Opening Statement

by

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Chairperson CTSAMVM

at the

CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting 10/26

Dembesh Hotel

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Distinguished Senior Party Representatives and CTC Members,
Representative of IGAD,
Representative of RJMEC,
Esteemed Defence Attachés,
Observers,
Members of the Media,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning, and welcome to the 10th CTSAMVM Technical Committee Meeting of 2026. I thank you all for your presence and your continued engagement.

As we are all aware, the recent revision of the electoral timeline by the National Elections Commission, has introduced additional considerations regarding the conclusion of the transitional period and the implementation of outstanding provisions of the R-ARCSS.

For CTSAMVM, these developments have significant operational and financial implications. The Mission continues to face uncertainty regarding the availability of resources necessary to sustain its monitoring, verification and reporting activities, particularly in the absence of confirmed donor commitments beyond the previously anticipated timeframe. We therefore remain hopeful that our traditional partners will recognize the continued importance of CTSAMVM's role and provide the necessary financial support to enable it to fulfil its mandate.

Equally important is the need for clear strategic direction from IGAD regarding the future of CTSAMVM and the alignment of its mandate, operational arrangements and institutional responsibilities with the revised electoral timelines. To date, discussions are ongoing to obtain formal guidance and a clear roadmap in this regard. Such guidance is essential to enable the Mission to plan effectively, maintain operational continuity and respond appropriately to the evolving requirements of the peace process.

Esteemed Party Representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The security situation in South Sudan is marked by localized violence and growing fragmentation of insecurity in several parts of the country, while some areas remained calm. Three broad trends merit our attention.

First, armed engagements involving the SSPDF and SPLA-IO were reported in Western Bahr el Ghazal, Jonglei, Upper Nile, Western and Central Equatoria. Reports from Western Bahr el Ghazal also indicate offensive operations, looting and restricted access to affected areas.

Second, retaliatory attacks and intercommunal clashes continue to be reported, including the burning of homes in Eastern Equatoria and clashes in Warrap State that reportedly caused significant casualties; these figures are yet to be verified. Reports of looting and arbitrary arrests are also of serious concern.

Third, criminality continues to narrow humanitarian space. Highway robberies, abductions and ambushes, including the abduction of humanitarian staff, have led many humanitarian organisations to scale back activities outside the main towns, at a time when returnees from Sudan and people displaced from Jonglei need assistance.

CTSAMVM will continue to follow up and verify these reported violations, such developments can erode the mutual confidence on which the Agreement depends, and civilians bear the heaviest burden through displacement and restricted movement.

Esteemed Party Representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Within its available operational capacity, CTSAMVM continues to fulfil its monitoring, verification and reporting responsibilities. Allow me to highlight a few recent activities.

From 9 to 12 November 2026, MVT Malakal conducted a Long Duration Air Patrol to Rubkona, Bentiu, to verify allegations of the use of live fire by police inside the IDP camp.

On 5 November, CTSAMVM Gender cohort took part in the annual diplomatic forum on the theme “Women, Heritage and Partnership: Building the Future of South Sudan Together” at the She-stands-women-museum in Juba.

Externally, CTSAMVM has also continued to engage regional partners.

On 26 October in Khartoum, CTSAMVM leadership briefed **Gen Yasser Al-Atta,** Sudan’s Chief of General Staff, **and Ms. Rania Hassan,** the IGAD Head of Mission to Sudan, on the South Sudan peace process and CTSAMVM’s operations. Both reaffirmed their support for CTSAMVM’s work, and we are grateful for it.

Looking ahead, CTSAMVM plans to engage its donors this week to address its financial situation and explore options for sustaining its operations. These engagements will be critical in determining the way forward. Should they fail to secure the necessary financial commitments, this could regrettably be the last meeting of the Technical Committee.

Nevertheless, we remain determined to make every possible effort, in cooperation with our partners, to address these challenges and ensure the continuity of the Mechanism's mandate.

Esteemed Party Representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today we will consider two reports: **CTSAMVM Report 2026/22** on the armed confrontation, capture of Lankien, destruction of civilian property and displacement in Nyirol County; and **CTSAMVM Report 2026/23** on the use of live fire and arrest operation at Bentiu IDP Camp on 19 August 2026.

These incidents underline the importance of continued commitment by all Signatory Parties to the Permanent Ceasefire, the protection of civilians and the prevention of escalation.

In this spirit, and in the interest of the people of South Sudan, CTSAMVM respectfully encourages all Parties and stakeholders to consider the following:

1. Remain in or return to their agreed positions, respect the ceasefire and transitional security arrangements.
2. Ensure accountability for violations, including killings, looting and arbitrary arrests; work with local authorities and communities to strengthen mediation and traditional dispute resolution, to help prevent revenge attacks and cattle raiding.
3. The signatory's parties are encouraged to strengthen security along key highways and in hotspot areas, address criminality including abductions, and give priority to the safe release of abducted humanitarian workers, while increasing support to displaced persons and returnees, with the help of partners, and safeguarding humanitarian movement.
4. CTSAMVM also invites all stakeholders to renew their commitment to dialogue and to the full implementation of the Agreement, which remains the most sustainable path to peace.

Esteemed Party Representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen,

CTSAMVM remains committed to carrying out its mandate with independence, impartiality and neutrality. As we move forward, it is essential that the relevant stakeholders, particularly the Signatory Parties, IGAD and our partners, work collectively to clarify the way forward and ensure that CTSAMVM has the institutional direction and financial resources necessary to continue its work during the remaining period.

I hope today's discussions will provide an opportunity to reflect on these challenges and identify practical ways forward

With these remarks, I declare the meeting open.

Thank you.