



## **PRESS STATEMENT**

19 June 2020

### **CTSAMVM marks the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict on June 19**

Today, the world marks the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict. A day to raise awareness of the need to put an end to conflict-related sexual violence, to honour the victims and survivors of sexual violence around the world, and to pay tribute to all those who have devoted their lives to and lost their lives in standing up for the eradication of these crimes.

CTSAMVM has substantiated the occurrence of more than 250 incidents of Sexual and Gender Based Violence that it subsequently verified to be violations of the ACoH and R-ARCSS. Our Monitors continue to investigate allegations of Sexual and Gender Based Violence as stipulated in the Permanent Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements of the R-ARCSS, and give due consideration to reporting on issues pertaining to the Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities, Protection of Civilians and Humanitarian Access of 21 December 2017.

COVID-19 has added another layer of burden to victims and survivors of Conflict Related Sexual Violence in South Sudan. We at CTSAMVM will continue to thoroughly investigate these crimes, to support those who have given voice to others affected by gendered experiences of the conflict; ensure that those who speak out are heard; and work with other peace mechanisms to ensure perpetrators are held accountable.

CTSAMVM works in an impartial, professional and thorough manner to investigate alleged breaches of the provisions of the R-ARCSS and the ACOH. CTSAMVM is working for the betterment of the people of South Sudan, in support of the peace process, and in accordance with agreements, national laws & international law.

## **ENDS**

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### Endnotes:

The Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements Monitoring and Verification Mechanism is responsible for monitoring, verification, and reporting directly to the IGAD Council of Ministers and the RJMEC.

Due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic and in light of the Republican order no.2/2020 issued by the government of South Sudan on 24th March 2020, CTSAMVM will observe all guidelines by the Ministry of Health. CTSAMVM is adhering to strict health protocols while continuing to monitor, verify and report on the implementation of Chapter 2 in the R-ARCSS.

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