



Opening Statement

by

Maj Gen Teshome Anagawe Ayana

Chairperson CTSAMVM

On the occasion of the

58th CTSAMVM Board Meeting

Beijing Juba Hotel

29 July 2026

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

Good morning.

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the 58th CTSAMVM Board Meeting.

The meeting provides an important platform to review progress, assess the security environment, and identify practical measures to address challenges affecting the implementation of the Revitalized Peace Agreement. Our continued engagement reflects a shared commitment to strengthening cooperation, accountability, and the effective implementation of the Permanent Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements.

Today's meeting is particularly significant as it coincides with the commencement of the CTSAMVM leadership rotation process initiated by IGAD.

In this regard, it is my distinct honour to introduce the incoming Chairperson of CTSAMVM, **Major General Dr. Hailu Endashaw Atomsa**, and the incoming Deputy Chairperson, **Major General Mohamed Elmurtada Elsheikh**, who officially assumed their appointments on 1 July 2026 and are currently undertaking the formal handover process.

Both distinguished General Officers bring decades of senior military leadership, extensive operational experience, and a wealth of expertise in peace support operations. Above all, they share a firm commitment to the impartial implementation of CTSAMVM's mandate and to advancing the objectives of the Revitalized Peace Agreement.

On behalf of the CTSAMVM family, I warmly welcome them as they assume this important responsibility. I also respectfully encourage all Signatory Parties to the R-ARCSS and members of the CTSAMVM Board to extend to them the same spirit of cooperation, professionalism, and constructive engagement that you have consistently demonstrated throughout my tenure.

I am confident that your continued support will contribute significantly to the success of their leadership and to the effective implementation of our collective mandate.

The agenda for today's meeting includes a security update, presentations on the status of the Permanent Ceasefire and the implementation of the Transitional Security Arrangements, as well as updates on ongoing monitoring and verification activities. The meeting will also consider one violation report concerning the attack by armed youth on civilians in Adong Payam, Baiet County, and the looting of humanitarian food supplies in Duma Payam, Ulang County, Upper Nile State, in November 2025.

The findings of this report demonstrate how the activities of non-signatory armed groups continue to undermine community security, disrupt humanitarian assistance, and threaten the gains made in the peace process. They also serve as an important reminder of the continuing responsibility of the Signatory Parties to take all necessary measures within areas under their control to uphold the Permanent Ceasefire, protect civilians, and create conditions conducive to the full implementation of the Revitalized Peace Agreement.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The overall security environment in some parts of the country remains volatile, with localized instability continuing to challenge the implementation of Chapter II of the Revitalized Peace Agreement

While large-scale confrontations remain limited, incidents of armed violence, criminal ambushes, inter-communal conflict, and restrictions on civilian movement continue to affect some parts of the country, undermining civilian security and confidence in the peace process.

A notable development during the reporting period was the incident in Walgak Payam, Akobo County, Jonglei State, where the White Army allegedly attacked and killed the SPLM-IG Commissioner of Akobo and members of his delegation on 5 July 2026. In response, RJMEC called for an immediate cessation of hostilities and, on 6 July 2026, tasked CTSAMVM to investigate the reported incident, establish the facts surrounding the clashes, and present its findings through the appropriate mechanisms established under the Revitalized Peace Agreement.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On our operational activities, CTSAMVM has continued to implement its monitoring verification and reporting mandate despite the prevailing financial and logistical challenges.

MVT Malakal successfully conducted two Long Duration Air Patrols: the first to Ulang County from 10–14 June 2026 and the second to Baliet County from 6–10 July 2026. These patrols enabled the team to investigate alleged attacks on civilians and gather information relating to the security situation in the affected areas.

MVT Wau conducted a Long Duration Patrol to Warrap State from 13–16 July 2026, investigating the reported armed youth attack in Tonj South County. However, a planned Short Duration Patrol to Basilia on 8 July 2026 was aborted after travelling approximately 24 kilometres, as the team was denied access at a checkpoint by joint security forces.

Following several delays since May due to logistical constraints, MVT Juba's Long Dynamic Aerial Patrol to Makpandu and Yambio in Western Equatoria State successfully departed yesterday, 28 July 2026, after the completion of the necessary logistical arrangements with UNMISS.

CTSAMVM has also planned a number of monitoring and verification activities for the month of August.

MVT Juba will conduct Long Duration Patrols to Yei (covering Lainya, Yei and Morobo Counties) to investigate alleged attacks on civilians and security forces, and to Lobonok in Juba County to investigate alleged violations of Chapter II of the R-ARCSS.

MVT Malakal is scheduled to deploy to Mandeng Payam in Nasir County, Upper Nile State, and to Nyirol County in Jonglei State to investigate alleged ceasefire violations. Meanwhile, MVT Wau will undertake a Long Duration Patrol to Lakes State to investigate reported violations of the Revitalized Peace Agreement.

On the diplomatic front, together with the incoming CTSAMVM leadership, I conducted a series of courtesy visits to key stakeholders and partners in Juba. These engagements provided an opportunity to formally introduce the new leadership, exchange perspectives on the prevailing security situation, provide updates on CTSAMVM's activities, and reaffirm our shared commitment to strengthening cooperation and collaboration in support of the effective implementation of our mandate.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In light of the prevailing security situation, CTSAMVM respectfully reiterates the following recommendations:

- First, all Signatory Parties to the R-ARCSS are urged to reaffirm their commitment to the Permanent Ceasefire, refrain from actions that could escalate tensions, and fully comply with their obligations under the Revitalized Peace Agreement.
- Second, the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGoNU) is encouraged to strengthen the Joint Defence Board (JDB) and facilitate effective joint security deployments and coordinated patrols along major supply routes and other conflict-prone areas.
- Finally, the RTGoNU and all security institutions are encouraged to strengthen coordination, accountability, and oversight mechanisms to ensure that all deployed forces operate in full accordance with the provisions of the R-ARCSS, while upholding respect for human rights and International Humanitarian Law.

These measures will contribute to building confidence among the Parties, improving the protection of civilians, and creating a more conducive environment for the full implementation of the Permanent Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As I conclude, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the international community for its unwavering and generous support to CTSAMVM and the broader peace process.

I respectfully encourage our international partners to sustain their political, technical, and financial support, as their continued partnership remains vital to consolidating the gains achieved, strengthening confidence in the peace process, and advancing the full implementation of the Revitalized Peace Agreement for lasting peace and stability in South Sudan.

Today's meeting marks the final CTSAMVM Board Meeting that I have the privilege to chair. It has been a distinct honour and privilege to serve alongside you in our collective efforts towards sustainable peace and security for the people of South Sudan.

South Sudan is a beautiful country with enormous potential. It is our collective hope that through our shared efforts, dialogue and commitment to peace, violence will give way to lasting stability, allowing all South Sudanese to enjoy their country in peace and dignity.

CTSAMVM remains steadfast in its commitment to its mandate. Under the incoming leadership, the Mechanism will continue to monitor, verify, investigate, and report alleged violations with professionalism, impartiality, transparency, and independence, in support of the full implementation of the Revitalized Peace Agreement.

I once again thank each one of you for the trust, cooperation, and friendship you have extended to me throughout my tenure. The progress we have made has been the result of our collective efforts, and I am deeply grateful for your partnership and dedication.

With these remarks, I now declare the meeting officially open.

I now invite the incoming Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson to give their brief remarks.

Thank you.