



United Nations Mission in Sudan

FACT SHEET

Frequently Asked Questions

What is UNMIS?

The United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) is a UN peace support operation set up under Chapter VI of the United Nations Charter. It is made up of civilian, military and police components.

The UN Security Council authorized the establishment of UNMIS through its adoption of Resolution 1590 on 24 March 2005, following the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA).

Why is UNMIS here?

UNMIS is in Sudan to support the Government of Sudan (GoS) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) in implementation of the CPA.

The GoS and the SPLM/A signed the CPA into existence on 9 January 2005, formally bringing an end to Africa's longest-running civil war.

The GoS and the SPLM invited the United Nations to Sudan to monitor and support implementation of the CPA.

How long will UNMIS stay for?

UNMIS is scheduled to stay in Sudan for a total of seven years.

This covers the six-year "interim period" which runs from July 2005 until July 2011, as well as the six-month pre-interim period and the six-month phase-out stage.

What is UNMIS' aim?

UNMIS' overall aim is to help the people of Sudan promote national reconciliation, lasting peace and stability and to assist efforts to build a prosperous Sudan with due regard for human rights and the protection of all citizens.

The UN Security Council has asked UNMIS, on the basis of the CPA, to support the parties' endeavours to make unity an attractive option for the Sudanese people.

What has UNMIS been doing to achieve its aim?

UNMIS monitors and supports implementation of the various political, military, humanitarian and developmental aspects of the CPA.

UNMIS is also tasked with other activities, such as facilitating the voluntary return of refugees and displaced persons, providing de-mining assistance and contributing towards international efforts to protect and promote human rights in Sudan.

In addition, UNMIS is the lead coordinator for the UN system in Sudan.

How is UNMIS structured?

UNMIS is headed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for Sudan, Ashraf Qazi.

Working closely with the SRSG is Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator) Ameerah Haq and UN Force Commander Major General Paban Jung Thapa.

Substantive sections of UNMIS include: Civil Affairs; Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR); Gender;; HIV/AIDS; Human Rights; Public Information Office; Political Affairs; and Rule of Law.

What is the relationship between UNMIS and the UN system in Sudan?

All parts of the UN system in Sudan are working

towards the same goal -- the long-term benefit of all Sudanese people. However, each UN agency has its own organizational structures and different operations. UNMIS, as the lead coordinator for the UN system in Sudan, helps synchronise the activities of the various UN agencies and programmes in the country.

What is the role of UNMIS Military?

In order to assist the GoS and SPLM in implementation of the Sudanese peace process, the UNMIS Military has deployed a peace support operation consisting of 750 Military Observers.

In addition, there is a protection force under Chapter VI of the UN Charter, as well as logistical support for Military Observers.

The total UN military peace-keeping force deployed across Sudan is 10,000.

Where is UNMIS military deployed?

UNMIS Military is deployed in two key locations – Headquarters in Khartoum and the Logistics Base in El Obeid – as well as six other areas, known as sectors, which have regional headquarters in Juba, Wau, Malakal, Kadugli, Ed Damazin, and Abyei. In addition, there are two to four permanent military and police team sites in each sector.

What are the main tasks of UNMIS Police?

The most important task of UNMIS Police is to work with and support national police services of the parties and to help develop and coordinate bilateral and multilateral assistance programs.

UNMIS Police interacts with local police and the community at every level and assists in the training and development of policing to internationally acceptable standards.

In addition, UNMIS Police conducts patrols, both with local police and alone, to observe how local police and the community interact with each other.

UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN

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