



**Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission
(RJMEC)**

REPORT

BY

**H.E. AMB. MAJ. GEN. GEORGE AGGREY OWINOW (rtd)
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON OF RJMEC**

**ON THE STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REVITALISED
AGREEMENT ON THE RESOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT IN THE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN**

FOR THE PERIOD

1st July – 30th September 2026

Report No. 032/26

Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission
Plot 133, Block B-XV, Hai Motor First Class, Juba, South Sudan

Table of Contents

List of Acronyms	ii
Executive Summary	iii
I. Introduction	1
II. Status of Implementation of the Transitional Tasks of the R-ARCSS.....	3
Chapter 1: Revitalised Transitional Government of National Unity	3
<i>The Executive of the RTGoNU and Caretaker Government.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>The Transitional National Legislature</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Legislative Reforms</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Judicial Reforms</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Political Parties Council</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Preparations for Elections.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Inter-Party Dialogue</i>	<i>7</i>
Chapter 2: Permanent Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements	8
<i>Permanent Ceasefire</i>	<i>8</i>
Chapter 3: Humanitarian Assistance and Reconstruction.....	10
<i>Food Insecurity.....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Protection of Civilians.....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Humanitarian Access.....</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Displacement Dynamics</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Progress Against Gender Provisions.....</i>	<i>13</i>
Chapter 4: Resource Economic and Financial Management.....	14
<i>Environmental Protection.....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>The Nile and Other Water Resources</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Public Financial Management</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget Execution.....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Budget.....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Public Expenditure</i>	<i>17</i>
Chapter 5: Transitional Justice, Accountability, Reconciliation and Healing	18
Chapter 6: Parameters of the Permanent Constitution.....	19
Chapter 7: Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission	19
<i>Regional and International Engagement.....</i>	<i>20</i>
III. Key Observations and Recommendations	22
<i>Observations</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>Amendment to the R-ARCSS.....</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>Recommendations</i>	<i>24</i>
IV. Conclusion.....	27

List of Acronyms

<i>AU</i>	<i>African Union</i>
<i>AUC</i>	<i>African Union Commission</i>
<i>AU PSC</i>	<i>African Union Peace and Security Council</i>
<i>AU PAM</i>	<i>African Union Pre-elections Assessment Mission</i>
<i>CoS</i>	<i>Council of States</i>
<i>CSOs</i>	<i>Civil Society Organizations</i>
<i>CRA</i>	<i>Compensation and Reparation Authority</i>
<i>CTRH</i>	<i>Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing</i>
<i>CTSAMVM</i>	<i>Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements Monitoring and Verification Mechanism</i>
<i>DDR</i>	<i>Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration</i>
<i>IDPs</i>	<i>Internally Displaced Persons</i>
<i>IGAD</i>	<i>Intergovernmental Authority on Development</i>
<i>ITGoNU</i>	<i>Incumbent Transitional Government of National Unity</i>
<i>JDB</i>	<i>Joint Defense Board</i>
<i>JMCC</i>	<i>Joint Military Ceasefire Commission</i>
<i>JTSC</i>	<i>Joint Transitional Security Committee</i>
<i>JRC</i>	<i>Judicial Reform Committee</i>
<i>MVTs</i>	<i>Mobile Verification Teams</i>
<i>NCAC</i>	<i>National Constitutional Amendment Committee</i>
<i>NCRC</i>	<i>National Constitutional Review Commission</i>
<i>NEC</i>	<i>National Elections Commission</i>
<i>NSS</i>	<i>National Security Service</i>
<i>NUF</i>	<i>Necessary Unified Forces</i>
<i>PFMRS</i>	<i>Public Financial Management Reform Strategy</i>
<i>PPC</i>	<i>Political Parties Council</i>
<i>R-ARCSS</i>	<i>Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan</i>
<i>RJMEC</i>	<i>Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission</i>
<i>RTGoNU</i>	<i>Revitalised Transitional Government of National Unity</i>
<i>SDSR</i>	<i>Strategic Defense and Security Review</i>
<i>SPLM-IO</i>	<i>Sudan People's Liberation Movement-In Opposition</i>
<i>SSPDF</i>	<i>South Sudan People's Defence Force</i>
<i>TNL</i>	<i>Transitional National Legislature</i>
<i>TNLA</i>	<i>Transitional National Legislative Assembly</i>
<i>UNMISS</i>	<i>United Nations Mission in South Sudan</i>
<i>UNHCR</i>	<i>United Nations High Commission for Refugees</i>

Executive Summary

This RJMEC Quarterly Report assesses the status of the implementation of the Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) for the period 1st July to 30th September 2026. Building on the previous RJMEC quarterly reports, it reviews recent developments or lack thereof across the thematic chapters of the R-ARCSS, including governance, security, humanitarian, economic, transitional justice and constitution-making process. The report further highlights RJMEC's activities during the reporting period, presents key observations and concludes with recommendations.

During the third quarter of 2026, South Sudan entered a critical phase of the Transitional Period as preparations intensified for the general elections scheduled for 22nd December 2026. Notable developments were recorded in governance arrangements, legal and institutional preparations for elections, including dissolution of the RTGoNU and appointment of a Care Taker Government to guide the country towards elections and end of the Transitional Period, amendments to the R-ARCSS, the Transitional Constitution and the National Elections Act, registration of political parties, commencement of civic and voter education, and launch of civic and voter education by the National Elections Commission (NEC).

Electoral preparatory activities included additional registration of new political parties, commencement of civic and voter education campaigns and training of the State High Election Committees on voter registration. However, significant political, operational, financial and security challenges persisted, underscoring the need for an inclusive political dialogue on the best way forward to conclude the transitional period. In that regard, the launch of the Inter-Party Dialogue on 24th September 2026 represented an opportunity for political actors and other stakeholders to build consensus on the conduct of peaceful, credible and inclusive elections. Regionally, the guarantors, IGAD and AU C5 continued to demand for a genuine and all- inclusive dialogue to guide the way forward towards a credible, free, fair and peaceful elections to end the Transitional Period.

The security situation showed some relative improvement following a unilateral declaration of ceasefire by the SSPDF Chief of Defense Forces and a resultant reduction in the frequency and intensity of clashes between signatory Parties, sporadic confrontations continued in several locations. Overall, operations of the different security implementation mechanisms, except for CTSAMVM stalled, and no progress was registered in the implementation of the Transitional Security Arrangements, and DDR.

The humanitarian situation remained deeply concerning and continued to deteriorate. Armed confrontations, intercommunal violence, internal displacement, food insecurity, economic hardships, climate-related shocks and declining humanitarian funding and forced returnees/refugees fleeing the Sudan conflict continued to compound humanitarian challenges and affect aid to vulnerable populations across the country. Humanitarian access constraints, attacks on aid workers and assets, increasing protection risks further

compounded humanitarian needs. Further, women and girls remained disproportionately affected by conflict and insecurity, while progress towards achieving the minimum 35 percent threshold for women's representation in governance and decision-making remained limited.

Regarding Resource, Economic and Financial Management, progress was recorded in public financial management, including continued efforts to consolidate the government payroll, reform the salary structure and strengthen payroll management through the Human Resource Management Information System. During the quarter, the Ministry of Finance and Planning presented the FY 2026/27 Draft Budget, Finance Bill and Appropriation Bill, with a proposed resource envelope of SSP 11.34 trillion, including SSP 183.99 billion allocated for pre-election and general election activities and SSP 29.10 billion for peace implementation. Nevertheless, important reforms remained outstanding, particularly the development and enactment of legal and institutional frameworks for environmental protection and the sustainable management of the Nile and other water resources. Timely implementation of public financial management reforms, transparent and accountable utilisation of public resources, and adequate financing of peace implementation and electoral priorities therefore remain critical as the country approaches the scheduled elections.

Progress in the transitional justice remained limited. The Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing (CTRH), the Hybrid Court for South Sudan (HCSS), and the Compensation and Reparation Authority (CRA), envisaged under the R-ARCSS, were not established during the reporting period. Although preparatory work towards establishing the CTRH had advanced, their non-establishment represent a significant setback to efforts to advance accountability, reconciliation and reparation.

Furthermore, no new progress was registered in the permanent constitution making process during this reporting period. Although the reconstituted National Constitutional Review Commission (NCRC) continued with its work, and had made tremendous progress having completed phase one of civic education and public consultations in all the States and Administrative Areas, and had commenced consultations with national institutions and stakeholders in Juba. However, the momentum of the NCRC has significantly slowed down due to the RTGoNU's decision to delink the permanent constitution-making process from the conduct of elections and lack of funding to its activities.

The RJMEC, the regional guarantors and international partners intensified their engagement to unlock the political stalemate in South Sudan and support an inclusive and peaceful end to the Transitional Period within the R-ARCSS framework. Engagements included solidarity missions, initiatives and high-level meetings undertaken by the African Union (AUC, PSC, and C5), IGAD, the United Nations (Security Council) and the AU C5 Plus, underscoring the importance of the R-ARCSS as a framework for durable peace, and the need for an inclusive political dialogue and consensus-building on the best

pathway towards the holding of free, fair and credible elections, and smooth conclusion of the transitional period of the R-ARCSS.

