



# Opening Statement

by

Maj Gen Teshome Anagawe Ayana

Chairperson CTSAMVM

On the occasion of the

57<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Board Meeting

Beijing Juba Hotel

30 June 2026

**Your Excellencies  
Ambassadors,  
General officers,  
Distinguished participants,  
The Media,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**Good morning.**

A warm welcome to you all to the 57<sup>th</sup> CTSAMVM Board Meeting.

These meetings provide an important opportunity for us to review progress, assess emerging security developments, and collectively identify practical measures to address the challenges facing the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS).

Our continued engagement reflects our shared responsibility to promote accountability, strengthen cooperation, and advance the implementation of the Permanent Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements.

Today's agenda will include an update on the status of the Permanent Ceasefire and the implementation of the Transitional Security Arrangements, ongoing monitoring and verification activities, and the consideration of two violation reports.

The first report is about the aerial bombardments in civilian-populated areas of Panyijiar County, Unity State, on 23–24 June and 6 July 2025, as well as related incidents in Pachenjock Payam and at Kotlier Checkpoint along the Nile River. The second report is on the attacks by SPLM/A-IO forces and White Army on Ulang County Headquarters and SSPDF positions in Upper Nile State between 21 and 24 February 2026.

While these reports represent only a portion of the cases investigated by CTSAMVM, they too represent the continuing need for all Parties to uphold the Permanent Ceasefire and fully comply with the provisions of the Revitalized Agreement.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Allow me now to provide an overview of the prevailing security situation.

The security situation across the country has not changed significantly and remains unpredictable, with prevailing conditions continuing to pose challenges to the full implementation of Chapter II of the Revitalized Peace Agreement. During the reporting period, a number of incidents of concern were recorded.

Continued confrontations between two major signatory Parties remain a significant challenge to the peace process. CTSAMVM acknowledges the 8 Battalions of Necessary Unified Forces deployed but it has not been fully established as unified forces.

During the reporting period, CTSAMVM recorded several incidents of concern.

On 22 May 2026, a civilian was reportedly killed by unidentified armed criminals along the route between the SPLM/A-IO-controlled Biringi Checkpoint and the SSPDF-controlled Natabu Checkpoint in Baggari Payam, Wau County, Western Bahr el Ghazal State.

On 25 May 2026, SSPDF forces conducted military operations in Guat Payam, Leer County, Unity State, resulting in the death of a 15-year-old student in Lual Village and injuries to three other civilians.

Later that day, suspected SPLM/A-IO forces attacked the Kendila Bridge construction site in Gulumbi Payam, Morobo County, Central Equatoria State. The attack resulted in the deaths of three construction company employees, along with several SSPDF personnel providing security at the site.

In a separate incident on 1 June 2026, an SSPDF soldier from Burabiey Barracks who had gone to collect firewood was reportedly ambushed, captured, and subsequently killed by SPLM/A-IO forces near the barracks.

These incidents demonstrate the continued volatility of the security environment and reinforce the need for sustained confidence-building among the Parties.

In this regard, CTSAMVM welcomes the press release issued on 26 May 2026 by the Chief of Defence Forces of the SSPDF reaffirming the SSPDF's commitment to the R-ARCSS and the peace process.

We encourage all Parties to demonstrate a similar commitment by exercising maximum restraint, engaging in constructive dialogue, and fully adhering to the Permanent Ceasefire.

Since the current Chief of Defence forces assumed SSPDF leadership, there is noted reduction in hostilities across the country. Sustained political will and confidence-building measures remain essential to preserving the gains achieved under the peace process and creating conditions conducive to the full implementation of Chapter II of the Revitalized Agreement.

CTSAMVM will continue to monitor, verify, and investigate reported incidents in accordance with its mandate and present impartial findings through the established mechanisms.

## **Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Allow me now to provide a brief update on our operational activities.

From 10 to 14 June 2026, Monitoring and Verification Team (MVT) Malakal conducted a Long Dynamic Air Patrol to Ulang County, Upper Nile State, to investigate:

- Attacks by SPLM/A-IO forces and the White Army at Ulang County Headquarters as well as various SSPDF positions in February 2026,
- Reported clashes involving the SSPDF, White Army, and SPLM/A-IO in July 2025.

The MVT (Malakal) concluded another Long Dynamic Air Patrol to Nasir County to investigate reported ceasefire violations on 29<sup>th</sup> June.

MVT Juba had planned a Long Duration Patrol to Kapoeta in Eastern Equatoria State to investigate reported violations; however, this activity has been rescheduled pending aircraft availability. The previously postponed patrol to Makpandu in Yambio will likewise be undertaken once logistical arrangements are finalized.

CTSAMVM also participated in the joint conference organized by the South Sudan Center for Strategic and Policy Studies (CSPS) and the UNMISS Political Affairs Department, held in Juba from 24–26 June 2026 under the theme, "Breaking the Cycle of Perpetual Transition in South Sudan: A Critical Assessment of Peace Prospects and Processes." CTSAMVM shared experiences and perspectives on ceasefire monitoring, implementation of the Transitional Security Arrangements, and practical measures to strengthen the peace process.

I am pleased to inform you of the participation of the CTSAMVM Gender representative in the European Conference on Politics and Gender (ECPG), held at Newcastle University in the United Kingdom from 15 to 17 June.

The conference provided an important platform for exchanging knowledge on gender equality, the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, gender-based violence, and inclusive peacebuilding. The lessons gained will further strengthen CTSAMVM's efforts to mainstream gender perspectives into its monitoring, verification, and reporting activities in support of the implementation of the Revitalized Peace Agreement.

CTSAMVM has also continued to strengthen its engagement with key partners. On 3 June 2026, I met with the Chief of Defence Forces of the Republic of Kenya to express our appreciation for Kenya's longstanding support to CTSAMVM and its mandate. He reaffirmed continued commitment to supporting CTSAMVM's activities.

### **Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Based on the reports we will discuss today, CTSAMVM recommends the following:

- All signatory Parties to the R-ARCSS direct their respective commanders to immediately cease hostilities, prevent retaliatory actions, and ensure full compliance with the Permanent Ceasefire and the provisions for the protection of civilians.
- The Joint Defence Board (JDB) and other relevant security institutions strengthen coordination and deploy appropriate security measures in vulnerable areas and along critical infrastructure corridors to enhance civilian protection, restore freedom of movement, and facilitate humanitarian access.
- The SSPDF and SPLM/A-IO exercise maximum restraint and refrain from conducting military operations particularly in civilian-populated areas.

- Both the SSPDF and SPLM/A-IO promptly notify CTSAMVM of all troop movements, mobilizations, and security incidents to facilitate timely monitoring, verification, and de-escalation.
- Lastly, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the international community for its continued and generous support to CTSAMVM and the peace process. Our monitoring, investigation, and verification activities are made possible through these invaluable contributions.

This steadfast support reflects a shared commitment to the implementation of the Revitalized Peace Agreement and to achieving lasting peace and stability in South Sudan. I encourage the international community to continue its vital political, technical, and financial support to CTSAMVM and the peace process to ensure the sustained implementation of the Agreement.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

CTSAMVM remains steadfast in its commitment to its mandate.

We will continue to monitor, verify, investigate, and report alleged violations professionally, impartially, and transparently in support of the full implementation of the Revitalized Peace Agreement.

I thank you for your attention and look forward to our constructive deliberations.