

# **AU Model United Nations 2022**

**United Nations Security Council**



## **Background Guide**

## **LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Dear Delegates,

It is our distinct pleasure to welcome you to the United Nations Security Council at AUMUN'22 along with the Organizing Committee. We dearly hope that this will be the best MUN conference you will ever attend.

This background guide is just a glimpse of the agenda in hand and in no way is exhaustive or intended to replace individual research. The delegates must remember that every country has a different foreign policy under which this simulation must be seen with.

The Executive Board encourages you to research further about this situation, position of the member states and the intricate details of this peacekeeping mission. The delegates must know that every Country has its own views on this agenda to be followed during the debate. We as the EB expect the delegates to move the committee in a formal way and we will be here to moderate the proceedings.

Feel free to drop your queries to the Executive Board. If this is your first MUN, it's highly encouraged that you should contact the Executive Board and come to pace with the intricacy of the committee, agenda and the procedure of an MUN conference.

With best regards,

**Gowtham Srinivas**  
**(President)**

**Adithiya SK**  
**(Vice-President)**

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## **ABOUT THE COMMITTEE**

The Security Council (SC), as one of the six main organs of the United Nations (UN), is the principle organ responsible for maintaining international peace and security. In its history, the Council has acted on widely differing topics, adapting to the changing nature of threats to international peace and security. Given the SC's role, it is important to understand the structure, rules, and governing principles that define its unique responsibilities and mandate.

The Security Council is widely regarded as the most influential and far-reaching of all UN bodies. Created in Chapter V of the original United Nations Charter and ratified in October 1945, the SC is granted extended powers and a wide purview, including the primary responsibility of "maintaining peace and security" in the international community.

## **MANDATE**

The mandate of the SC is to maintain international peace and security and to take actions whenever peace and security are threatened. The Council's authority is particularly relevant when looking at the United Nations' four primary purposes, as specified in the Charter of the United Nations (1945): maintaining international peace and security; developing friendly relations among nations; cooperating in solving international problems; promoting respect for human rights as well as being a center for harmonizing the actions of nations. According to Article 39 of the UN Charter, the Council shall determine the existence of any threat to international security and formulate recommendations accordingly. In order to prevent the escalation of a given conflict, the Council may call upon the parties to comply with provisional measures. In addition to these responsibilities, the body may also recommend new Member States to the United Nations General Assembly (GA) as well as suggest the expulsion of a Member State if considered that it has persistently violated the UN principles, as laid out in the Charter.

## **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

The Charter of the United Nations (1945) provides the Security Council with several powers in order to guarantee international security;

1. Sanctions: Pursuant to Article 41 in the Charter, the Council can call its members to apply economic sanctions and other measures not involving the use of force to prevent or end violence. These include economic sanctions, financial penalties and restrictions, travel bans, severance of diplomatic relations, blockades, among others. It may further mandate arms embargoes, enforce disarmament, or call upon international criminal mechanisms to become active. For instance, in the last decade, the Council has adopted several political and economic sanctions against extremist organizations such as Al-Qaeda, including travel restrictions, financial measures, arms embargos and increased military presence.

2. Diplomatic Tools: The Council has a mandate to investigate any dispute or situation that might lead to aggressions between states or other non-state groups or within states' national territories. In order to do so, it may "recommend methods of adjusting such disputes or the terms of settlement; formulate plans for the establishment of a system to regulate armaments; determine the existence of a threat to the peace or act of aggression and recommend what action should be taken. More recently, the Security Council determined the existence of a threat to peace when it demanded the immediate cease of military activities in Ukraine.

3. **Military Action:** Besides the above-mentioned diplomatic instruments, the Council may also take military action against a state or other entity threatening international peace and security and may further decide on the deployment of troops or observers. The Security Council may also decide upon the deployment of new UN peacekeeping operations to be led by DPKO, as well as the extensions of its mandate and subsequent modification or drawdown of any troops. In 2014, for example, the Council continued to modify the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), first established in 2003 by Security Council resolution 1509(2003), as the mission prepared to draw down and complete its work.

