



Opening Statement

by

Maj Gen Teshome Anagawe Ayana

Chairperson CTSAMVM

at the

CTSAMVM Technical Committee

Meeting 04/26

Beijing Juba Hotel

21 May 2026

**Dear Senior Party Representatives and CTC members,
IGAD Representative,
RJMEC Representative,
Defense Attachés,
Observers,
Media,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Good morning, distinguished members of the Technical Committee, welcome to the fourth CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting of 2026. Today's agenda is brief but important. We will begin with opening remarks, followed by a security update, and then proceed to the presentation and discussion of two violation reports. I would also like to take this opportunity to highlight key concerns regarding the implementation of the Permanent Ceasefire and update you on CTSAMVM's activities since our last meeting.

Esteemed Party Representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The security situation across the country remains volatile and unpredictable. In many areas, insecurity continues to undermine confidence among communities and hinder the full implementation of Chapter II of the Revitalized Peace Agreement.

At our previous meeting, we expressed concern that not enough was being done to prevent renewed violence. In this regard, the situation along the Ulang–Nasir corridor remains highly volatile. Movement in that area is still unsafe, affecting civilians, humanitarian workers, and commercial transport. This has significantly limited humanitarian access and the delivery of much-needed assistance.

We are also seeing increased humanitarian pressure, with more than 10,000 returnees gradually arriving from Sudan, alongside approximately 400 refugees who have recently crossed into South Sudan seeking safety and support. These individuals are currently being hosted at Blue Card Camp in Malakal while awaiting onward transportation.

In Western Bahr el Ghazal, following the killing of an unarmed SPLM/A-IO soldier by an armed group on 11 April 2026, concerns remain high. Civilians around Natabo Check Point in Wau fled their homes due to fears that armed groups may carry out further acts of violence. CTSAMVM continues to closely monitor and follow up on this matter.

During the month of April 2026, CTSAMVM recorded 29 new allegations of ceasefire violations. What is particularly concerning is that these incidents continue to occur in the same already fragile areas, especially in Upper Nile State, which remains one of our main areas of concern.

Esteemed Party Representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me now to briefly update you on our operational activities.

From 4 to 8 May 2026, Monitoring and Verification Team (MVT) Wau conducted a Long Duration Patrol to Bazia Payam in Wau County, Western Bahr el Ghazal State, to investigate the reported clashes at Boo Bridge involving signatory parties.

Looking ahead:

Monitoring and Verification Team (MVT) Malakal is planning to conduct a Long Dynamic Aerial Patrol to Ulang County in June 2026 to investigate multiple reported violations;

Monitoring and Verification Team (MVT) Juba will conduct Long Duration Patrol to Kapoeta, in Eastern Equatoria State, in the month of June 2026 to investigate reported ceasefire violations;

Monitoring and Verification Team (MVT) Malakal will also conduct another Long Dynamic Aerial Patrol to Nasir County in June 2026 similarly to investigate reported ceasefire violations in the area.

Additionally, the planned Monitoring and Verification Team (MVT) Juba patrol to Yambio, originally scheduled for 17 to 21 May, has been rescheduled to a later date in June 2026 due to UNMISS aircraft capacity limitations.

On the diplomatic front, CTSAMVM has continued engaging key partners.

On the 7 May 2026, I met the Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan in charge of the Service Cluster and Chairman of the SSOA alliance to extend views on matters of mutual concern, strengthen coordination and explore practical modalities for sustaining cooperation between CTSAMVM and the Government during this critical phase of the peace process.

On 15 May 2026, I met H.E. Pelle Enersson, Ambassador of the European Union to South Sudan, to discuss the security situation and CTSAMVM's operational challenges. He reaffirmed the EU's strong support for our mandate and stressed the importance of accountability for ceasefire violations.

On Tuesday 19 May 2026, I also met H.E. Aleksandr Kosmodemyansky, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to South Sudan, and briefed him on developments in the peace process and the challenges CTSAMVM continues to face. He acknowledged the importance of implementing the Peace Agreement and he reaffirmed Russia's commitments to the people of South Sudan.

Esteemed Party Representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today, we will consider two reports:

First, a report about the clashes between SSPDF and SPLM/A-IO forces in Bazia Payam, Western Bahr el Ghazal that occurred on 8–9 April 2026; and secondly, a report on the alleged arrest and detention of wives and relatives of SPLM/A-IO commanders in Torit County that occurred on 14 March 2026. These cases remind us once again that the peace process remains volatile and requires renewed commitment from all Parties.

CTSAMVM therefore reiterates the following recommendations:

First, all Parties must strictly adhere to the provisions of the Permanent Ceasefire and immediately cease all hostilities, ambushes, and provocative military movements.

Second, both SSPDF and SPLM/A-IO should strengthen command and control over their forces and affiliated armed groups, while expanding joint patrols and local verification mechanisms in known hotspots.

Third, leadership on both sides must issue clear instructions to commanders and troops prohibiting attacks, retaliation, looting, and destruction of civilian property, and ensure accountability where violations occur.

Finally, all Parties must strengthen compliance with commitments related to civilian protection and due process in all security operations as well as oversight bodies including reactivation of the Joint Defence Board (JDB).

Esteemed Party Representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen,

CTSAMVM remains fully committed to its mandate. We will continue to monitor, verify, and report violations professionally, impartially, and with dedication.

With those remarks, I now formally declare this meeting open and invite Party Representatives to deliver their statements.

Thank you.