Among key observations during the quarter were the following: the South Sudan Government continues its push to conduct general elections on 22nd December 2026 despite lack of consensus amongst the parties, incomplete critical tasks of the Agreement, significant administrative, capacity, financial and logistical challenges. The RTGoNU expedited legal and constitutional amendments to facilitate elections on 22nd December 2026, including amendments that delinked the elections from completion of the permanent constitution-making process and the conduct of a national population and housing census. These developments followed an earlier amendment to the R-ARCSS that bypassed the RJMEC consent.

Furthermore, the Government launched Inter-Party Dialogue on 24th September 2026 with a limited terms of reference to facilitate consensus among political parties and stakeholders on a roadmap towards peaceful, credible and democratic elections by December 2026. Whereas the dialogue was ongoing at the end of the reporting period, and provided a platform for different political groups and stakeholders to express their viewpoints on the preparation for election and critical gaps, participation was limited to the parties listed in the Presidential Decree of 10th January 2026, and other stakeholders including women, youth and political alliances, not the hold-out groups or factions allied to the detained or exiled SPLM/A-IO leaders. In the meantime, RJMEC continued to observe the dialogue and engage with the AU High Representative in support of a broader, inclusive political dialogue involving all signatories to the R-ARCSS, stakeholders and the holdout groups.

Recommendations

In light of the aforementioned, the following measures are proposed for consideration:

a. To the Parties to the Agreement and Relevant Stakeholders:

- recommit to adhere to the R-ARCSS as the most viable existing framework for managing the political transition and resolving outstanding issues through peaceful dialogue and consensus;
- engage constructively and in good faith in the ongoing Inter-Party Dialogue and embrace the AU C5 Plus mandated dialogue process aimed at addressing the underlying political tensions, building consensus, restoring confidence in the peace process, addressing incomplete transitional tasks and agreeing on a viable electoral roadmap and post-election governance agenda;
- the ITGoNU and the SPLM/A-IO to recommit to the Permanent Ceasefire, reactivate its mechanisms and ensure strict adherence to its provisions to prevent further escalation of tensions and preserve confidence in the peace process;

- agree on clear time-bound and binding inter-party arrangements for completing the outstanding transitional tasks prior, during and beyond the elections; and
- widen the civic and political space, respect freedom of speech, expression, assembly and movement to promote a peaceful civic and political environment and embrace non-violence throughout the electoral period.

b. To the Caretaker Government:

- expedite the implementation of priority pre-election tasks necessary for the conduct of peaceful, credible and inclusive elections and provide clear guarantees for continued implementation of deferred critical transitional tasks post-elections;
- consider the recommendations of the African Union Pre-elections Assessment Mission (AU PAM) to South Sudan as reiterated in the AU C5 Declaration and publish a feasible, consensual and time-bound electoral roadmap that clearly sets out the legal basis, scope and sequencing of elections;
- ensure establishment and operationalization of election-security plans with early-warning mechanisms and human-rights safeguards at national and sub-national level;
- ensure timely and adequate financing of electoral institutions, processes and related operational requirements;
- provide sufficient resources to security mechanisms and institutions responsible for the implementation of the Transitional Security Arrangements;
- clarify the procedures, jurisdiction, timelines and escalation mechanisms for resolving election related disputes before, during and after elections and sensitize political party actors and aspirants on these processes;
- ensure timely and sufficient release of electoral funds to NEC and elections related institution;
- ensure that civic education, voter registration, delimitation, procurement of election materials, security planning, dispute-resolution arrangements and results management processes proceed in a coordinated sequence;
- safeguard civic and political space and guarantee freedoms of assembly, association, expression and political participation throughout the electoral process; and
- continue engagement with regional and international partners to mobilise technical, financial and logistical support for elections and peace implementation

c. To IGAD:

- sustain high-level political engagement with the Parties and stakeholders to facilitate consensus on unresolved issues relating to the transition and elections.
- continue supporting implementation of the AU C5 Plus Declaration and encourage full adherence to commitments under the R-ARCSS;

- strengthen preventive diplomacy efforts aimed at reducing tensions and mitigating risks of electoral-related conflict; and
- support the implementation and effective monitoring of agreed post-election arrangements concerning the outstanding provisions of the R-ARCSS.

d. To the African Union:

- urge the Parties to dialogue in good faith and agree on a clear, time-bound viable plan to guarantee post-election implementation of deferred critical tasks of the transitional period, in particular the permanent constitution making process within a defined timeframe;
- call upon the Parties to recommit to the R-ARCSS letter and spirit and embrace an inclusive political dialogue within the AU C5 to complement the Inter-Party Dialogue to agree on a viable roadmap to credible, peaceful, and democratic elections as envisaged in the R-ARCSS;
- encourage the Parties to agree on an expedited practical roadmap for the completion of the permanent constitution making process and to expedite implementation of the JRC report, including establishment of the Constitutional Court, and implement the requisite reforms;
- appeal to the donors and partners to support the NCRC and the constitution-making process, including by directly funding some of the critical mechanisms, civic education, and providing technical and logistical support;
- continue supporting inclusive political dialogue involving signatory Parties, non-signatories and relevant stakeholders; and
- operationalise the recommendations of the AU C5 Plus Declaration and strengthen coordination with IGAD, the United Nations and RJMEC in support of peace implementation.

e. To the United Nations:

- continue supporting peace implementation through coordinated preventive diplomacy, technical assistance and capacity-building support against verified electoral needs;
- support electoral institutions in addressing identified operational and technical gaps;
- strengthen assistance to humanitarian operations and protection initiatives, particularly in conflict-affected areas;
- continue supporting efforts aimed at advancing transitional justice, reconciliation, security sector reform and institution-building;
- support inclusive political dialogue among the Parties and relevant stakeholders;
- support implementation of outstanding security and transitional tasks; and

- maintain a coherent political approach that reinforces South Sudanese ownership of the implementation process.

f. To the International Partners and Friends of South Sudan:

- continue providing coordinated political, technical, financial and logistical support for electoral preparations and implementation of priority provisions of the R-ARCSS prior, during and after elections;
- support humanitarian and resilience programmes aimed at mitigating the effects of food insecurity, displacement, climate shocks and protection risks;
- support the implementation of deferred transitional tasks, including security sector reforms, constitution-making process, transitional justice and judicial reforms;
- encourage inclusive dialogue and peaceful political participation throughout the electoral period and beyond.

I. Introduction

1. This report covers the status of implementation of the Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) during the period 1st June to 30th September 2026 and builds on previous reports numbers 001/19 - 032/26 since the R-ARCSS was signed on 12th September 2018. It also highlights the engagements of the Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC) in the discharge of its mandate; and concludes by providing key recommendations to the Parties and Stakeholders to the R-ARCSS, the Caretaker government of the Republic of South Sudan, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the African Union (AU), the United Nations and International Partners and Friends of South Sudan.
2. During this quarter, South Sudan entered an increasingly consequential phase of the Transitional Period, characterised by accelerating preparations for the general elections scheduled for 22nd December 2026, lack of consensus among the Parties and stakeholders over the political and legal pathway to the elections, security concerns and renewed regional and international diplomatic engagement. By the end of the reporting period, only three months remained before the scheduled elections, while several critical provisions of the R-ARCSS remained outstanding. Both IGAD and AU C5, as guarantors to the R-ARCSS, met and reiterated that the R-ARCSS remained the only viable framework governing the Transitional Period and called upon the Parties to use the remaining period responsibly to ensure its peaceful conclusion.
3. The quarter nevertheless registered some progress towards electoral preparations. These included legal amendments relating to the sequencing of elections, the launch of nationwide civic and voter education, additional registration of political parties, preparations by electoral institutions, and eventually the commencement of an Inter-Party Dialogue on election-related matters on 24th September 2026. At the same time, developments during the quarter exposed continuing differences over how the transition should conclude and how outstanding tasks of the Agreement should be addressed before or after elections
4. In the area of Resource, Economic and Financial Management, there was minimal improvement in the implementation of aspects of the Public Financial Management reforms. The proposed FY 2026/27 national budget provided allocations for elections, peace implementation and other government priorities, while efforts continued to consolidate payroll management and reform public service salary structures. However, several reforms envisaged under the chapter remained incomplete, including legal and institutional measures relating to environmental protection and the sustainable management of water and other natural resources.