4. **Partnerships:** The Council also cooperates with a number of international and regional organizations as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to implement its decisions. Cooperation between the SC and UN-related organizations, as for example, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons(OPCW), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization(NATO), and the African Union (AU) are of paramount importance for addressing a broad range of issues such as terrorism, disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation, extreme violence from non-state actors, as partnerships with NGOs are especially important for the deployment of peacekeeping operations. In recognition of the importance of partnerships, in July 2014, the Security Council adopted resolution 2164 (2014), emphasizing the importance of regional partnerships in peacekeeping activities.

5. **Conflict prevention:** Conflict prevention is among the Security Council's highest priorities. The Council may stop the outbreak of a conflict through agenda-setting, fact-finding missions, diplomatic initiatives, sanctions, peace operations, and peace enforcement. However, if a conflict breaks out, the Security Council may establish mission mandates and authorize the level and nature of resources for conflict prevention to the UN Secretariat. Moreover, on 21 August 2014, the Security Council adopted resolution 2171 (2014) highlighting the United Nations' role on conflict prevention and emphasizing that while each Member State has the primary responsibility for preventing conflicts within its territory; UN regional offices, special political missions, peacekeeping commissions and the Peace building Commission itself play an important role in this regard. The SC has also recently addressed the issue of genocide. On 16 April 2014, the Council adopted resolution 1250 (2014) asking all UN Member States to enforce measures for the fight against genocide, as well as its prevention.

## **Agenda: The situation in South Sudan and the status of the UNMISS**

### **I. Introduction**

The United Nations Security Council has according to the UN Charter the primary responsibility to maintain international peace and security. To ensure it fulfils its mandate the Council responds to crises on a case-by-case basis and takes a range of actions that it deems appropriate to alleviate or solve the situation. One of those actions the Council can take is to deploy forces as a peacekeeping operation. The UN Department for Peacekeeping Operations (UNDPKO), which was founded in 1992 as a means to unite and concentrate various peacekeeping efforts, is dedicated to assist member states in their peace building efforts. It provides political and executive direction for all UN Peacekeeping operations and acts as a point of contact and connection to the Secretary-General, the Security Council, local troops as well as parties to the conflict. Furthermore, it oversees the implementation of Security Council mandates.

The Millennium report, published in March 2000, set the guidelines for the role of the United Nations in the 21st century. Indeed, much has changed since the report was published and the highly contextual-informed nature of the report may subject revisions in the paper to discuss the role of the United Nations in future challenges. Within the paper, peacekeeping has been described as the "the objective, in essence, is to assist the parties engaged in conflict to pursue their interests through political channels instead." Once more, peacekeeping is guided by three principles.

They are: -

1. Consent of parties;
2. Impartiality
3. Non-use of force except in self-defense and defense of the mandate

The consent of parties, whether they are intra-state actors or state actors themselves, must consent to the UN Peacekeeping forces in observing armistice or instances of cease-fire. Once more, UN Peacekeeping forces are impersonal to ideological and political motivations, refraining from favouring neither one side nor the other, regardless of grievances one may have of a party. Perhaps the most controversial is the use of force. The UN Peacekeeping use of force specifically refrains from the use of force in instances where human dignity and life are threatened. Furthermore, the use of force is reserved specifically for the self-defense of the soldiers who make up the UN Peacekeeping force. This is problematic as defining the instance where "self-defense" may omit the use of pre-emptive force under the guise of self-defense. One of the principles of war is the art of "surprise" -- this is particularly concerning when the use of self-defense is codified at the political-level but is not necessarily intuitive at the tactical-level. The United Nations peacekeeping operations have expanded over the years.

In its first 14 years U.N. carried out just 14 peacekeeping missions. As of October 2014, there are 15 UN peacekeeping operations ongoing:

1. United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti
2. United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara
3. United Nations Mission in Liberia
4. United Nations Operation in Cote d'Ivoire
5. United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali
6. United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic
7. United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
8. United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan
9. United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei
10. Africa Union/United Nations Hybrid operation in Darfur
11. United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo
12. United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus
13. United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon
14. United Nations Truce Supervision Organization
15. United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan

The mandates of these deployments are varied, complex and often multidimensional. However, the common denominator is that the fundamental imbalance of power between the parties engaged in conflict, a lack of confidence in civil and regional institutions and the need for a third-party observer to monitor the proposed peace.

