions at Mudubai Payam in what is known as Maridi State, and the looting of the villages of Arak and Munari.**

**Background:**

- Mudubai Payam is SPLM/A-IO base about 13 km from Maridi in is known as Maridi State. Since the signing of the R-ARCSS the area has been quiet, with SSPDF forces based in Maridi and SPLM/SPLA-IO forces based in Mudubai Payam coexisting peacefully and communicating with each other.
- The HQ of SSPDF 6th Division is based in Maridi. The SPLM/SPLA-IO troops at Mudubai Payam are from 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade of Division 9A.
- In the eastern part of Western Equatoria State there has been information about the existence of a group of NAS, allegedly aligned with Thomas Cirillo. NAS (TC) is a signatory of the December 2017 CoHA, but not of the September 2017 R-ARCSS.

**Allegations:**

- The CTSAMVM MVT based in Yambio received information from the Military Intelligence officer of SPLM/A-IO 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade that at 05.00 Hrs the unit at Mudubai was attacked by a company-sized formation of alleged NAS soldiers. The attack was repulsed by the SPLM/A-IO, and two NAS(TC) personnel were allegedly wounded in the attack, but the SPLM/SPLA-IO sustained no casualties.
- After the attack was repulsed, the SPLM/A-IO claimed NAS forces looted civilians in two villages of Munari and Arak. A few days later the SPLM/A-IO claimed that in follow-up operations they captured a NAS (TC) soldier, and freed civilians taken prisoner by NAS during the looting of Munari and Arak.

**Methodology:**

- On 17 January 2019 the MVT based in Juba visited Maridi, from where they travelled to Mudubai Payam and Arak village.
- During the investigation CTSAMVM met with the Governor of what is known as Maridi State, the commander of 6<sup>th</sup> Division SSPDF, the Commander of 2 Brigade SPLM/A-IO, and 3 NAS prisoners being held by the SPLM/SPLA-IO,

one of who had been captured just after the attack.

- The MVT noted that there was good cooperation between TGoNU civil and military authorities and 2nd Brigade SPLM/A-IO, and that all concerned appeared committed to the implementation of the R-ARCSS.

**Findings:**

- A NAS (TC) force commanded by James Saki Paloko attacked SPLM/SPLA-IO forces based in Mudubai Payam early in the morning of 9 January 2019. The Governor of what is known as Maridi State had been given prior warning by Maj Gen Paloko and was able to warn 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade SPLM/A-IO, which withdrew its troops and therefore suffered no casualties during the attack.
- CTSAMVM obtained unconfirmed information that the NAS forces under the Command of James Saki Paloko operate from Rasollo, on the border of what is known as Yei River State and what is known as Maridi State. There is no information about any other armed groups operating in the area other than those commanded by James Saki Paloko.
- According to the NAS (TC) soldier captured by the SPLM/A-IO during the incident, NAS attacked 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade SPLM/A-IO "because the IO signed the R-ARCSS".
- Eight civilians were abducted by NAS, four of whom were later freed. The latest information available to CTSAMVM is that the other four are still missing.
- Estimates of the strength of the NAS forces involved in the attack varied from 140 to 230. A number of tukuls were burnt; these were observed by CTSAMVM.

**Assessment:**

- It is the assessment of CTSAMVM finds that NAS (TC) forces under the command of James Saki Paloko prosecuted the attack at Mudubai payam, in clear and blatant violation of the December 2017 ACOH. NAS (TC) is a signatory of this agreement.

**Observations and recommendations:**

- Unless if it was to obtain loot and weapons, it is difficult to understand the objective of this attack, which achieved nothing other than to raise tensions in the area.
- This attack demonstrates the importance of engaging with NAS (TC) in order to prevent further such incidents.
- It is recommended that efforts to engage NAS (TC) at the political level are redoubled.

