



**SUDAN PEOPLES' LIBERATION MOVEMENT
SPLM (IO)
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS**

**THE SPLM/SPLA (IO) POLITICAL BUREAU EVALUATION OF THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ROADMAP TO A PEACEFUL AND DEMOCRATIC
END OF THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE
RESOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN
(R-ARCSS)**

The SPLM/SPLA (IO) Political Bureau met on 11th September, 2023, in Juba, Republic of South Sudan, marking the Fifth Anniversary of the R-ARCSS, to review and evaluate the status of the implementation of the Roadmap. The Political Bureau consulted reports from the Peace Implementation Mechanisms namely: RJMEC, NCAC, SDSR, CTSAMVM, JDB, JMCC, JTSC, SSM and DDR. The Political Bureau also received reports from the members of SPLM/SPLA(IO) assigned in the R-TGoNU. After extensive deliberations, the Political Bureau observed the following:

I. ON THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ROADMAP

1. **Recalling** that the Roadmap is an extension of the Transitional Period by 24 months in order to complete the then pending tasks in the R-ARCSS;
2. **Mindful** of the fact that the extended Transitional Period ends by 22nd February 2025;
3. **Noting** the stagnation in implementation of the Roadmap as follows;
 - a) Dissemination of the Peace Agreement (R-ARCSS)
 - b) Reconstitution of independent Commissions and Institutions
 - c) Security Arrangements
 - d) Repatriation of Refugees and Resettlement of the Internally Displaced Persons
 - e) Conduct of Population Census
 - f) Transitional Justice Mechanisms
 - g) Permanent Constitution Making Process
4. **Reiterating** that R-ARCSS is the only viable option to end political violence in the country as it addresses the root causes of the conflict and provides a system of governance that undertakes transformative reforms and transition to democracy;
5. **Cognizant** that R-ARCSS is to lay the foundation for a united, peaceful and prosperous society based on constitutionalism, justice, equality, respect for human rights and the rule of law for South Sudan to emerge as a viable state capable of protecting and serving its citizens;
6. **Urging** the parties to abide by and reaffirm their commitments to the implementation of R-ARCSS through the Roadmap which will pave the way for the establishment of a federal and democratic system of governance that reflects the diverse character of the Republic of

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South Sudan and conduct peaceful, free, fair, transparent and credible elections (60) sixty days before the end of the extended Transitional Period;

7. **Appreciating** the progress in the unification of the Middle Echelon Commands of the unified services of the National Security, Wildlife, Prisons and Civil Defense;
8. **Concern** of lack of progress in the unification of the Middle Echelon Commands of the Unified Military Forces and Unified Police Service;
9. **Concern** of the delay of deployment of the graduated Unified Security Forces;
10. **Urging** for the immediate start of unification and training of phase II of the Military and Other Organized Forces;
11. **Aware** of the fact that the Roadmap stipulates that elections be conducted as from 22 December 2024, about fifteen months from now, however, the activities related to the conduct of elections have not been budgeted for in the current Financial Year 2023/2024;

In the light of the fact that this is the fifth anniversary of the R-ARCSS, the Political Bureau met and evaluated the implementation of the Roadmap and the findings are as follows:

II. VIOLATIONS OF THE R-ARCSS DURING THE ONE YEAR PERIOD OF THE ROADMAP

The Political Bureau registered during the one (1) year of the implementation of the R-ARCSS since the signing of the Roadmap, the following major incidences of violations have occurred :