## II. History of the conflict

### First Sudanese Civil War, 1955-1972

- 1955: Anticipating independence and fearing domination by the north, southern insurgents stage a mutiny in Torit. These early rebels develop a large secessionist movement in the south, called the Anyanya. The Anyanya struggled with a lot of internal factionalism and instability, much like the SPLA would deal with in the second civil war.
- 1972: All rebel factions gather under the Southern Sudan Liberation Movement (SSLM) to negotiate a peace agreement with the Sudanese government. The Addis Ababa Agreement is signed, granting the south considerable autonomy and a share of natural resources. A ten-year hiatus in the conflict follows.
- 1970s: As Sudan gains legitimacy in peacetime; Western countries begin supplying the government with arms. The United States sells Sudan a great deal of equipment, hoping to counteract Soviet support of Marxist Ethiopians and Libyans.
- 1978: Chevron finds large oil fields in the Upper Nile and southern Kordofan regions. Shortly thereafter, oil is discovered throughout Southern Sudan.
- 1980: Khartoum attempts to redraw the boundaries of Southern Sudan, transferring oilfields to the north. When this fails, Khartoum begins taking the territory by force, including the Muglad Basin. The Muglad Basin is an area near the north-south border that was claimed by Khartoum and renamed, using the Arabic word for "unity."

### Second Sudanese Civil War, 1983-2005

- Late 1970s: Repeated violations of the Addis Ababa Agreement by the north lead to increased unrest in the south.
- May 1983: Battalion 105, stationed at Bor and composed mostly of ex-Anyanya troops, is attacked after refusing to transfer to the north. Led by Kerubino Bol, the battalion flees to Ethiopia.
- June 1983: The Sudanese government officially abolishes the Addis Ababa Agreement and divides the south into three regions. The southern regional government is dissolved. President Nimeiry institutes a bold Islamization campaign, transforming Sudan into a Muslim Arab state. Mutinies occur throughout the south and rebel forces grow.
- July 1983: The Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA), led by John Garang, forms in Ethiopia.
- September 1983: Nimeiry issues a set of decrees, known as the September Laws, imposing sharia law throughout the country. These laws include extreme punishments such as cutting off offenders' hands for stealing.
- Mid-1980s: Civil war rages through the south. The SPLA battles government forces and attempts to gain control. Raids by the murahaleen — government-armed Arab militias — reach their peak. Villages throughout the south are repeatedly attacked and destroyed. Slavery becomes widespread. As villages are ransacked and survivors flee, the so-called "Lost Boys" begin their walks across Southern Sudan into Ethiopia.
- Late 1980s: President Nimeiry is deposed and Sadiq al-Mahdi rises to power. Various peace negotiation attempts between al-Mahdi and the SPLA fail as the conflict worsens.