**Decisions:**

*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:*

- CTSAMVM finds that NAS (TC) forces under the command of James Saki Paloko prosecuted the attack at Mudubai payam, in clear and blatant violation of the December 2017 ACOH. NAS (TC) is a signatory of this agreement.
- CTSAMVM recommends to IGAD CoM and RJMEC that Efforts to engage NAS (TC) at the political level are redoubled.



### CTSAMVM community Engagement

The CTSAMVM civil affairs advisor updated the meeting as follows:

In CTC Meeting No.5, it was decided that the Civil Affairs would include Refugee Camps in the awareness initiatives on CTSAMVM's role in Chapter II of the R-ARCSS.

#### **Civil Affairs adopted strategy to access Ugandan Refugees Camps:**

- **Governance** - getting necessary permissions from Uganda Authorities to access the camps.
- **Collaboration** - Coordinate/Involve Ugandan Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and the UNHCR.
- **Sustainability** - Liaise with NGOs and community organizations already working on awareness about the R-ARCSS in Refugee Camps
- **Assessment** - Refugee Camp preliminary assessment in order to plan the CTSAMVM awareness raising.

#### **Dissemination Challenges:**

- It appears that since 2016, no activity had been held by any Signatory Parties to create awareness and dissemination of the R-ARCSS, in particular Chapter II, among the South Sudanese population living in Uganda Refugees and Settlement Camps.
- It seems that South Sudanese Refugees have little knowledge of the contents of the R-ARCSS, and even less information about the Chapter II and Security Arrangements.
- South Sudan Refugees Camps in Uganda are mainly occupied by Children and Women, while men are mostly in South Sudan, visiting the camps on a periodic base only.
- The number of South Sudanese Refugees in Uganda is around 800 000 people, and the figure has not changed much in these last months.
- Unfortunately, after Yei fights in January 2019, it was confirmed that an increase in number of refugees was seen at borders, amounting also to 150 people per day, mainly women and children.
- Overall, among the refugee population persist the fear to move back to South Sudan due to a feeling of insecurity and lack of protection of Civilian Population.
- From September to December 2018, Ugandan and International NGOs in collaboration UNHCR run a few awareness events on "the need of developing a Peace Dialog and Peace coexistence among the various ethnic groups present in the Refugee Camps", including general information on the Peace Negotiation Process.
- The OPM (in Uganda) is supportive of CTSAMVM creating awareness about our role of and the Chapter II, of the R-ARCSS and OPM gave its permission to CTSAMVM to access the Camps starting in February 2019.
- It appears that the South Sudanese population in Refugees Camps is eager to learn more about the R-ARCSS and wishing to come back to South Sudan soon as the country will be stabilized and secure.
- National and International NGOs fully support CTSAMVM visits to Refugees Camps which will create more trust and confidence among the Refugees Population about the sustainability of the R-ARCSS. Also there is a perception



that CTSAMVM visit could reinforce (I) NGOs' work on establishing a culture of Peaceful Coexistence.

- National and International NGOs are willing to put more efforts, in creating awareness about the R-ARCSS, including Chapter II.

**The chairman** requested that the civil affairs advisor clarifies how these efforts were in conformity with the mandate of CTSAMVM so that members can comment accordingly.

**The civil affairs advisor** quoted articles 2.1.1 of the R-ARCSS and stated that the civil affairs department in their engagements only educate the citizens about the contents of chapter 2 and the role of CTSAMVM in monitoring and verifying compliance of the parties. She noted that her team does not discuss political issues in the agreement.

**The representative of the Former detainees (FD)s** commended the report but asked for clarity as to whether this particular effort was under the CTSAMVM mandate and why this particular engagement was being funded yet others were not. He said it was the obligation of the government and parties to disseminate the agreement and since this was being done internally then the same effort should be extended to the citizens beyond the borders of South Sudan.