5. Under the transitional justice, key transitional justice institutions envisaged under the R-ARCSS, namely the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing (CTRH), the Hybrid Court for South Sudan (HCSS), and the Compensation and Reparation Authority (CRA), were not established. Most progress was made towards establishment of the CTRH, but stalled following the dissolution of the RTGoNU Executive and TNL.
6. Regarding the permanent constitution making process, no new progress was registered during this reporting period. Even though the reconstituted National Constitutional Review Commission (RNCRC) continued with its work and had made tremendous progress in conducting civic education and public consultations in all the ten States and three Administrative Areas, the momentum has slowed down due to the RTGoNU's decision to delink the permanent constitution-making process from the conduct of elections.
7. Furthermore, regional and international engagement on the situation in South Sudan intensified during the quarter, including missions and initiatives undertaken by the African Union (AU), IGAD, the United Nations and the AU C5 Plus. These engagements continued to underscore the importance of the R-ARCSS as a viable framework for durable peace, and inclusive political dialogue and consensus-building on the best pathway towards the holding of free, fair and credible elections.
8. Key observations during the quarter is that the Government of South Sudan continues its push to conduct elections by December 2026 despite significant bottlenecks including lack of several critical pending pre-election tasks, lack of consensus amongst the Parties to the Agreement, security challenges around the country, financial, logistical and administrative gaps that needs to be addressed for the conduct of a credible, peaceful, free and fair elections. In that regard, the RTGoNU undertook a number of legislative amendments to delink critical tasks for the conduct of elections with series of amendments to the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan, 2011, as amended and the National Elections Act, which were informed by an earlier amendment to the R-ARCSS that bypassed RJMEC consent.
9. Further, the report notes that Inter-Party Dialogue was launched on 24th September 2026 to facilitate consensus among political parties and stakeholders on a roadmap towards peaceful, credible and democratic elections. Whereas the dialogue was ongoing at the end of the reporting period, participation was observed to be limited to the parties listed in the Presidential Decree of 10th January 2026 and other stakeholders but not the holdout groups or allies of the detained and exiled SPLM/A-IO leaders. RJMEC continued to observe the dialogue, encourage inclusivity and engage with the AU High Representative in support of a more inclusive genuine political dialogue involving all signatories to the R-ARCSS and the holdout groups.

10. This report is therefore structured as follows: Section I provides an overview of the report, followed by Section II, with thematic analysis of the status of implementation of the R-ARCSS, Section III highlights key observations and recommendations to the Parties and Stakeholders to the R-ARCSS, the Caretaker Government, IGAD, African Union, United Nations and International Partners and Friends of South Sudan. Section IV provides the conclusion of the report.

II. Status of Implementation of the Transitional Tasks of the R-ARCSS

Chapter 1: Revitalised Transitional Government of National Unity

The Executive of the RTGoNU and Caretaker Government

11. For some part of the quarter and before its dissolution, the Executive of the RTGoNU continued to discharge its functions, including through convening regular meetings, and by considering and approving draft legislation for subsequent submission to the Transitional National Legislative Assembly (TNLA) for enactment. Notably, the Executive considered amendments to the R-ARCSS, together with the consequential amendments to the National Elections Act and Constitutional Amendment Bill No. 13. These legislative measures constituted significant developments during the reporting period, given their relevance to the legal and constitutional framework underpinning the electoral processes.
12. Following the presidential assent to the Constitutional Amendment No. 13, the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGoNU) Executive and Legislature were dissolved on 22nd September 2026 at the national and State levels. The dissolution of the presidency was noted as a unilateral decision contrary to article 1.1.4 of the R-ARCSS which provides that “*the term and mandate of the RTGoNU shall be for the duration of the Transitional Period, until such a time that elections are held, except as provided for in this Agreement*”.
13. Subsequently, a caretaker administration was appointed by the President at the levels of the Executive and its members sworn in on 23rd September 2026 to oversee government functions during the period leading up to the 2026 elections. The appointments made included national ministers, deputy ministers, state Governors, Chief Administrators of the Administrative Areas and a Presidential Adviser. The President made an initial 13 appointments announced on 22nd September 2026.¹ Four additional ministerial

¹ On 22nd September 2026, President Kiir appointed Africano Mande Gadime as Minister of Presidential Affairs; Martin Elia Lomuro as Minister of Cabinet Affairs; Ambassador Cecilia Adut Manyok as Minister

appointments were made on 28th September 2026.² The President also made appointments at the State level and sworn in 10 State caretaker Governors³, and three (3) caretaker Chief Administrators of the Administrative Areas⁴ who in turn have established caretaker administration in their respective jurisdictions.

14. Other parties to the Agreement, specifically the SPLM/A-IO allied to the detained former First Vice President and his exiled deputy have distanced themselves from the appointed officials within the Caretaker Government and opined that the appointments violated the responsibility sharing in the Executive as per article 1.1.6 of the R-ARCSS. In terms of gender inclusivity, it was noted that of the appointed caretaker cabinet of 17, only two (2) were women which constituted 11.8% against the minimum threshold of 35% while no women were appointed to the 10 gubernatorial positions, three (3) deputy ministerial and three (3) Chief Administrator posts.

The Transitional National Legislature

15. Before its dissolution, the Transitional National Legislature (TNL), comprising the Transitional National Legislative Assembly (TNLA) and the Council of States continued to play their respective role, including by undertaking a sequence of legislative amendments intended to align the R-ARCSS, Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan (TCRSS), 2011 (as amended) and the National Elections Act (as amended) with the RTGoNU's decision to proceed with general elections on 22nd December 2026.

of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation; Ayor Akuoch Anok as Minister of Defence and Veteran Affairs; Rizik Zachariah Hassan as Minister of Interior; Dr. Wek Mamer Kuol as Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs; Obote Mamur Mete as Minister of National Security; Athian Diing Athian as Minister of Finance and Planning; Awow Daniel Chuang as Minister of Petroleum; Dr. Labanya Margret as Minister of Trade and Industry; Ateny Wek Ateny as Minister of Information, Communication, Technology and Postal Services; Michael Makuei Lueth as Minister of East African Community Affairs; and Stephen Par Kuol as Minister of Peacebuilding.

² On 28th September 2026, the President announced four further ministerial appointments: Dr. John Gai Yoah as Minister of Health; Dr. Kuyok Abol Kuyok as Minister of General Education and Instruction; Denay Jock Chagor as Minister of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism; and Peter Mayen Majongdit as Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management. Dr. John Gai Yoah was subsequently replaced as Minister of Health by Dak Duop Bishok (also rendered in some reports as Dak Duop Bichiok) in an appointment reported on 1 October 2026.

³ On 22nd September 2026, President Kiir appointed Augustino Jadalla Wani as caretaker Governor of Central Equatoria State; Louis Lobong Lojore as caretaker Governor of Eastern Equatoria State; Moses Majok Gatluak as caretaker Governor of Jonglei State; Rin Tueny Mabor Deng as caretaker Governor of Lakes State; Charles Madut Akol as caretaker Governor of Northern Bahr el Ghazal State; Dr. Joseph Nguen Monytil as caretaker Governor of Unity State; James Koang Chuol as caretaker Governor of Upper Nile State; Bol Wek Agoth as caretaker Governor of Warrap State; Sherif Daniel Sherif as caretaker Governor of Western Bahr el Ghazal State; and Daniel Badagbu Rimbasa as caretaker Governor of Western Equatoria State. The Governors were subsequently sworn in on 25 September 2026.

⁴ The caretaker appointments included Justice Charles Abyei Jok as Chief Administrator of the Abyei Special Administrative Area; Joseph Baboya Ngere as Chief Administrator of the Greater Pibor Administrative Area; and Daniel Makuei Thiyier as Chief Administrator of the Ruweng Administrative Area. The caretaker Chief Administrators were subsequently sworn in on 25th September 2026.

16. On 1st July 2026, the TNL ratified amendments to the R-ARCSS (2018) Amendment, 2026, which principally delinked the conduct of the general elections from the permanent constitution-making process and the conduct of National Population and Housing Census. On 22nd July 2026, the amendment to the R-ARCSS received presidential assent. Furthermore, the amendments required consequential changes to be made to the TCRSS and the National Elections Act to align them with the amendments which were made to the R-ARCSS.
17. On 1st September 2026, the TNLA passed the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan, 2011 (Amendment) No. 13 Bill, 2026. The constitutional amendment sought to align the TCRSS, 2011 (as amended) to the amendments made to the R-ARCSS which delinked the planned elections from the permanent constitution-making process and census. This Bill was passed through all stages and was considered in one day during a closed sitting.

Legislative Reforms

18. In terms of the legislative reforms, as reported before, the RTGoNU had amended the R-ARCSS to delink completion of the permanent constitution and conduct of national Population and Housing Census from the conduct of the December 2026 elections. During this reporting period, it subsequently amended the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan (TCRSS) 2011, as amended, i.e., the Transitional Constitution of South Sudan, 2011 (Amendment No. 13) Act, 2026 and passed National Elections Act, 2012 (Amendment) Bill, 2026 to reflect the above changes, namely delinking elections from completion of permanent constitution and conduct of census and streamlined other elections-related matters. With regard to the other pending NCAC revised laws, namely, the two Petroleum laws and the NGO Act 2016 (Amendment) Bills, no further progress was registered. With the Transitional National Legislature dissolved, it is clear that these laws have not been amended as required by the R-ARCSS during the Transitional Period. In this regard, the Petroleum Act, Petroleum Revenue Management Act, NGO Act and the National Security Act are some of the key Agreement related laws to be reformed which constitute parts of the deferred transitional tasks.

Judicial Reforms

19. As was reported in the previous quarter, no progress was registered in implementing the report of the Judicial Reform Committee (JRC) which was handed over to the Executive of the RTGoNU and endorsed by the Presidency in December 2024. Pending judicial reforms, include review of the Judicial Act, the reconstitution of the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) to implement the requisite judicial reforms, as well as establishment of an independent Constitutional Court.