- 1989: As al-Mahdi moves toward signing certain peace agreements, he is ousted in a coup and Omar al-Bashir seized power. Al-Bashir is supported by the fundamentalist National Islamic Front (NIF), headed by hard-line Islamist Hassan al-Turabi. The new government fiercely enforces Islamic code throughout Sudan, banning trade unions, political parties, and other "non-religious" institutions.
- 1989: The Sudanese government begins deploying army militiamen notoriously known as the People's Defense Forces to raid villages in the south alongside the murahaleen.
- 1991: Salva and all refugees at Pinyudo are forced to leave Ethiopia when that country's dictator, Mengistu Haile Mariam, is overthrown. Around the same time, the Nasir faction of SPLA splits off; a second rebel faction forms in 1992, followed by a third in 1993. Eventually, the dissident rebel factions unite in a coalition called SPLA-United.
- 1992: The UNHCR Kakuma Refugee Camp in Northwestern Kenya begins accepting Sudanese refugees.
- 1993: A peace initiative for Sudan is pursued by Eritrea, Ethiopia, Uganda, and Kenya under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), but has little effect. Conflict in Sudan continues to worsen.
- 1996: Salva is approved for resettlement in the US.
- 1998: After embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania, the United States launches a missile attack on a pharmaceutical factory outside Khartoum that it believes is producing chemical weapons for terrorist groups.
- 1999: Almost 4,000 Sudanese refugee boys are approved for resettlement to the United States.
- 2001: Famine affects three million Sudanese.
- September 2001: President George Bush appoints former U.S. Senator John Danforth as the President's Special Envoy for Peace in Sudan.
- February 2003: The Darfur conflict begins.
- January 9, 2005: Peace is finally brokered between southern rebels and the government of Sudan. The Nairobi Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) is signed, granting autonomy to the south for a six-year trial period, after which the south will have the opportunity to vote to secede. The agreement calls for a permanent ceasefire and sharing of oil revenues. Islamic law remains in effect in the north, while its use in the south is decided regionally.
- August 1, 2005: John Garang dies in a helicopter crash three weeks after being sworn in as First Vice President of Sudan. Riots result, but peace continues.
- Per the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, a referendum is scheduled to be held in 2011 to determine if Southern Sudan will remain a part of Sudan or secedes and gains its independence. The people of Southern Sudan await their historic opportunity for peace and stability, after a twenty one-year conflict that claimed at least two million lives. Meanwhile, in Darfur, the number of dead and displaced continues to grow, and the conflict rages on with no clear end in sight.
- April, 2010: Sudan holds its first national elections in over 20 years. Key opposition parties boycott at the last minute charging election fraud. Omar Hassan al-Bashir wins Presidency of Sudan with 68% of the vote. Salva Kiir wins Presidency of the Government of Southern Sudan with 75% of the vote.

- January 9th, 2011: Southern Sudanese vote in a referendum stipulated in the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement to decide if the region will separate from the North and become an independent nation. When results are tabulated, the vote is overwhelming for separation. A six-month period of transition begins.
- July 9th, 2011: The Republic of South Sudan celebrates its birthday. On July 14, 2011 The Republic of South Sudan joined the United Nations as the world's 193rd nation.

On 9 July 2011 South Sudan became the newest country in the world. The birth of the Republic of South Sudan is the culmination of a six-year peace process which began with the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in 2005.

In adopting resolution 1996 (2011) on 8 July 2011, the Security Council determined that the situation faced by South Sudan continued to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region and established the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) to consolidate peace and security and to help establish conditions for development.

Following the crisis which broke out in South Sudan in December 2013, the Security Council, by its resolution 2155 (2014) of 27 May 2014, reinforced UNMISS and reprioritized its mandate towards the protection of civilians, human rights monitoring, and support for the delivery of humanitarian assistance and for the implementation of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement.

### **III. Secretary General Reports**

According to the September 2019 report, across South Sudan, the ceasefire continues to hold, with an overall reduction in political violence. While intercommunal violence, cattle raiding and criminal activity affect significant parts of the country, they remain localized. Driving factors behind the violence remain complex and varied, comprising boundary disputes, intercommunal tensions and criminal interests. The complex and often interrelated nature of these conflicts has required ongoing efforts to find tailored solutions.

### **IV. Security Concerns**

In response to early warning indicators, the Mission deployed pre-emptive patrols to project presence and deter violence. Increased patrols were also deployed in response to hotspots and to establish a semi-permanent presence where conflicts are enduring. For instance, UNMISS patrols in the vicinity of Rocrocdong, Wau, have been a stabilizing factor in conjunction with enhanced situational awareness, community engagement and human rights monitoring.

Similarly, in response to armed conflict in Lobonok, Central Equatoria, an integrated patrol was immediately deployed and led by the UNMISS Force Commander to assess reports of fighting between armed forces and its impact on civilians. Through its good offices, the Mission has engaged with actors and partners, including to reinforce the S/2019/722 6/19 19-15066 Government's responsibility to protect civilians and to promote dialogue and adherence to the Ceasefire Agreement.

## **V. Humanitarian situation**

The humanitarian situation remains severe, with 7.2 million persons in need of assistance. Notwithstanding the overall reduction in the level of conflict, internal and external displacement continues, as does return movement. In the month of June, an estimated 30,000 persons were displaced in Eastern Equatoria, Upper Nile and Warrap as a result of inter-communal fighting and cattle raiding. Overall, the number of internally displaced persons decreased slightly, from 2.1 million in the previous period to an estimated 1.83 million. The number of refugees from South Sudan remained static, at 2.31 million.

