

COMMUNIQUÉ

Women's Resolution on Their Role in Conflict Prevention, Mitigation, Resolution, and Community Peacebuilding

Preamble

We, the women leaders of Central Equatoria State, peace actors, civil society representatives, government officials, youth representatives, women in the security sector, persons with disabilities, and development partners, gathered at the Roundtable on Women's Role in Conflict Mitigation and Prevention in Central Equatoria State, organized by the State Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare with support from the UNMISS Gender Unit on 30th March 2026 at Radisson Blu Hotel, Juba.

Recognizing that women and girls are disproportionately affected by conflict, yet remain critical agents of peace and social cohesion;

Reaffirming the importance of women's meaningful participation in peacebuilding, security, governance, and development processes;

Commending the leadership of Central Equatoria State under Governor H.E. Emmanuel Adil Anthony for promoting inclusive governance, ensuring women's equal representation across local and state government structures, and supporting women's involvement in conflict resolution, particularly through the recently established taskforce addressing insecurity in Terekeka, guided by national, regional, and international commitments on Women, Peace and Security;

Noting the key concerns identified by participants, including inter-communal violence and land disputes; gender-based violence and harmful cultural practices; limited participation of women in peace and security decision-making; weak early warning and response systems; and limited access to justice and psychosocial support services.

Resolutions and Commitments

1. Women's Participation in Peace and Security

We resolve to:

- Advocate for at least 35% representation of women in all governance, peace, mediation, and security structures at state and county levels and develop and monitoring tool.
- Establish and strengthen Women Peace Committees at State, County, Payam, and Boma levels.

- Promote women’s leadership in traditional and community dispute resolution mechanisms.
- Support UNMISS and partners to establish a Women Peace and Security Coordination Taskforce and create a solid forum for women leaders in Central Equatoria State, develop a monitoring and reporting framework to track progress, and convene a bi-annual review forum to assess achievements and challenges of the WPS.
- Address disparities in development partner funding, calling for reinforced support for initiatives within Central Equatoria State.
- Establish inter-generational dialogue forums between emerging young women leaders and senior women in decision-making.
- Mandate the State Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare to maintain a comprehensive database of partners working across Central Equatoria State.

2. Conflict Prevention and Early Warning

We resolve to:

- Support and strengthen existing local structures such as women’s unions, peace committees, youth unions among others, to incorporate early warning mechanisms for effective community-based conflict prevention.
- Strengthen collaboration between women leaders, local authorities, and security institutions to respond quickly to emerging conflicts and cases of SGBV, including through Women Situation Rooms during elections.
- Collaborate with the State Ministry of Local Government and Law Enforcement, to strengthen local women mediators and Council of Traditional and Local Authority to lead conflict resolution at community levels.

3. Addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

We call for:

- Strong enforcement of laws addressing GBV, child marriage, and domestic violence.
- Establishment of safe houses across Central Equatoria State providing disability-inclusive medical, legal, and psychosocial support services.
- Regular refresher trainings to social workers across the state.
- Increased male engagement from early childhood through policy, strategy and guideline development to foster a safe environment for women and girls and encourage reporting of GBV cases by men and boys.
- Capacity strengthening for customary court judges, chiefs, and police personnel on human rights and GBV, including refresher trainings that incorporate basic sign language.
- Inclusion of anti-GBV measures in Central Equatoria State Transitional Legislative Assembly consultations and legislative work, including the Anti-GBV/Family Bill.
- Establishment of a state-level GBV reporting hotline and a centralized information management system at One-Stop Centres.
- Central Equatoria State Transitional Legislative Assembly to table a Private Members Bill addressing women’s economic empowerment.

- Increased consultations with persons with disabilities to ensure their needs are incorporated into all interventions.

4. Community Dialogue and Social Cohesion

We resolve to:

- Promote interfaith and intercommunity dialogue led by women and support cultural and community initiatives that foster unity and peaceful coexistence.
- Encourage the use of media and storytelling to amplify the work of women peace champions.
- Advocate for increased funding and technical support from UNMISS and other development partners to implement women, peace, and security programs, including capacity building and gender-responsive policies and budgeting.

Conclusion

We reaffirm that sustainable peace in Central Equatoria State cannot be achieved without the full, equal, and meaningful participation of women.

We commit to work collectively to transform this resolution into concrete actions that build lasting peace, security, and development.

The End