Political Parties Council

20. By the end of the quarter, the Political Parties Council (PPC) had registered additional political parties⁵, raising their number from 39 in the previous quarter to 46, including the registration of IO Party of Hon. Stephen Par Kuol as a political party. The PPC has also introduced mandatory campaign compliance requirements covering audited annual financial statements and campaign expenditure records, equal access to state-owned media and public assembly spaces, freedom of movement for candidates, and prohibitions on hate speech, tribal incitement and reliance on armed or security forces for political leverage. PPC further proposes establishment of a permanent Inter-Party Mediation Committee to resolve intra- and inter-party disputes.
21. On 1st September 2026, the Political Parties Council (PPC) issued the Order for the Regulation and Registration of Pre-Election Coalitions, 2026, for registered political parties intending to form coalitions to contest the 22nd December 2026 general elections. Under the Order, the PPC set 22nd October 2026 as the statutory cut-off date for the submission of applications for pre-election coalitions. The PPC stated that the deadline aligns with the statutory requirement for a 60-day filing window before the general elections. The PPC also set 15th October 2026 as the deadline for exiled or boycotting political groups to sign the Electoral Code of Conduct and register candidates, provided they formally renounce political violence.

Preparations for Elections

22. During the third quarter, the National Elections Commission (NEC) continued to perform its constitutional functions towards preparations to conduct elections in December 2026. This followed the decision to proceed with general elections on 22nd December 2026, with election-related institutions expected to align their activities towards the conduct of peaceful and credible elections.
23. On 27th July 2026, NEC launched civic and voter education campaigns and subsequently cascaded it to the state-level. Furthermore, NEC trained members of the State High Elections Committees and the three Administrative Areas on voter registration. However, by the end of the reporting period, voter registration had not yet commenced and there was no electoral register in place. With elections scheduled for 22nd December, the non-commencement of voter registration placed immense pressure on the remaining timeline for electoral activities.

⁵ The following were the seven additional registered political parties: South Sudan Patriotic Movement (SSPM); South Sudan United Movement; South Sudan Liberation Movement (SSLM); National Salvation Front (NAS); Progressive Socialist Party (PSP); and Peace Unity Reconciliation and Equality Party (PURE) and Party of National Unity (PNU)

24. In early September, the NEC trained representatives of the State High Elections Committees from the ten states and three Administrative Areas in voter registration procedures. The training covered the electoral legal framework, registration forms, civic and voter education related to registration, and the management of equipment and data. Participants were expected to return to their respective areas and train local registration staff. Further NEC reported that the State High Elections Committees were nearing completion of assessments of voter registration centres.
25. On 22nd September, the NEC unveiled its voter registration book and announced that registration would be conducted manually, in person and using paper forms across the country. NEC is reported to state that voter registration details would be recorded both in voter registration book which would remain at the state level and subsequently be entered into the Commission's computer data-based systems.
26. On 15th September 2026, Professor Abednego Akok Kacuol was replaced as Chairperson of the NEC with Hon. Gabriel Bol Deng Majok, then Secretary-General of the Commission constituting a significant change in the leadership of the National Elections Commission (NEC). The timing of the leadership change at NEC added pressure to already compressed electoral timeline.

Inter-Party Dialogue

27. On 24th September 2026, Inter-Party Dialogue commenced in Juba, bringing together political parties and other national stakeholders to deliberate on key issues relating to the conduct of the general elections scheduled for December 2026. The dialogue was initially scheduled for 17th September but was subsequently rescheduled to 24th September. In opening the dialogue, H.E. President Salva Kiir stated that its principal purpose was to enable the parties to agree on a common path towards peaceful and credible elections, and situated the process alongside the legal, administrative and logistical and security dimensions of electoral preparations. By the end of the quarter, the dialogue was still ongoing.
28. The dialogue, in which RJMEC is an observer, received presentations from representatives of political parties, political alliances, Technical Working Groups, electoral institutions, security institutions, civil society organizations, women, youth and other types of stakeholders. The Dialogue focused on five thematic areas, i.e., legal and constitutional framework, political and governance issues, electoral and institutional preparedness, security and civic space and stakeholders and civil society participation. There was a general call for the enhancement of security and civic space as essential conditions for credible elections, accelerated implementation of the outstanding Transitional Security Arrangements, participation of all stakeholders including women, and youth in elections and safety and security for all during elections.

29. Several presentations also stressed that conducting elections should not extinguish outstanding obligations under the R-ARCSS. Unfinished security, constitutional, governance, economic, humanitarian, reconciliation and institutional reforms should be addressed through appropriate arrangements before and after the elections. A number of challenges persist with the Dialogue including a boycott of part of the opposition, citing unilateral decisions, continued detention of opposition figures and holdout groups, neutrality of the venue and accusations of there being a pre-determined outcome given the critical political and legal changes such as dissolution of the RTGoNU were made before instead of after the dialogue process. The status of the dialogue remains unclear at this point; however, the expectation now is for the parties and stakeholders in the Dialogue to reach consensus on the way forward in securing free, fair, credible and peaceful elections for South Sudan.

Chapter 2: Permanent Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements

Permanent Ceasefire

30. On the permanent Ceasefire, there has been a relative decline in the number, frequency and intensity of alleged violent incidents between the SSPDF and the SPLM/A-IO in most parts of the country. However, sporadic and intermittent clashes between SSPDF and SPLM/A-IO were reported in Ulang and Nasir Counties in Upper Nile State, Yurol and Urol states in Jonglei State, as well as West and East Mundri Counties of Western Equatoria State, and Yei County in Central Equatoria State. This security trend indicates a relatively stable but volatile security situation.
31. CTSAMVM data shows that during the three months of reporting, recorded alleged violations were as follows: July a total of 25 was recorded and broken-down as follows- 5 clashes between signatories, 4 alleged violations against civilians, 10 movement restrictions, and 6 categorized as others; August a total of 37 was recorded (02 clashes between signatories, 14 hostilities against civilians by signatories, 05 SGBV by signatories against civilians, 07 movement restriction on civilians and humanitarians by signatories, and 09 other alleged violations; ; and September a total of 25 alleged violations were recorded (04 clashes between signatories, 03 hostilities against civilians by signatories, 0 SGBV against civilians by signatories, 03 movement restrictions on civilians and humanitarians by signatory parties, and 15 other alleged violations). In summary, alleged violations due to SSPDF and SPLM/A-IO clashes are 05; 02; and 04 for July, August and September respectively.

32. During the period of reporting, CTSAMVM submitted to IGAD and RJMEC six (06.) violation reports: *CTSAMVM Violation Report 2026/16*: Civilian Killings, Movement Restrictions, and Armed Confrontation in Nasir County, 5 May 2026. *CTSAMVM Violation Report 2026/18*: Armed Confrontations Between SSPDF and SPLM/A-IO in Burbiey and Jikmir, Nasir County (20-21 September 2025). There were attributed to the SSPDF, and RJMEC submitted the reports to the ITGoNU representative in RJMEC and the SSPDF for further action as per CTSAMVM's recommendations.
33. The following violations were attributed to SPLM/A-IO: (*CTSAMVM Violation Report 2026/15*: Armed Youth Attack on Civilians in Adong, Baliet County, and Looting of Humanitarian Food Supplies at Duma, Upper Nile State (14-20 November 2025); *CTSAMVM Violation Report 2026/17*: SPLM/A-IO/NAS Attack on SSPDF in Makpandu on 25 February 2026 and the Killing of a Football Coach in Yambio Town, Western Equatoria State on 28 June 2026; *CTSAMVM Violation Report 2026/18*: Armed Confrontations Between SSPDF and SPLM/A-IO in Burbiey and Jikmir, Nasir County (20-21 September 2025); *CTSAMVM Violation Report 2026/19*: SPLM/A-IO Attack in Atende Boma, Looting of Property and Abduction of a Boma Sub-Chief and Four Youths. Violations in CTSAMVM Report 2026/18 were attributed to both the SSPDF and the SPLM/A-IO.
34. On the status of Security Mechanisms, CTSAMVM remains the only functioning security mechanism despite operating with only three Monitoring and Verification Teams (MVTs) in the field amidst serious financial challenges. Although the Joint Defence Board has not met as a mechanism in more than one year, the CDF and the D/CDF have been engaged in de-escalatory initiatives that seem to have reduced the intensity and frequency of SSPDF and SPLM/A-IO clashes experienced prior to the unilateral ceasefire. The JMCC and JTSC have not been functioning since the March 2025 Nasir crisis, and the DDR Commission has been unable to implement its tasks due to the political environment and the lack of funding. Work of the SDSR Board stalled since March 2025, therefore its draft documents have not been approved by the principals.
35. On the unification of forces, the process has not progressed since the March 2025 Nasir incident. However, some parties in the South Sudan Opposition Alliance submitted some of their forces for integration into the SSPDF in preparation for registration as political parties with the Political Parties Council. In early September 2026, approximately 486 SPLA-IO forces from Mapel Training Center, Wester Bahr El Ghazal State, were integrated into the SSPDF. However, it is important to note that due to the fragmentation of some of the armed opposition signatory parties, the exact number of their forces integrated and those still remaining in their old formations cannot be ascertained.

Chapter 3: Humanitarian Assistance and Reconstruction

36. During this quarter, the humanitarian response was increasingly constrained and overtaken by rising humanitarian needs driven by armed conflict intercommunal violence, large scale displacement, persistent economic hardship, food insecurity, climate shocks, disease outbreak, restricted access and diminishing funding for humanitarian efforts. The impact of the diminished humanitarian response capacity was disproportionately felt by displaced communities, women, children and populations in hard-to-reach areas.