## **VI. Protection of civilians**

UNMISS continued to protect civilians both inside and outside protection of civilians' sites. To further support a protective and enabling environment, the Mission continued to advocate for the primary responsibility of the Government of South Sudan being to protect civilians. The main threats to civilians included killing, sexual violence, arbitrary arrest and detention, ill-treatment and looting of civilian property. Attacks against civilians occurred predominantly in the context of inter-communal conflict and cattle raids, as well as through the targeting of civilians during armed conflict among security forces.

## **VII. Monitoring and investigating human rights violations**

The human rights environment remained of serious concern. During the reporting period, UNMISS verified 115 incidents that had a negative impact on the human rights and protection situation in South Sudan, including arbitrary killings, abductions, conflict-related sexual violence, arbitrary arrest and detention (including proxy detention), torture and ill-treatment, forced displacement, and the looting and destruction of civilian property. The incidents resulted in the killing of 182 civilians and injury to 135 others. A total of 14 of the incidents were attributed to the South Sudan People's Defence Forces; 12 to NAS and affiliated armed elements; 7 to the pro-Machar SPLA-IO; 5 to the National Security Service; 4 to the South Sudan National Police Service and 1 each to the South Sudan Opposition Alliance and the National Prison Services of South Sudan. The remainder (75) were attributed to community-based militias and other armed elements, which continued to account for the majority (72 per cent) of civilian casualties (131 killed and 97 injured).

## **VIII. Results**

While there has been movement on transitional security arrangements, the parties must seek to continue to resolve the outstanding tasks through dialogue and political solutions. Benchmarks not met during the pre-transition period can be met during the transition period through an inclusive and transparent Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity. Collective and accountable decisions by the Revitalized Transitional Government will not only facilitate the resolution of outstanding issues but also enable the parties to maintain focus on the transitional period and the conditions required to achieve free and fair elections. Countrywide peace initiatives at the subnational level have maintained momentum, resulting in tangible and positive change. The political leaders need to consider this strong desire for peace and ensure that the national process is informed by subnational peace building efforts. The United Nations and partners are

working at all levels to support the parties in achieving this goal. Meaningful progress on the transitional security arrangements is vital to the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan. In areas where there is a concentration of forces, all parties must ensure that there is no detrimental impact on nearby civilians. Moreover, measures must be identified and implemented to mitigate potential protection risks, such as forced recruitment, sexual and gender-based violence and the illegal occupation of civilian houses, among others. To mitigate these threats, it is equally vital that reintegration and alternative livelihood programs be planned and implemented together with cantonment efforts to ensure the reintegration of former forces.

## **IX. History of Renewals**

The General Assembly admitted South Sudan as the UN's 193rd member on 14 July, after the Council recommended to the General Assembly that South Sudan be admitted as a member. (The Republic of South Sudan became an independent state on 9 July.) On 11 July the Council adopted resolution 1997 deciding that UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) would withdraw by the end of August. On 8 July the Council adopted resolution 1996 which established the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) to take effect upon the independence of South Sudan.

On 5 July 2012, the Council adopted resolution 2057 renewing the UNMISS mandate until July 2013.

On 21 February, Council members received an interim report on the human rights situation in South Sudan issued by the Human Rights Division of UNMISS. The report covers events during the first six weeks since the outbreak of hostilities, from 15 December 2013 through 31 January 2014.

On 11 July, the Council adopted resolution 2109, extending the mandate of UNMISS until 15 July 2014.

The Council issued two press statements on 25 July. One welcomed the appointment of Ellen Margrethe Løj as Special Representative of the Secretary-General and head of UNMISS on 23 July (Hilde Johnson stepped down on 8 July), condemned the fighting in Nasir, and urged the parties to cease hostilities and resume peace talks (SC/11492). The other statement expressed grave concern with food insecurity in South Sudan, and urged UN member states to fulfil pledges for humanitarian support made at the Oslo Conference in May and increase their commitments to South Sudan and the region (SC/11493).