**The senior representative of SPLM/A-IO** stated that since the activities of the civil affairs department were extending beyond the borders of South Sudan then the CTSAMVM Technical Committee should examine such activities. He quoted article 2.1.1 which stipulates what the parties should do as far as implementation of chapter 2 of the R-ARCSS was concerned. He noted that he did not dispute the efforts of the civil affairs department, but cautioned CTSAMVM not to overstep the mandate as required by the agreement, adding that whereas the initiative was good, the role of the parties should be left to the parties.

**The representative of the SSOA** commended the presentation but asked for clarity regarding the source of information and statistics since they are contradictory to the earlier reports that indicated that millions of South Sudanese were in camps in Uganda.

**The senior representative of TGoNU** welcomed the presentation and stated that such engagements with the civilian population was good since it helps with planning but said the effort should be concentrated internally first before extending to those outside the country. He noted that the issue of security arrangements was a responsibility of the parties and since the refugees were not under their command, the technical committee was not mandated to disseminate the agreement to them. He urged CTSAMVM to only carry out their role of monitoring and verifying how the parties were complying with the requirement of dissemination to their formations.

#### **Decisions:**

***The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:***

- CTSAMVM should develop a strategy for distributing the agreement in areas which cannot be reached by the parties.
- CTSAMVM urges the signatory parties of R-ARCSS and all stakeholders to engage more in dissemination activities



- CTSAMVM shall continue to monitor and verify the parties' activities regarding the dissemination of the agreement.

#### Update on Joint Field Visit to Yambio

**The CTSAMVM Sector I Coordinator briefed the meeting on the CTSAMVM Joint Field Visit to Yambio on 31 January 2019.**

#### **Regarding the SPLM/A-IO Truck held by the Governor of Gbudue State:**

- It was agreed the SPLM/SPLA-IO logistic truck was to be released following intervention of the Chairman with TGoNU Chief of Defence Forces and Governor of Gbudue.
- MVT Yambio reported on 1 Feb 19 that the truck had been released and had been received by the SPLM/SPLA-IO.

#### **Regarding Verification of Forces:**

- SSPDF 16 Brigade Commander (Brig Gen Jordan Oting) stated that he is still waiting directives from his higher command (6 Division) regarding the units' verification.
- SPLM/SPLA-IO Div 9B Commander (Maj Gen James Nando) stated that CTSAMVM had free access for verification of his forces.
- Both parties traded accusations about occupying new areas after the R-ARCSS.

#### **Regarding the issue of Child Soldiers:**

- SPLM/SPLA-IO informed the meeting that they have 42 orphans and the list will be sent for verification. Apart from that, SPLM/SPLA-IO denied any allegations of possession of child soldiers in his forces
- The State Minister of Education Hon Phillip Pia informed the meeting that: A total of 960 child soldiers have since been registered; a total of 814 children released through the National DDR programme but 146 were not yet released.

#### **Regarding Other Issues:**

- Although both parties are accusing each other, it is good that they are maintaining very good communications.
- The effort of the State Minister of Education Hon Phillip Pia in following up the issue of child soldiers should be commended.
- The Tumbura state government conducted a peace building meeting in Tumbura.

**The senior representative of SPLM/A-IO commended the presentation as it clarified the many issues that had earlier been raised about Yambio. He however expressed concerned as to why this particular area had recorded the highest number of child soldiers. He said he hoped the statistics were not created to benefit the agencies involved in demobilization of child soldiers. He urged CTSAMVM to conduct a JFV**

**The representative of the Former detainees (FD)s stated that the meeting should focus more on peace building efforts rather than trying to tarnish or incriminating the parties.**

#### **Decisions:**



*The 8<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting decided:*

- The next JFV should be to Eastern Equatoria (Pageri and Nimule) and this will be planned for the 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 19.

