

The new commander of the United Nations peacekeeping mission's Sector North in South Sudan has urged Rwandan peacekeepers serving in Malakal to remain vigilant as they carry out their duties.

Brig. Gen. Selom Kwasi Amengor made the call on Oct. 6 while visiting the Rwanda Defence Force contingent, RWANBATT-2, deployed with the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) in Upper Nile state.

The contingent's commander in Malakal, Lt. Col. Emmanuel Ndahiro, briefed Amengor on its operations, capabilities and responsibilities, including the protection of civilians and maintaining security in its area of responsibility.

Amengor praised RWANBATT-2 for its commitment, discipline, professionalism and resilience while operating in difficult conditions.

"You are required to remain focused on the mandate given to you, stay vigilant and continue serving the people of South Sudan with the professionalism, impartiality and integrity for which you are known," he said.

Amengor also highlighted Rwanda's long-standing contribution to United Nations peacekeeping and expressed confidence that the contingent would uphold the country's record in international peace operations.

He urged the soldiers to strengthen their ability to respond to changing security threats and said effective leadership depended on communication, trust, teamwork and coordination among personnel.

Rwanda has deployed peacekeepers to South Sudan since 2012. Its contingents have been involved in protecting civilians and supporting security operations, as well as community activities including medical services and Umuganda.

RWANBATT-2 is among the Rwandan units serving under UNMISS in the country.