On 9 October, the Council adopted resolution 2241, adjusting the mandate of UNMISS to support implementation of the "Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan" (S/PV.7532). The vote was 13 in favour with two abstentions from Russia and Venezuela.

On 12 August, the Council adopted resolution 2304. In addition to extending the mandate of UNMISS until 15 December, it raised the troop ceiling of the mission to 17,000, including the authorisation of a regional protection force of 4,000 troops for an initial period ending on 15 December.

On 16 December the Security Council adopted resolution 2327, which re authorised the mandate of UNMISS, including the Regional Protection Force. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Stephen O'Brien briefed the Council on South Sudan on 19 December, after which members discussed the issue in consultations. On 23

December, the Council voted on a draft resolution to impose an arms embargo on South Sudan and targeted sanctions

On 24 May, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2353 renewing the South Sudan sanctions regime and the mandate for the South Sudan Panel of Experts for an additional year.

On 31 May, the Council adopted a resolution (S/RES/2418) that renewed the sanctions regime and mandate of the Panel of Experts until 15 July 2018. It also requested the Secretary-General to report by 30 June whether any fighting has taken place since adoption of the resolution and to report on whether the parties have come to a viable political agreement. It decides that if the Secretary-General reports such fighting or lack of a viable political agreement, it shall consider applying targeted sanctions to the six individuals identified in Annex 1 and/or an arms embargo within five days of the Secretary-General's report. The resolution was adopted with nine votes in favour and six abstentions (Bolivia, China, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Kazakhstan and Russia).

On 5 July, Council members were briefed in consultations by Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Jean-Pierre Lacroix on the Secretary-General's assessment of the security and political situation in South Sudan, requested by resolution 2418. On 13 July, the Council adopted resolution 2428, imposing an arms embargo on South Sudan until 31 May 2019 and designating two additional individuals to be subject to targeted sanctions

On 15 March, the Council adopted resolution 2459 renewing the mandate of UNMISS for an additional year, by 14 votes in favour with Russia abstaining. The resolution maintains the troop ceiling of 17,000 troops.

The Security Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) until 15 March 2020, demanding that parties end the fighting and signaling its intention to consider all measures, including an arms embargo, against those obstructing peace in the war-torn nation.

On 15 March 2020, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 2514 (2020) under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, the Council also decided to maintain the Mission's overall force levels at a ceiling of 17,000 troops, including the Regional Protection Force, and 2,101 police officers. The renewed mandate ran until 15 March 2021.

On 15 March 2021, the Security Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) until 15 March 2022, the Security Council demanded that all parties to the conflict in that country and other armed actors immediately stop fighting and engage in political dialogue, in accordance with the peace agreement signed in 2018.

## **X. Upcoming Review**

These are the developments that ensued post the extended mandate of the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) until 15 March 2022.

On 31 December, in his New Year's remarks, the President of South Sudan, Salva Kiir, outlined the challenges faced by South Sudan in 2021, namely, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, flooding and lingering economic hardships. He noted, however, that the ceasefire had continued to hold, most of the state legislatures had been reconstituted, and the forces of the parties were in training sites awaiting graduation and subsequent unification. Mr. Kiir also reiterated his commitment to the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan.

## **Implementation of the Revitalized Agreement**

On 9 December, the Interim Chairperson of the reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission, Major General Charles Tai Gituai, expressed concern over the continued delays in the implementation of the transitional security arrangements, including the unification of forces and their redeployment. He urged the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity to conclude the outstanding tasks in the remaining months of the transitional period.

On 14 December, the Joint Defence Board initiated the screening and registration of the necessary unified forces after receiving funds from the National Transitional Committee.

On 20 December, the reconstituted Transitional National Legislative Assembly passed the constitutional amendment bill (2021), paving the way for the incorporation of the Revitalized Agreement into the Constitution.

## **Peace process developments**

On 2 December, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-Army in Opposition (SPLM/A-IO) held its fourth National Liberation Council meeting in Juba, where the First Vice-President, Riek Machar, called upon party leaders to mobilize for the 2023 elections and strengthen the organization from the grass-roots level. However, he expressed doubt as to whether the elections would be held on time, stating that, until the security arrangements and the permanent constitution-making process were implemented in full, the transition could not be completed.