Food Insecurity

37. The already dire hunger crisis in South Sudan was exacerbated by violence, extreme weather and dwindling aid which left millions without enough food. Food insecurity remained one of the key features of the humanitarian crisis with over lapping drivers including armed conflict, disruption of agricultural and livestock livelihoods, restricted humanitarian access, high food and fuel prices, economic deterioration and reduced purchasing power, disrupted markets and trade routes, poor rainfall and prolonged dry spells as well as flooding and other climatic shocks. According to the latest IPC analysis, an estimated 7.86 million people faced acute food insecurity. The number of children and pregnant and breastfeeding women requiring nutritional support rose to 2.2 million and 1.2 respectively compared to 2.11 and 1.15M in the same period last year with the highest levels of food insecurity recorded in Jonglei, Upper Nile and Unity States. According to the World Food Programme, due to critical funding shortfalls, many vulnerable households particularly refugees, and returnees fleeing the war in Sudan faced limited access to essential food and nutrition support. UN-OCHA reported that more than one million vulnerable people were at risk of losing life-saving food and nutrition assistance by October unless additional funding was secured.
38. During the quarter, crop production was affected by below average rainfall, long dry spells and insecurity which led to exceptionally high cereal prices. Prices were also affected by persistent macroeconomic challenges and elevated fuel prices. The effects of the “super El Niño” were already evident in South Sudan as even the most fertile agricultural areas were affected and registered crop failure and low yields due to drought.

Protection of Civilians

39. Increased threats and intimidation of humanitarian personnel, looting of humanitarian supplies, destruction of health facilities and banditry continued to heighten risks to humanitarian workers while civilians were exposed to armed conflict, intercommunal violence, abduction, killings and sexual gender-based violence and disruption of essential services. Most serious protection concerns were reported in Jonglei, and greater Upper

Nile where renewed fighting exposed civilians to violence and repeated displacement while in Warrap civilian casualties and displacement resulted from cattle raiding, revenge attacks, and competition over grazing land and water with women and children bearing the worst brunt.

40. Displacement increased exposure to exploitation, and other protection risks including conflict related sexual violence and other forms of gender-based violence. Protection risks were also contributed to by deteriorating basic services resulting from attacks on health facilities and humanitarian infrastructure which reduced access to health care and nutrition services. A case in point was an attack on Alabek Primary Health Centre in Tonj North County, Warrap State which led to the death of 2 health workers as well destruction and looting of medical supplies disrupting services for over 50,000 people. Armed attacks and looting of WFP relief cargo in Jonglei deprived 20,000 vulnerable people in Ayod County of a month-food rations and 4,400 in Mogok of 3 months food rations heightening their vulnerability to hunger.
41. According to CTSAMVM reports, renewed clashes in several parts of the country, particularly in Upper Nile and Jonglei States, resulted in fresh displacement, civilian casualties, and destruction of livelihoods. Reports indicated that rape and SGBV and CRSV remained significant, highlighting ongoing risks for especially women and girls engaged in livelihood activities in remote areas. It is worth noting that reported numbers are affected by barriers to reporting and seeking justice including cultural, family, and community pressures.

Humanitarian Access

42. During the reporting period, limited reopening and restoration of humanitarian corridors were reported in some locations. Notably the Matar – Nasir humanitarian corridor was reopened enabling the delivery of food assistance to hard-to-reach communities in Nasir County in Upper Nile. The quarter also saw an expanded use of the Sobat River corridor despite challenges including checkpoints, insecurity and navigation limitations. The corridor allowed for access to some of the hardest to reach areas of Upper Nile and Jonglei and the expansion of outreach services along the Sobat by organisations like MSF. In Jonglei, during the months of August and September, the rapid Response Mechanism restored lifesaving services to areas previously isolated by conflict after months without reliable services including Wiechjol in Akobo and Waat in Nyirol. As reported by CTSAMVM and logistics cluster reports, the Canal corridor also remained intermittently usable during the quarter providing alternative routes to the severely constrained road access in northern Jonglei and Upper Nile restoring movement and trade.
43. Despite these gains, access challenges continued to compound the humanitarian crisis and deteriorated significantly due to escalating insecurity, administrative and bureaucratic impediments, armed checkpoints, movement restrictions, poor road and river conditions which worsened logistical challenges and limited sustained humanitarian access.

44. Humanitarian agencies reported restrictions on movement, insecurity along transport routes, and looting of humanitarian facilities in some areas and illegal taxation. This led to increased operational costs, slowing down the effectiveness and delivery of humanitarian assistance and in some areas led to suspension and/or scaling back operations in areas where populations require urgent assistance.
45. During the quarter, there was a rise in reported access incidences. By August, 5337 incidents of violence against humanitarian workers and assets had been reported compared to 456 in July. Of these 77 incidences were reported in August alone compared to 65 in July with 42 being violence against staff and assets in August compared to 37 in July.
46. 6 health workers were killed in July bringing the total number of humanitarian workers and contractors who have lost their lives in the line of duty to 36 by August this year compared to 31 the whole of last year. Increased cases of staff abduction and relocation were also reported while on August 24th 2026, 2 UNMISS peacekeepers lost their lives in the line of duty.

Displacement Dynamics

47. The prevailing insecurity continued to impact voluntary return, reintegration and resettlement of IDPs and Returnees. Conflict continued to drive new displacement as returnees faced critical gaps in basic services. The continued impact of the conflict in Sudan, and protracted internal displacement continued to shape the displacement dynamics leading to increased humanitarian needs and challenges in the implementation of interventions.
48. Insecurity continued to trigger new displacements adding to the high protracted internal displacement figures. Conflict induced displacement remained prominent in Jonglei, Upper Nile and Warrap States while population movements in parts of Eastern Equatoria were triggered by climate stress and the resultant deteriorating livelihoods. In Jonglei, continued fighting and insecurity triggered secondary displacement as populations fled active hostilities. Displaced population were faced with shortages in food, shelter, healthcare, water and protection needs.
49. The Sudan conflict continued to generate significant cross border movements into South Sudan with 12,968 and 12,982 refugees and returnees arriving in July and August respectively. By end of August a total of 1,424,507 refugees, returnees and asylum-seekers, 53% of whom were female, had crossed into South Sudan since April 2023, exerting significant pressure on reception centres, host communities, and the limited humanitarian resources.

⁷<https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/south-sudan/south-sudan-humanitarian-access-snapshot-august-2026>

50. Reports indicated that more than 2.5 million people were internally displaced, with nearly 964,000 in camps and displacement sites. Many of these households have been displaced multiple times over several years, with limited prospects for durable solutions due to insecurity, flooding, and lack of basic services.
51. In general, voluntary returns continued to be hampered by lack of funding, services at the points of final return and insecurity and whereas some returnees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) have returned to their communities of origin, resettlement and reintegration remained hampered by inadequate humanitarian support, access to basic services and livelihood opportunities. The situation was made worse by climate-related shocks which devastated communities during this reporting period.
52. Returnees and IDPs continued to face significant barriers to sustainable reintegration, protection and access to basic services due to lack of civil documentation like IDs and birth certificates. According to a World Bank report published in July 2026, nearly 90% of the population lacked government recognised IDs, with women, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees, refugees, and other vulnerable groups disproportionately excluded, leading to limited access to humanitarian, financial employment and other essential services. UNHCR reports also indicated that lack of documentation impeded refugees and returnees' ability to enroll children in school, and obtain sim cards among others.
53. The implementation of Chapter III remained nominal due to lack of political will, funding, the institution of the legal frameworks to support implementation and operationalisation of launched frameworks like the South Sudan Action Plan on Returns, Reintegration, and Recovery: Achieving Durable Solutions (2024-2028), as well as the CRSV Action Plan (2024-2026).

Progress Against Gender Provisions

54. Women's participation in decision making and inclusion in social and political processes and reforms continued to be constrained and undermined by the lack of commitment to the implementation of the gender provisions in the agreement, institutional and structural gender inequalities.
55. During the quarter, minimal progress was registered, with most interventions focused on protecting women and girls from the effects of conflict rather than advancing women's political participation or meeting the Agreement's gender commitments. Most interventions focused on preparing women for the upcoming elections addressing sexual reproductive needs while some grassroot activities supported women's skills development and community commitments to preventing violence.
56. Progress was made towards improving access to justice for survivors of gender-based violence through a juvenile mobile court in Juba between. In July 2026, the mobile court completed 92 of the 109 identified backlog cases benefiting 118 remand detainees. On

September 16th with support from UNMISS and the Royal Norwegian Embassy, an initiative to expedite the hearing of a backlog of sexual and gender-based violence cases in Juba was launched with the aim of hearing 81 pending cases, 66 of which are rape cases.

57. Progress towards meeting the target of women's participation in governance and decision making at a minimum threshold of 35% remained limited and regressed as evidenced by the representation of women in the recently appointed Caretaker Government. As at the end of September, women made up only 11.8% of the Caretaker Cabinet of 17 while no women were appointed to the 10 gubernatorial positions, three (3) deputy ministerial and three (3) Chief Administrator positions.