1. Unilateral dismissal of the Minister of Defense and Veterans Affairs (unresolved);
2. Unilateral swapping of the Ministry of Defense and Veterans Affairs with the Ministry of Interior (unresolved);
3. Unilateral dismissal of the Speaker of Jonglei state Assembly (resolved);
4. Unilateral dismissal of the Commissioner of Twic County (resolved);
5. Arbitrary arrest of Commissioner of Tony East County without due process by the Governor of Warrap State (resolved);
6. Arbitrary arrest of SPLM (IO) state member of parliament for distributing SPLM (IO) T-Shirts (resolved);
7. Arbitrary arrest of SPLM (IO) County Secretary of Ikwoto County of Eastern Equatoria State (unresolved);
8. Continuous arbitrary arrest, detention, torture and forced disappearances of members of SPLM/SPLA (IO) (Art. 2.1.10), e.g. arrest and detention of SPLA (IO) four (4) senior officers and two (2) bodyguards in Torit town of Eastern Equatoria state and are currently being detained in Juba (unresolved);
9. Continuous arrest and intimidation of SPLM (IO) members in Warrap and Northern Bahr El Ghazal States (unresolved);
10. Refusal of participation of SPLM/SPLA (IO) and other parties in the governments of the three Administrative Areas (Art. 1.16.2 read together with Article 162(1) (a) of the Constitutional Amendment Act No. 7, 2020 and Article 164(1) of the Constitutional Amendment Act No. 8, 2021) and in the Agreement on structures and allocation of responsibility sharing in the three Administrative Areas in accordance with R-ARCSS (January 18th, 2021) (unresolved);
11. Delay in the formation of County and Municipal Legislative Councils (unresolved);

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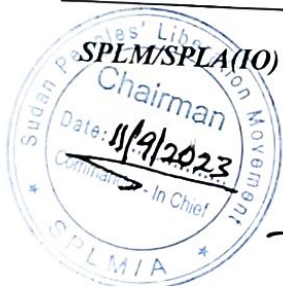
12. Encouraging hostile propaganda and hate speeches against SPLM/SPLA (IO) and its leadership using state media (Art. 2.1.10) (unresolved);
13. Lack of political space and civil liberties manifested by continuous obstruction of other parties from freely assembling and holding public meetings (Art. 2.1.10) (unresolved);
14. Obstruction and denial of freedom of movement of the leaders of SPLM/SPLA (IO), including the Chairman and Commander-In-Chief (unresolved);
15. Continuous harassment, arrest and detention of media personnel, civil society, etc. (Art. 2.1.10) (unresolved);
16. Denying SPLM/SPLA (IO) forces from joining cantonment and training in Pantiit Training Center in Northern Bahr El Ghazal State (unresolved);
17. Refusal to discuss the proposal by the Chair of IGAD (the Sudan) to resolve the above mentioned issues.

III. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ROADMAP

Chapter I: Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (R-TGoNU)

The following pending tasks are not yet implemented:

1. Dissemination of the R-ARCSS to the people of South Sudan (Art. 1.4.3.1).
2. Process of national reconciliation and healing (Art. 1.4.3.3).
3. Security Arrangements activities not completed (Art. 1.4.3.4).
4. Reviewing and drafting of the necessary bills not completed (Art. 1.4.3.6).
5. Devolution of powers and resources to the lower levels of government (Art. 1.4.3.7).
6. Failure to establish Pre-transitional Period Implementation Fund (Art. 1.4.8.).
7. The NCAC has not completed review and amendment of laws and legislation relevant for the implementation of the Agreement due to lack of support for the national members;
8. Lack of financial support of national members in CTSAMVM, DDR, SDSR, JDB, JTSC, JMCC, SSM, JRC, and medical doctors and trainers in the training centers;
9. Failure to reconstitute the governments of the three Administrative Areas in violation of (Art. 1.16.2 read together with Article 162(1) (a) of the Constitutional Amendment No. 7 Act, 2020 and Article 164(1) of the Constitutional Amendment No. 8 Act, 2021) and the Agreement (January 18th, 2021) on Structures and Allocation of Responsibility Sharing in the three Administrative Areas in accordance with R-ARCSS;
10. Failure to reconstitute national independent Commissions and other independent institutions (61 in number including those institutions mentioned in other chapters);
11. Failure to establish local government councils. As of today, the Government of Central Equatoria State is the only state that has completed on 23rd February 2022 establishment of its local government councils;
12. Reinstatement of civil servants who fled the country during the war. Not done.
13. Participation of members of other parties in the foreign service. Not done.
14. Appointment of Undersecretaries and Directors General at the National and State level respectively without recommendation from the concerned ministers (Art. 1.6.2.5).
15. The Constitutional Court is not yet established (Art. 1.17.7).
16. The Political Parties Council has not been reconstituted (Art 1.20.2).
17. National Elections Act, 2012 has not been enacted (Art. 1.20.3).