**Any Other Business**

**CTSAMVM working environment- Members relations and their impact on the R-ARCSS implementation progress.**

**The senior representative of the TGoNU** stated that the parties discussed and signed the R-ARCSS based on their interests and it was their responsibility to select the members they wish to have on the various mechanisms. He said this was complete and the parties were committed to ensuring the implementation of chapter 2. He said the members of the parties were in CTSAMVM to ensure the obligation of their parties. He noted that it was the obligation of the parties to appoint or remove any representative as they deem fit without the input of CTSAMVM.

He said the parties were still awaiting the restructuring of CTSAMVM.

Regarding the working environment of CTSAMVM, he said something needed to be done to improve the environment so that work can proceed smoothly.

He noted that CTSAMVM had organized a workshop with all other security mechanisms but wondered why the parties were not informed or involved.

He said if such actions continue, it could be perceived differently and could affect negatively the performance of the members. He emphasized the need for mutual respect and team work other than being viewed as threats or obstacles to others.

**The representative of the Former detainees (FD)s** stated that having listened to the TGoNU senior representative regarding the perception towards members, he said he was not a threat to anyone but that he was always candid in his presentation as can be confirmed by all his contemporaries. He said his concern about his personal security was formed by the fact that he had been in various sensitive positions in the army and government before and also the disagreement he had with his superiors.

He wondered why the chairman went ahead to hire a protocol officer from Ethiopia instead of someone like Atif who had already demonstrated ability to perform.

**The SPLM/A-IO representative** urged CTSAMVM to consider hiring Atif since he always facilitated their travel to and from Khartoum and that since they would be travelling to Juba often for the Technical committee meetings, they need his services.

**Another TGoNU representative** said that the points raised by his senior were issues they identified as not moving well. He said they were all proud to be members of the CTC and deservedly so but said the manner in which they were being treated was not good. He noted that the chairman should not discuss their behavior during meetings with their CDF because it was degrading to them as highly trained military officers.

**The chairman** stated that the issue of national monitors had been discussed and challenges presented and that CTSAMVM was awaiting guidance from NPTC, RJMEC and IGAD CoM.

Regarding the issue of the workshop, he said CTSAMVM had not arranged any



workshop but were instead invited by RJMEC to attend a workshop and he had asked the deputy to represent him together with the secretariat to present on the issues that were required from CTSAMVM. He noted that he did not perceive any member as a threat because he acknowledged the contributions of all members and assured members that he would guide CTSAMVM with clarity and transparency. Regarding the issue of Atif, he said he appreciates the good work he had done but had failed to find the funds and mechanism to hire him. He asked the members to avail him time to figure out how to handle the matter. The chairman further stated that it was within his mandate to inform the regional CDFs about the behavior of members and seek guidance especially on sticky issues such as the meeting venue among others.

**The deputy chairman** appreciated the comments of the members noting that his experience in the armed forces have shaped the way he handles the members of the different parties and the implementation process as a whole. Regarding the issue of the workshop, he said CTSAMVM was invited by RJMEC to present on the role of CTSAMVM in the implementation of the agreement, refuting the allegation that CTSAMVM had organized a workshop and not invited members of the CTC. He said he was confident that the direction the leadership of CTSAMVM was taking was good, but in case there were mistakes made, they would be corrected. He suggested that the chairman be given time to figure out the issue of hiring or facilitating Atif.

**The senior representative of the SPLM/A-IO** stated that a date should be suggested about the JFV to Eastern Equatoria so that the parties can plan accordingly. He made a proposal for 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

**The date of the next CTSAMVM Technical Committee meeting shall be on 21-22 February in Juba.**

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Maj Gen RABI MUJUNG EMMANUEL  
Incumbent TGoNU

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Maj Gen MARTIN GAMA ABUCHA  
SPLM/SPLA-IO

.....  
Maj Gen JAMES GAI GATDUEL  
SSOA (Acting Team Leader)

.....  
Maj Gen BIOR LEEK KUARENG  
FDs

.....  
Maj Gen DESTA ABICHE AGENO  
CHAIRMAN CTSAMVM