Chapter 4: Resource Economic and Financial Management

Environmental Protection

58. Legal frameworks (4.9.1, 4.8.3, and 4.8.4) for protecting natural resources—including wildlife, forests, water bodies, minerals, and air quality—have not yet been developed. These laws would govern how resources are used, managed, and conserved to prevent depletion and environmental damage. They are intended to promote sustainable natural resource management for current and future generations while balancing ecological protection with economic development by regulating activities that could harm ecosystems.
59. Conservation laws and regulations are essential for protecting natural resources, preserving biodiversity, and ensuring sustainable environmental use. In a country heavily dependent on the extractive oil industry, human activity continues to affect ecosystems, making these laws important for individuals, businesses, policymakers, and conservationists. The Environment Management Authority (4.6.1.3), which would be empowered to develop regulations, set measures and standards, and issue guidelines for natural resource and environmental management, has not yet been established. Once established, the Authority would strengthen environmental protection by ensuring that environmental impact assessments, audits, monitoring, restoration orders, conservation orders, and easements are implemented in accordance with the law. Without this legal and institutional framework, the National Ministry has continued to act as both policymaker and sector regulator, with the regulatory role falling outside its mandate.

The Nile and Other Water Resources

60. Legislation to manage the Nile and other water resources—including water pollution control, water allocation rights, wetland protection, and flood management—has not yet been passed. The main water management policy remains the revised Southern Sudan Water Policy 2007, implemented in part through the South Sudan WASH Sector Strategic Framework 2012. This policy focuses on providing clean and safe drinking water and improving rural and urban hygiene and sanitation. The Establishment Bill 2022, which would create the legal structures needed for the Ministry to fulfill its mandate, was submitted to the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs.
61. The South Sudan Water Bill 2015 has not yet been reviewed as required by the R-ARCSS, and the Transboundary Water Resources Management Policy and Gender Water Policy have not yet been developed. The Ministry is also working on a Water Resource Master Plan to map South Sudan's water resources. These legal and institutional frameworks are needed to support sustainable development.

Public Financial Management

Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget Execution

62. In FY 2025/26, the resource envelope totaled SSP 7.41 trillion, including SSP 0.724 trillion in non-oil revenue from taxes, fees, and charges, and SSP 3,786 trillion in oil revenue. Against approved expenditure of SSP 8.58 trillion, actual spending reached SSP 9.344 trillion, covering recurrent and mandatory expenditure, other payments, and exchange gains from domestic borrowing. Of the total, SSP 8,264 trillion was spent on recurrent expenditure and SSP 0.374 trillion on capital expenditure and other payments.

Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Budget

63. On September 8th, 2026, the Ministry of Finance and Planning presented the FY 2026/27 Draft Budget, Finance Bill, and Appropriation Bill to the Transitional Legislature. The proposed resource envelope totals SSP 11.34 trillion and will be financed through domestic oil and non-oil revenue. Oil revenue is estimated at SSP 9.01 trillion, or approximately 79.5 percent of the total, while non-oil revenue is projected at SSP 2.32 trillion, or approximately 20.5 percent.
64. The approved sector ceilings are as follows:
 - **Infrastructure:** SSP 1.187 trillion (10.5%)
 - **Education:** SSP 513.1 billion (4.5%)
 - **Health:** SSP 371.5 billion (3.3%)
 - **Public Administration:** SSP 927.4 billion (8.1%)

- **Security:** SSP 710.89 billion (6.1%)
- **Rule of Law:** SSP 721.1 billion (6.0%)
- **Function** SSP508.8 billion (4.5%)
- **Accountability:** SSP 244.3 billion (2.2%)
- **Natural Resources:** SSP 406.0 billion (3.6%)
- **Social & Humanitarian Affairs:** SSP 17.74 billion (0.2%)
- **Other Payments:** SSP 5.728 trillion (51.1%)

65. Major Appropriations

- Wages and Salaries: SSP 1,433,329,352,114 (includes foreign mission arrears)
- Operating Expenses (Goods & Services): SSP 1,326,080,723,344
- Capital Expenditure: SSP 2,709,711,731,744 (with SSP 210,224,051,818 for contingencies)
- Mandatory Expenditure: SSP 4,869,690,212,162 (includes debt payments, payments to Sudan, oil-producing states, Bank of South Sudan recapitalization)
- Grants and Transfers: SSP 933,419,917,910 (includes transfers to sub-national governments, international bodies, humanitarian funds)
- Peace Implementation: SSP 29,101,564,728
- Constituency Development Fund: SSP 30,000,000,000

66. Special Allocations

- Pre-election and General Elections: SSP 183.99 billion
- Transfers and Grants (including block and conditional transfers): SSP 933.4 billion
- Payments to Sudan: SSP 1.179 trillion
- Oil Producing States (2%): SSP 156.65 billion
- Oil Producing Communities (3%): SSP 234.97 billion
- Ministry of Petroleum (3%): SSP 234.97 billion
- Recapitalization of Bank of South Sudan: SSP 500 billion
- Future generations: Fund SSP 78 billion
- NRA Retention and Commission (14.5%): SSP 325 billion

67. These allocations reflect a focus on infrastructure, debt repayment, public administration, and preparations for upcoming elections, while also maintaining significant commitments to education, health, and security. The investment tilt of the budget is aligned with

infrastructure led growth as the government continues the Oil for infrastructure projects and other capital-intensive projects. Recapitalizing the Central Bank would allow it to conduct monetary policy without financial constraints and strengthen the financial system as foreign commercial banks raise their minimum capital requirements.

68. The Appropriation Bill establishes a comprehensive framework for fiscal discipline, transparency, and accountability in South Sudan's public financial management for FY 2026/2027. It outlines the budget execution controls the mandatory reporting and accountability reports and provides special provisions for the Peace Implementation Fund, Pension Funds and the Community Development funds. Furthermore, it states that the Bill becomes law upon signature by the President of South Sudan. Timely enactment of these bills is essential, especially the implementation of the Finance Bill's new tax revenue measures.

Public Expenditure

69. The Ministry of Public Service and Human Resource Development is consolidating the payroll, as required under R-ARCSS 4.12.11; reforming the salary structure; addressing salary arrears and pension management challenges; and removing existing bottlenecks. Effective payroll management requires strict use of the Human Resource Management Information System (HRMIS) as the sole official source for payroll processing across government institutions. All institutions must follow Section 31(2A) of the Public Financial Management and Accountability Act, 2011 (as amended in 2024), and the procedures established by the Ministry of Public Service and Human Resource Development.
70. Through the Building Institutional Foundations for an Effective Public Service (BIFEPS) Project, the Ministry is collaborating with Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) to review the salary framework. Key activities include: identifying weaknesses and opportunities for reform in the payroll and grading system; comparing South Sudan's public- and private-sector pay and grading structures to assess the competitiveness of government salaries; benchmarking South Sudan's public-sector salaries against those in East Africa and other developing countries; and preparing three feasible payroll reform options for the Government's consideration.

Chapter 5: Transitional Justice, Accountability, Reconciliation and Healing

71. On the Transitional Justice, the three mechanisms i.e., the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing (CTRH), the Hybrid Court for South Sudan (HCSS) and the Compensation and Reparation Authority are yet to be established.
72. On the CTRH, the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs prepared a Cabinet Memorandum for tabling before the Council of Ministers. This Cabinet Memorandum was to seek RTGoNU Executive approval for appointment of the seven nominees to the position of CTRH Commissioners. Four South Sudanese and three non-South Sudanese were nominated by the CTRH Selection Panel and the Chair of the African Union Commission (AUC) respectively. However, shortly before the Memorandum was tabled before the Council of Ministers, the RTGoNU was dissolved. The TNLA which was mandated by the CTRH Act to vet the nominees after the approval of the Executive was also dissolved.
73. In essence South Sudan is proceeding for elections without having established the CTRH, a body that would have been instrumental in amongst other things inquiring into the causes of conflict and making recommendations on prevention of future conflict.
74. The HCSS will also not be established by the AUC and RTGoNU for the same reasons as CTRH non-establishment. As a consequence, South Sudan has missed a vital opportunity to hold to account the perpetrators accused of international crimes in the 2013 and 2016 conflicts.
75. With the dissolution of the RTGoNU and TNLA, the CRA can no longer be established in the Transitional Period. Consequently, victims of atrocities including those whose lives and livelihoods were destroyed by conflicts may never receive compensation and reparations.
76. Overall, the dissolution of the RTGoNU and TNL sadly brings to a close many efforts on many fronts undertaken during the Transitional Period to facilitate truth, justice, reconciliation, healing and reparations to the people of South Sudan.
77. It is recommended that the Parties participating in the Inter-Party Dialogue and other future dialogues commit to continue implementation of this transitional justice program after elections.

Chapter 6: Parameters of the Permanent Constitution

78. In terms of the permanent constitution making process, no new progress was registered during this reporting period. Even though the reconstituted National Constitutional Review Commission (RNCRC) is continuing with its work, and had made tremendous progress undertaking civic education and public consultations in all the ten States and three Administrative Areas, the momentum has slowed down due to RTGoNU decision to delink the permanent constitution-making process from the conduct of elections.
79. Even though in principle, the Government has indicated that the permanent constitution-making process shall continue post-election and committed that elected government will complete the task, the amendment to the TCRSS 2011 deleted such a mandate from the government and makes no explicit reference to its future timeline.
80. Some of the key pending constitution-making tasks under Chapter VI of the R-ARCSS and the Constitution Making Process Act 2022 includes the recruitment of a Constitution Drafting Committee (CDC); appointment of a preparatory Sub-Committee for the convening of the National Constitutional Conference (NCC); drafting of the Constitutional Text and phase two of civic education and public consultation; adoption of the constitutional text by the Constitutional Conference, and transformation of the Transitional National Legislature (TNL) into a Constituent Assembly to ratify the constitution. The dissolution of the TNL therefore means there will be need for renewed discussion, consensus and amendment of the Constitution Making Process Act post-elections.