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18. The National Elections Commission not reconstituted (Art. 1.20.4).
19. National Elections to be conducted sixty (60) days prior to the end of Transitional Period in accordance with the Permanent Constitution (Art. 1.20.5).
20. R-TGoNU has not addressed the challenges of reconstruction, repatriation, resettlement, rehabilitation and reintegration of IDPs and returnees as critical factors affecting peacebuilding and elections (Art. 1.20.7).

Chapter II: Permanent Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements (PCTSA)

1. The unification of Middle Echelon Commands of the Unified Forces, not completed.
2. Deployment of Phase I of the Unified Forces not done.
3. Cantonment, Screening, Unification of forces of Phase II not started;
4. Funding of the security mechanisms' activities is inadequate and not consistent.
5. NTC is not functioning, it has not met for the one year period of the Roadmap;
6. Due to lack of funding, DDR has not established any of the 8 Transition Facilities/Centers and, therefore, is unable to implement its mandate.

Chapter III: Humanitarian Assistance and Reconstruction

1. Special Reconstruction Fund (SRF), not established (Art. 3.2).
2. Board of the Special Reconstruction Fund (BSRF), not established (Art. 3.2.1);
3. R-TGoNU has not provided the SRF with initial funding of not less than USD 100 million per annum. (Art. 3.2.7);
4. The IGAD, Troika, China, African Union, United Nations, European Union, World Bank, IGAD Partners Forum and African Development Bank have not nominated their respective members to BSRF (Art. 3.2.5-13);
5. The international community within BSRF has failed to appoint the chairperson of BSRF (Art. 3.2.3-4);
6. South Sudan Pledging Conference has not been convened. Responsible bodies are: BSRF Chairperson, Chairperson of IGAD, Chairperson of African Union Commission and Secretary General of the United Nations (Art. 3.2.8).
7. IDPs and refugees have not been repatriated, resettled, reintegrated and rehabilitated (Art. 3.1.1.2, 3.1.1.5 and 3.1.2.1).
8. Non-Governmental Organizations Act 2016 was reviewed by NCAC but not enacted (Art 3.1.2.5).

Chapter IV: Resource, Economic and Financial Management

The following new institutions are yet to be established:

1. Economic and Financial Management Authority - EFMA (Art. 4.16.1).
2. Board of Economic and Financial Management Authority (Art. 4.16.2).
3. EFMA Advisory Committee (Art. 4.16.5).
4. Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Authority (Art. 4.6.1.1).
5. Salaries and Remuneration Commission (Art. 4.6.1.2).
6. Environmental Management Authority (EMA) (Art. 4.6.1.3).



7. Research and Development Center for Natural Disasters (Art. 4.6.1.4)
8. Research and Development Center for Strategic Studies (Art. 4.6.1.4):
9. Development Center for Scientific Research (Art. 4.6.1.4):
10. Health Care Support Fund (Art. 4.6.1.5).
11. Students Support Fund (Art. 4.6.1.6)
12. Youth Enterprise Development Fund (Art. 4.15.1.4).
13. Women Enterprise Development Fund (Art. 4.15.1.5).
14. Micro-finance Institutions (Art. 4.15.1.6).
15. Social Security Fund (Art. 4.15.1.8).
16. Oil Stabilization Account (Art. 4.8.1.11).
17. Future Generations' Fund (Art. 4.8.1.11).