On 6 December, the South Sudan Opposition Movements Alliance (SSOMA) factions led by Pagan Amum and General Paul Malong, respectively, expressed their readiness to resume talks with the Government. In that connection, from 14 to 17 December, the Community of Sant'Egidio, in collaboration with the Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements Monitoring and Verification Mechanism and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), convened a technical workshop on the ceasefire agreement in Nairobi. During the workshop, the parties were informed of their obligations, and the modalities for the implementation mechanism were outlined. In a communiqué following the workshop, the two factions agreed to be fully incorporated into the structures of the Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements Monitoring and Verification Mechanism by the end of March 2022.

On 16 January, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) and the Kitgwang faction of SPLM/A-IO signed an agreement in Khartoum. The agreement was signed by the leader of the Kitgwang faction, Simon Gatwech Dual, and his deputy, Johnson Olony. The agreement provides for amnesty for the Kitgwang faction, for the recommitment of the parties to the ceasefire under the Khartoum Declaration of Agreement between the Parties of the Conflict of South Sudan, and for the establishment of coordination offices in Juba.

the same day, SPLM signed a second agreement with the Agwelek forces, led by Johnson Olony, the Khartoum Peace Agreement. The agreement addresses inter-ethnic differences and provides for the establishment of the Shilluk area boundaries in accordance with the 1956 maps. In addition, under the Khartoum Peace Agreement, the integration of the Agwelek forces into the South Sudan People's Defence Forces is facilitated, and negotiated political positions are allocated.

On 17 January, Mr. Kiir issued a decree granting amnesty to the Kitgwang faction of SPLM/A-IO, led by Simon Gatwech Dual, and to the Agwelek forces, led by Johnson Olony.

### **Political developments**

On 3 January, the Speaker of the parliament, Jemma Nunu Kumba, named the chairpersons and deputies of the parliament's specialized committees nominated by SPLM and SPLM/A-IO. Ms. Kumba stated that the representatives of the South Sudan Opposition Alliance (SSOA) and the Other Political Parties (OPP) coalition were not included in the list, as their nominations had not been received. The Third Deputy Speaker of the parliament, a nominee of OPP, has yet to be appointed.

On 24 January, the members of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly and the Council of States debated and passed the 2022 emolument and privileges of the members of the Transitional National Legislature bill. The bill addresses the salaries and allowances of the members of the parliament, providing that salaries be raised by 8,500 per cent, from 9,400 South Sudanese pounds to 800,000 South Sudanese pounds per month.

### **Regional developments**

On 25 January, the Peace and Security Council of the African Union held a meeting on South Sudan. In a communiqué issued after the meeting, the Peace and Security Council requested the African Union Commission to coordinate, with the United Nations and IGAD, a trilateral evaluation of the electoral and constitution-making needs of South Sudan.

### **Economic situation**

The macroeconomic situation remained relatively stable, despite the deterioration of the foreign exchange rate from about 400 South Sudanese pounds to about 435 South Sudanese pounds per United States dollar (about 450 South Sudanese pounds per United States dollar on the parallel market). The newly appointed Central Bank Governor, Moses Makur Deng, pledged to preserve foreign exchange stability and increased hard currency auctions from \$5 million to \$13 million.

In December, inflation rose by 12.7 per cent, driven by an increase in the price of food and non-alcoholic beverages caused by fuel shortages, supply chain disruptions linked to COVID-19 restrictions, and floods. This was reflected in the very high degree of food insecurity in South Sudan, where the level of hunger was classified as alarming under the Global Hunger Index. On 24 January, the Governments of South Sudan and Saudi Arabia signed a general cooperation agreement with the objective of encouraging investment and the exchange of expertise. The current price of oil is about \$90 per barrel, higher than the price of \$63 per barrel assumed in the 2021/22 national budget. The upcoming review on 15th March will have to take into consideration all of the above aspects, as the situation in South Sudan comes to a head.

The Security Council is expected to vote on a draft resolution renewing the mandate of the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) ahead of its 15 March 2022 expiry.

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