

OUTCOME OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE EASTERN AFRICA CHIEFS OF DEFENSE STAFF/FORCES (CDS/Fs) ON THE SITUATION IN SOUTH SUDAN HELD ON 29TH JULY 2016 AT THE ETHIOPIA NATIONAL DEFENSE FORCE HEADQUARTERS IN ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

References:

- A. UNSCR 1996 dated 8 July 2011 on UNMISS.
- B. Agreement on the resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan.
- C. UNSC Press statement on the escalation of fighting in Juba, South Sudan dated 10th July 2016.
- D. Communiqué of the 56th Extra Ordinary session of the IGAD Council of Ministers on the Situation in South Sudan on 11th July 2016.
- E. Kigali AU summit Communiqué of 16th July, 2016.

Introduction

1. On the 15th July, 2016 the CDS/Fs travelled to Juba consistent with their decision of the 1st meeting to conduct on spot assessment of the situation in Juba. During the visit the CDS/Fs held meetings with the President of the Republic of South Sudan, H.E. Salva Kiir, the Chief of General Staff, General Paul Malong and the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the UN, Ms. Ellen Margrethe.
2. On the overall, the CDS/Fs confirmed that the situation in Juba was tense and unpredictable following the events of 7th of July, 2016. The on-spot assessment conducted in Juba informed the decisions of the IGAD plus Heads of State and Government and the Kigali AU summit Communiqué of 16th July, 2016.
3. A follow up meeting of the CDS/Fs was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on the 29th July, 2016 to develop modalities of implementing the Kigali AU Summit resolutions on South Sudan.
4. The CDS/Fs addressed themselves to the following areas:
 - a. The tasks.
 - b. The challenges envisaged with the deployment of the forces.

5. The following tasks were identified as key to the attainment of the mission.

- a. Protection of civilians/IDPs,
- b. Protection of key installations,
- c. Cantonment of belligerent forces outside Juba.
- d. Disarming any actors targeting civilians, peacekeepers and their premises/ assets, humanitarian actors and any such identified armed groups that threaten the peace.
- e. Secure and protect Juba International Airport jointly with the South Sudan authorities.
- f. Control of the influx of IDPs into Juba to minimize incidences of confrontation amongst the ethnic groups.
- g. The use of UNMISS civil police to enhance the joint local police force.
- h. Determine the level of security details and weapons to be assigned to key personalities - government dignitaries including senior military officers.

Challenges

6. The CDS/Fs identified the following challenges:

- a. The expansiveness of the Area of Operation might require phased deployment of the Juba security force.
- b. The presence of heavily armed personal security/protection forces of dignitaries.
- c. The logistic requirement to implement the cantonment program.
- d. Lack of political will, commitment and compliance by key stakeholders.
- e. Political divisions amongst the warring factions.
- f. Deteriorating humanitarian crisis.

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Outcome

7. Pursuant to the decisions of IGAD plus meeting and the Kigali AU Summit resolutions and on instructions of the respective Heads of State and Government, the Eastern Africa CDS/Fs from the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the Republic of Kenya, the Republic of Rwanda, the Republic of the Sudan and the Republic of Uganda met on the 29th July, 2016 in Addis Ababa and agreed that the security situation in South Sudan continues to be unpredictable. The CDS/Fs reiterated that warring parties to commit to the immediate cessation of hostilities.

8. The CDS/Fs having reviewed the situation in the Republic of South Sudan recommend the following:

a. The immediate cessation of hostilities.

b. Securing the commitment of the government of South Sudan on the deployment of Juba Security Force..

c. Convening of the next meeting of the CDS/Fs to include the Chief of General Staff the Republic of South Sudan to ensure his commitment.

d. Key capability gaps identified includes:

(1) Force enablers and multipliers, utility and attack helicopters.

(2) Engineering assets.

(3) Strategic airlift.

(4) Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance assets (ISTAR).

e. Determine the level of security details and weapons to be assigned to key personalities - government dignitaries including senior military officers.

f. The use of UNMISS civil police to enhance the joint local police force.

g. Creation of sector Juba under command from troop contributing countries of the Juba Security Force that will be composed of:

(1) Two existing battalions under UNMISS from Ethiopia and Rwanda.

(2) Other agreed additional forces.

h. Determination of robust rules of engagement for the force.

i. The immediate constitution and dispatch the military assessment/planning team to Juba to conduct detailed assessment of the identified tasks and subsequently undertake planning prior to deployment. This team is to liaise with JMEC and UNMISS.



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