The following institutions have not been restructured and reconstituted:

1. Bank of South Sudan (Art. 4.2.1).
2. The National Audit Chamber (Art. 4.5).
3. Anti-Corruption Commission (Art. 4.4).
4. Fiscal and Financial Allocation Monitoring Commission (Art. 4.11.2).
5. National Petroleum and Gas Commission (Art. 4.8.1.14.14).
6. National Petroleum and Gas Corporation (NilePet) (Art. 4.8.1.14.14).
7. National Revenue Authority (Art. 4.10.1.4)
8. Constituency Development Fund (4.3.1.5)

The following national legislation, inter alia, have not been reviewed:

1. Investment Promotion Act, 2009 (Art. 4.7.1.1).
2. Telecommunication and Postal Service Act, 2016 (Art. 4.7.1.3).
3. The Transport Act, 2008 (Art. 4.7.1.4).
4. Petroleum Revenue Act, 2012 (Art. 4.7.1.8).
5. The Mining Act, 2012 (Art. 4.7.1.9).
6. Petroleum Revenue Management Act, 2012 (Art. 4.7.1.10).
7. National Pensions Fund Act, 2012 (Art. 4.7.1.11).
8. National Revenue Authority Act, 2017 (Art. 4.7.1.12).
9. Land Act, 2008 (Art. 4.8.2.1.1).
10. Code of Ethics and Integrity of Public Officials (Art. 4.1.3).

Failure to establish and reconstitute the institutions mentioned above as well as non-devolution of powers and resources to the states and counties (Art. 4.1.6 and 4.1.5) defeats the mandate of the R-TGoNU to reform South Sudan's economic and public sector (Art. 4.14.10) and is tantamount to non-implementation of critical tasks of R-ARCSS.

Chapter V: Transitional Justice, Accountability, Reconciliation and Healing

The following institutions have not been established:

1. Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing (CTRH) (Art. 5.1.1.1 and 5.2).
2. Hybrid Court for South Sudan (HCSS) (Art. 5.1.1.2 and 5.3).
3. Compensation and Reparation Authority (CRA) (Art. 5.1.1.3 and 5.4).

4. Compensation and Reparation Fund (CRF) (Art. 5.4.2.5).

The AU Commission has failed to establish the Hybrid Court for South Sudan (HCSS) (Art. 5.3.1.1).

Chapter VI: Parameters of Permanent Constitution

The following institutions and processes have not been done or pending:

1. National Constitutional Review Commission (Art. 6.6).
2. National Constitutional Conference (Art. 6.6).
3. Preparatory Sub-Committee (Art. 6.6).
4. Constitutional Drafting Committee (Art. 6.9).
5. Constituent Assembly (Art. 6.5 and 6.11).
6. Amendment of the National Elections Act 2012 as amended (Art. 1.20.6) and reconstitution of National Elections Commission accordingly.
7. The constitution making process is envisaged to be completed not later than 24 months following the establishment of the Transitional Period and shall be in place to guide the elections toward the end of the Transition (Art. 6.5).
8. National Elections to be conducted sixty (60) days prior to the end of Transitional Period in accordance with the Permanent Constitution (Art. 1.20.5).

Chapter VII: Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (JMEC)

Article 7.3 provides for IGAD Assembly of Heads of State and Government in consultation with IGAD-Plus Partners to appoint a prominent African personality to chair RJMEC. SPLM/SPLA (IO), therefore, urges IGAD to confirm or appoint the Chairperson of RJMEC.

IV. THE WAY FORWARD

Given the fact that the above mentioned activities are not implemented or pending, we urge the Parties, Stakeholders and Guarantors to the Agreement to fast track full implementation of the Agreement through the Roadmap for the remaining duration in order to conduct peaceful, free, fair and credible elections on time.

Signed,



Riek Machar Teny-Dhurgon, PhD
Chairman and Commander-In-Chief, SPLM/SPLA(IO), and The First Vice President of the Republic.

11th September 2023

