

On Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2026, Brig. Gen. Mohammad Iqbal Hossain, head of the United Nations peacekeeping mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) for the Juba region, visited Rwanda's 3rd Battalion deployed in the mission to commend their dedication and professionalism.

Gen. Hossain was received by Col. Innocent Rwaka Muhirwe, commander of the 3rd Battalion, who briefed him on the troops' responsibilities, emphasizing the protection of civilians. Brig. Gen. Hossain praised the Rwandan soldiers for their conduct, discipline, and commitment.

He underscored that civilian protection remains the top priority of the mission and reminded troops to strictly adhere to the Rules of Engagement, using force only when necessary. During his visit, he also reflected on a prior visit to the Kigali Genocide Memorial, highlighting the weight of responsibility peacekeepers carry and assuring continued UNMISS support for daily operational challenges.



Rwandan forces contribute significantly to peace and security in South Sudan by protecting civilians, supporting local security institutions, and maintaining UN infrastructure.

Since 2011, Rwanda has deployed police units (Formed Police Units), troops (Rwanbatt - Rwanda Battalion), and aviation personnel (Rwandan Aviation Unit) to South Sudan. Their duties include civilian protection, safeguarding UN facilities, conflict prevention, community outreach, and building trust with local populations.

In 2026, 160 Rwandan police officers were deployed to Juba, replacing personnel who had completed a year in the mission. In 2024, Rwanbatt-3 and the 12th Aviation Unit were awarded UN medals for professionalism and dedication, shortly before being rotated out.

Rwandan peacekeepers also engage communities through recreational and training activities to strengthen unity and confidence. Rwanda is widely recognized for its significant contribution to global peacekeeping, and its troops in South Sudan are consistently commended for their professionalism, discipline, and commitment by UN officials.