Chapter 7: Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission

81. On 2nd July 2026, RJMEC convened a briefing session during which the Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms namely the National Constitutional Review Commission (NCRC), the Political Parties Council (PPC), Ceasefire and Transitional Security Monitoring and Verification Mechanism (CTSAMVM) and Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGoNU) updated the members on the status of their respective mandates.
82. On its part, the RTGoNU updated on the establishment of an Inter-Party Steering Body and a National Political Dialogue framework aimed at facilitating consensus on elections-related issues. The dialogue was to focus on five thematic areas, namely the electoral timeline, the legal framework for elections, institutional preparedness, political guarantees, and the security environment required for peaceful elections, and that

technical working groups⁸ were established to address each thematic area. Further, the RTGoNU acknowledged that several provisions of the Agreement would not be completed before the scheduled elections and that the Parties resolved that all outstanding and ongoing provisions would be designated as “*Post-Election R-ARCSS Arrangements*” and would remain binding on the Parties and would continue to be implemented by the government elected after the December 2026 elections.

83. In that regard, the RTGoNU requested RJMEC to take note of the consensus decisions adopted by the Parties, and to consider: (a) integrating all newly ratified transitional and amendment decisions into its monitoring and reporting framework; providing overt support for the implementation of the agreed electoral roadmap; maintaining and actively expanding its role in facilitating structural dialogue among the Parties to the R-ARCSS; supporting the long-term implementation of the deferred post-elections R-ARCSS arrangements; and engaging regional and international partners to marshal support for peaceful elections and sustained agreement implementation.
84. On 15th July, RJMEC attended a session of the TNLA where a joint Parliamentary Committee on Peace and Justice made a presentation on the RJMEC quarterly reports of the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2025.

Regional and International Engagement

85. During this reporting period, regional high-level diplomacy intensified in South Sudan in support of the peace process. From 6th to 8th July, a ministerial delegation of the AU High-Level Ad Hoc Committee on South Sudan, known as the C5, under the leadership of Hon. Ronald Lamola, South African Minister for International Relations and Cooperation, conducted a joint solidarity mission to Juba, from 6–8 July 2026, to assess the ongoing peace implementation and engage with the Government and key stakeholders on acceleration of R-ARCSS implementation and the political transition. During the visit, the RJMEC leadership briefed the delegation of the AU C5 high-level solidarity mission on the status of implementation of the R-ARCSS.
86. On 6th August, the RJMEC leadership, alongside UNMISS and a CSO representative, briefed the United Nations Security Council on the situation in South Sudan. RJMEC

⁸ **Scope of Dialogue (5 Technical Groups formed):**

- *Electoral Timeline:* (i) feasibility of December elections; (ii) key milestones and sequencing; and (iii) conditions required before polling day;
- *Legal Framework:* (i) review of election laws; (ii) harmonization of conflicting provisions and (iii) compliance with constitutional provisions.
- *Institutional Preparedness:* (i) status of NEC; (ii) PPC readiness; and (iii) Security Sector arrangements.
- *Political Guarantees:* (i) level-playing field, (ii) media access and (iii) freedom of assembly and movement.
- *Security Environment:* (i) deployment of unified forces; (ii) non-interference by armed groups and (iii) protection of voters and candidates.

recommended to the Council , *inter alia*, to: continue supporting full implementation of the R-ARCSS as the only viable framework for lasting peace in South Sudan and encourage all the parties and stakeholders to uphold and adhere to its full implementation in letter and spirit; support implementation of the AU C5 Plus Declaration and all previous UNSC recommendations by working closely with the African Union, IGAD, RJMEC and the Parties to facilitate an all-inclusive South Sudanese political dialogue; urge the Parties to de-escalate tensions, cease hostilities, release political detainees and to adhere to the R-ARCSS; call upon all Parties, holdout groups and stakeholders to engage in genuine and inclusive dialogue to build consensus on the roadmap towards completion of the transition and the conduct of peaceful, credible, and inclusive elections; enhance political, technical and logistical support to the electoral institutions, particularly the NEC, PPC and NCRC to expedite the completion of their tasks before the end of the transitional period; and strengthen support for transitional justice mechanisms, particularly the establishment and operationalisation of the CTRH, and initiatives that advance national healing, reconciliation and peaceful coexistence.

87. In August, pursuant to Article 7.10 of the R-ARCSS, RJMEC draw the attention of the Chairperson of the IGAD Council of Ministers and the Guarantors to the R-ARCSS pertaining to ongoing serious violations of the R-ARCSS, seeking guidance from the Guarantors on the way forward. Of concern was the previously reported proposal by the RTGoNU to amend key provisions of the R-ARCSS ostensibly to pave way for the conduct of elections as scheduled in December 2026.
88. Specifically, RJMEC had observed contextual and procedural irregularities and the far-reaching implications of some of the proposed amendments, which apart from delinking the requirement for the conduct of census and completion of the Permanent Constitution before the scheduled conduct of elections, as well as some amendments which would alter the structure and basic tenets of the R-ARCSS.
89. RJMEC highlighted key areas of concerns raised by its members and the stakeholders, including by recommending the way forward, and that the RTGoNU resolved to “bypass” the RJMEC and subsequently submitted the proposed amendments to the Transitional National Legislature (TNL). The bill was passed and assented into law by the President of the Republic of South Sudan on 22nd July 2026. Whereas the proposed amendments to Articles 8.2 and 8.3 of the R-ARCSS were subsequently dropped by the RTGoNU, as earlier guided by RJMEC, the amendment was not endorsed by at least two-thirds of RJMEC voting members as required by Article 8.4 of the R-ARCSS, making the amendment inconsistent with the provisions of the R-ARCSS. Subsequently, the RTGoNU initiated Constitutional amendments to operationalise the amended R-ARCSS provisions, which sought to, *inter-alia*, end the Transitional Period, dissolve the RTGoNU arrangements, and enable the conduct of elections without consensus of all the party signatories to the R-ARCSS.
90. During this period, the AU deployed a Pre-Elections Assessment Mission (PAM) to the South Sudan. Further, the Peace and Security Council of the African Union (PSC)

convened its 1364th meeting on the situation in South Sudan in which, the Council, among others, reiterated the need for inclusive political dialogue, cessation of hostilities, completion of security arrangements, sufficient financing for transitional institutions and a consensual electoral roadmap. IGAD reinforced this regional position on 15th September during a meeting of its Council of Ministers on the situation in South Sudan held in Djibouti. The reiterated that the R-ARCSS remained the viable framework for lasting peace, that the elections remained anchored in that framework, and that inclusive dialogue was necessary to restore confidence and establish a consensus-based electoral pathway.

91. On 29th September 2026, the regional engagements culminated in the Summit of the AU High-Level Ad Hoc Committee for South Sudan C5 Plus, which the RJMEC leadership attended. The C5 Plus Declaration reaffirmed the R-ARCSS as the viable framework for political transition; called for immediate cessation of hostilities and inclusive dialogue; recognised commencement of the Inter-Party Dialogue; called for a feasible, consensual and time-bound electoral roadmap; and sought stronger AU-IGAD-UN coordination. Of particular significance, the C5 Plus urged for the establishment of a joint AU-IGAD-UN taskforce, under the auspices of the C5, to support preventive diplomacy, strengthen coordination, monitor implementation and provide political and strategic guidance in relation to the peace process and elections.

III. Key Observations and Recommendations

Observations

92. Overall, during this third quarter of 2026, South Sudan entered a new political dispensation marking the formal end of the RTGoNU as envisaged under the R-ARCSS with the appointment of a Caretaker administration to prepare the country for elections within three months. Where the RTGoNU was expected to be dissolved in preparation for elections, the Presidency was supposed to remain intact within the principle of responsibility sharing within the Executive until the conduct of elections.
93. There were series of legal reforms and institutional preparations undertaken, including amendments to the R-ARCSS, TCRSS, and National Elections Act as well as registration of political parties, civic and voter education, inter-party dialogue, and increased regional diplomatic engagement. However, considerable political, security, financial and institutional challenges remained.
94. Similarly, electoral credibility remained closely connected to peace and security. Continuing armed confrontations, incomplete security arrangements, intercommunal violence, active armed groups and concerns regarding civic and political space risked weakening public confidence in the transition. These factors could also affect public participation in the elections particularly voter registration, campaigning, safety of

candidates, voter access and public acceptance of results. Conversely, inclusive dialogue to settle political differences, adherence to the Permanent Ceasefire, completion of priority security tasks, including on election security management and predictable support to the electoral institutions could materially improve the environment in which elections are conducted.

