



**Ref: CM/2021/08/045**

**TO:** Lt. Gen. Rabi Mujung Emmanuel (TGoNU)  
Maj. Gen. Martin Gama Abucha (SPLM/A-IO)  
Maj. Gen. Jany Kaway Yoakhor (SSOA)  
Maj. Gen. Bior Leek Kuareng (Former Detainees)

**FROM:** The Chairperson, CTSAMVM

**DATE:** 19 August 2021

**SUBJECT: CTSAMVM REPORT 2021/10 – DETENTION OF A CTSAMVM  
HELICOPTER IN EASTERN EQUATORIA**

Dear CTSAMVM Technical Committee Senior Party Representatives,

Please find attached a report on a violation of the R-ARCSS which took place in Eastern Equatoria State on 16 August 2021

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

 

Major General Teshome Gemechu Aderie

Chairperson

**Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements Monitoring and Verification  
Mechanism**

## CTSAMVM REPORT 2021/10

### DETENTION OF A CTSAMVM HELICOPTER BY THE SSPDF 16 AUGUST 2021

#### 1. Background:

- a. On 16 August 2021 the CTSAMVM Monitoring and Verification Team (MVT) based in Torit undertook a routine visit to Ikotos.
- b. Before the visit the MVT had informed the SSPDF Brigade 2 commander, Brigadier General Maryano Olong, (who has a Company at Ikotos), the County Commissioner of Ikotos and the company commander of the forces in Ikotos, Captain David Oluway. There is no need for CTSAMVM to inform the SSPDF of its movements, but the MVT did so as a matter of courtesy.

#### 2. Incident:

- a. The team arrived and landed at Ikotos County and proceeded to the County Headquarters offices for the planned meeting with the Executive Director.
- b. When the meeting was about to start the team received a call from a CTSAMVM International Observer who had been left behind with the helicopter for security purposes, who reported the helicopter had been arrested by SSPDF forces, and that he and the crew were ordered out and their telephones confiscated.
- c. The MVT immediately cancelled the meeting and headed back to the landing site. On arrival the team met Captain David Oluway, the officer in charge of the SSPDF Company in Ikotos, who had arrested the helicopter and its crew. He told the MVT that although he had been informed of the visit by the Executive Director of Ikotos, he takes his orders from the Brigade Commander who had ordered him to detain the helicopter.



- d. The helicopter was detained for around 45 minutes by a force of about 15 SSPDF soldiers armed with AK47's and RPGs.
- e. Following the intervention of the CTSAMVM SSPDF National Monitor and the CTSAMVM SSPDF Senior National Liaison Officer the helicopter was released and returned safely to Torit.

3. Assessment:

- a. The reasons the SDSPDF decided to arrest the CTSAMVM helicopter remain unclear. It was on a routine mission, and both the military and civil authorities had been informed.
- b. The freedom of movement of CTSAMVM guaranteed under the R-ARCSS.
- c. This incident constituted a clear and blatant violation of the R-ARCSS

4. Conclusion: By detaining a CTSAMVM helicopter at Ikatos on 16 August 2021, and by arresting CTSAMVM personnel and confiscating their telephones, the SSPDF acted in blatant violation of the R-ARCSS, specifically those prohibited actions under Article 2.1.10:

- a. Article 2.1.10.5: "acts of hostility, intimidation, violence or attacks against....CTSAMVM personnel...."
- b. Article 2.1.10.6: "movement and access restrictions on CTSAMVM and UNMISS/RPF personnel performing their duties as prescribed by their mandated..."

5. Observations and recommendations:

- a. The R-ARCSS was signed nearly 3 years ago. It is difficult to understand how any senior SSPDF could remain ignorant of the provisions of the R-ARCSS in regard to the freedom of movement accorded to CTSAMVM, and order the detention of a CTSAMVM helicopter in so obvious a violation of the Agreement.

- b. CTSAMVM recommends that the SSPDF carries out an investigation in order to determine the source of the order to detain the helicopter. The necessary remedial action can then be taken to ensure such an incident is not repeated.