95. The increased engagement of IGAD, the AU, C5 Plus, the UN and other partners was therefore timely. However, the primary responsibility for implementation remained with the South Sudanese Parties and the RTGoNU. Regional and international engagement could support political convergence, technical preparedness and preventive diplomacy, but a peaceful conclusion of the transition would ultimately depend upon sustained political will and adherence to the commitments undertaken in the R-ARCSS.

Amendment to the R-ARCSS

96. During this quarter, very significant developments took place with regard the ending of the Transitional Period and the conduct of elections as scheduled for 22nd December 2026. H.E Gen. Salva Kiir Mayardit vide Presidential Decree and appointed a Caretaker Government, in preparation for the conduct of general elections on 22nd December 2026 as announced by the National Elections Commission.
97. The partial dissolution of the government three months before elections, while in accordance with the timeline envisaged in the R-ARCSS and TCRSS, a series of expedited the relevant laws, including TCRSS Amendment Bill No 13 of 2026, and National Elections Act (Amendment) Bill 2026, both premised on the earlier on reported controversial amendment to the R-ARCSS which by-passed RJMEC.
98. In this regard, on 24th September 2026, the President launched the Inter-Party Dialogue process for party's signatory to the R-ARCSS and stakeholders to dialogue and agree on a roadmap to the conduct of peaceful, credible and democratic elections as per the amended laws. The dialogue is ongoing however participation is limited to parties listed in the Presidential Decree of 10th January 2026 and holdout groups other stakeholders invited to observe. or SPLM-IO affiliated to Dr Riek Machar remained excluded. RJMEC continued to observe the Inter-Party Dialogue and engage with the AU High Representative in an effort to encourage an all-inclusive political dialogue involving all party's signatory to the R-ARCSS and holdout groups.

Recommendations

In light of the aforementioned, the following measures are proposed for consideration as the country prepared to conduct its first general elections after independence on 22nd December 2026:

a. To the Parties to the Agreement and Relevant Stakeholders:

- recommit to adhere to the R-ARCSS as the most viable existing framework for managing the political transition and resolving outstanding issues through peaceful dialogue and consensus;
- engage constructively and in good faith in the ongoing Inter-Party Dialogue and embrace the AU C5 Plus mandated dialogue process aimed at addressing the underlying political tensions, building consensus, restoring confidence in the peace process, addressing incomplete transitional tasks and agreeing on a viable electoral roadmap and post-election governance agenda;
- the ITGoNU and the SPLM/A-IO to recommit to the Permanent Ceasefire, reactive its mechanisms and ensure strict adherence to its provisions to prevent further escalation of tensions and preserve confidence in the peace process;
- agree on clear and time-bound and binding inter-party arrangements for completing the outstanding transitional tasks prior, during and beyond the elections; and
- widen the civic and political space, respect freedom of speech, expression, assembly and movement to promote a peaceful civic and political environment and embrace non-violence throughout the electoral period.

b. To the Caretaker Government:

- expedite the implementation of priority pre-election tasks necessary for the conduct of peaceful, credible and inclusive elections and provide clear guarantees for continued implementation of deferred critical transitional tasks post-elections;
- consider the recommendations of the AU PAM to South Sudan as reiterated in the AU C5 Declaration and publish a feasible, consensual and time-bound electoral roadmap that clearly sets out the legal basis, scope and sequencing of elections;
- ensure establishment and operationalization of election-security plans with early-warning mechanisms and human-rights safeguards at national and sub-national level;
- ensure timely and adequate financing of electoral institutions, processes and related operational requirements;
- provide sufficient resources to security mechanisms and institutions responsible for the implementation of the Transitional Security Arrangements;

- clarify the procedures, jurisdiction, timelines and escalation mechanisms for resolving election related disputes before, during and after elections and sensitize political party actors and aspirants on these processes;
- ensure timely and sufficient release of electoral funds to NEC and elections related institution;
- ensure that civic education, voter registration, delimitation, procurement of election materials, security planning, dispute-resolution arrangements and results management processes proceed in a coordinated sequence;
- safeguard civic and political space and guarantee freedoms of assembly, association, expression and political participation throughout the electoral process; and
- continue engagement with regional and international partners to mobilise technical, financial and logistical support for elections and peace implementation.

c. To IGAD:

- sustain high-level political engagement with the Parties and stakeholders to facilitate consensus on unresolved issues relating to the transition and elections.
- continue supporting implementation of the AU C5 Plus Declaration and encourage full adherence to commitments under the R-ARCSS;
- strengthen preventive diplomacy efforts aimed at reducing tensions and mitigating risks of electoral-related conflict; and
- support the implementation and effective monitoring of agreed post-election arrangements concerning the outstanding provisions of the R-ARCSS.

d. To the African Union:

- urge the Parties to dialogue in good faith and agree on a clear, time-bound viable plan to guarantee post-election implementation of deferred critical tasks of the transitional period, in particular the permanent constitution making process within a defined timeframe;
- call upon the Parties to recommit to the R-ARCSS letter and spirit and embrace an inclusive political dialogue within the AU C5 to complement the Inter-Party Dialogue to agree on a viable roadmap to credible, peaceful, and democratic elections as envisaged in the R-ARCSS;
- encourage the Parties to agree on an expedited practical roadmap for the completion of the permanent constitution making process and to expedite implementation of the JRC report, including establishment of the Constitutional Court, and implement the requisite reforms;
- appeal to the donors and partners to support the NCRC and the constitution-making process, including by directly funding some of the critical mechanisms, civic education, and providing technical and logistical support;

- continue supporting inclusive political dialogue involving signatory Parties, non-signatories and relevant stakeholders; and
- operationalise the recommendations of the AUC5 Plus Declaration and strengthen coordination with IGAD, the United Nations and RJMEC in support of peace implementation.

e. To the United Nations:

- continue supporting peace implementation through coordinated preventive diplomacy, technical assistance and capacity-building support against verified electoral needs;
- support electoral institutions in addressing identified operational and technical gaps;
- strengthen assistance to humanitarian operations and protection initiatives, particularly in conflict-affected areas;
- continue supporting efforts aimed at advancing transitional justice, reconciliation, security sector reform and institution-building;
- support inclusive political dialogue among the Parties and relevant stakeholders;
- support implementation of outstanding security and transitional tasks; and
- maintain a coherent political approach that reinforces South Sudanese ownership of the implementation process.

f. To the International Partners and Friends of South Sudan:

- continue providing coordinated political, technical, financial and logistical support for electoral preparations and implementation of priority provisions of the R-ARCSS prior, during and after elections;
- support humanitarian and resilience programmes aimed at mitigating the effects of food insecurity, displacement, climate shocks and protection risks;
- support the implementation of deferred transitional tasks, including security sector reforms, constitution-making process, transitional justice and judicial reforms;
- encourage inclusive dialogue and peaceful political participation throughout the electoral period and beyond.

IV. Conclusion

99. The third quarter of 2026 marked a defining period in South Sudan's transition as the country moved closer towards the general elections scheduled for 22nd December 2026. While changes were recorded in governance arrangements, legal and institutional preparations for elections, the contexts within which they were executed compounded with other challenges continued to affect implementation of the R-ARCSS and undermines confidence in the peace process and credibility of the upcoming elections. Political disagreements, incomplete security arrangements, delayed transitional reforms, humanitarian pressures and resource constraints highlighted the complexity of managing the transition while preparing for elections.
100. The quarter demonstrated both the opportunities and risks associated with the current phase of the transition. The commencement of the Inter-Party Dialogue, increased engagement by the regional and international partners and continued preparations by electoral institutions offered important opportunities for consensus-building towards the December 2026 elections. At the same time, unresolved political differences, continued security incidents and delays in implementing key provisions of the Agreement underscored the need for sustained commitment and dialogue by all peace stakeholders.
101. RJMEC reiterates that lasting peace, stability and democratic governance in South Sudan can best be achieved through re-adherence to the letter and spirit of the R-ARCSS. As the country approaches the scheduled elections, it remains imperative that the Parties place the national interest above partisan considerations, commit themselves to dialogue and open political civic space, and ensure that the remaining period of the transition is utilised to consolidate peace and build confidence among the citizens of South Sudan.
102. The responsibility for successful completion of the transition ultimately rests with the South Sudanese Parties, elections related institutions and stakeholders. However, continued support by IGAD, the African Union, the United Nations, regional actors and international partners will remain crucial in facilitating peaceful elections, preserving the gains of the peace process and supporting implementation of outstanding commitments under the R-ARCSS beyond the elections. RJMEC therefore reiterates its calls to all stakeholders to work collectively towards a peaceful, credible, inclusive and democratic transition that safeguards the aspirations of the people of South Sudan for sustainable peace, stability and development.
103. The solution to the myriad governance, security, humanitarian, economic, accountability, justice, reconciliation and constitutionalism in the Republic of South Sudan are all embedded in the R-ARCSS and the framework for its implementation provides a clear and predictable transition into a democratic, peaceful, united and prosperous state. What is needed is political will and recommitment to the ideals that guided the country over the last eight years and its longest period of relative peace, security and development since it attained independence in July 2011.

104. Finally, RJMEC reiterates its continued commitment to supporting the Parties to the R-ARCSS and accompanying the peace process and implementation of the agreed transitional tasks in accordance with its mandate, and appeals to all peace stakeholders to work collectively towards building of a lasting peace, stability, and successful completion of the transition in South Sudan.

END