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# Media Monitoring Report

United Nations Mission in Sudan/ Public Information Office

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# Highlights

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## UN congratulates CPA partners on forming new Government

**MirayaFM.org** 17/06/10 – The United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) has congratulated the partners of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) on the formation of a new Government on Wednesday. In a press statement, UNMIS expressed hope that the new National Government will adhere to its commitment to achieving a stable and durable peace by conducting "credible referenda" in southern Sudan and Abyei and realizing the popular consultations in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile States.

## Mbeki and Menkerios meet Hillary Clinton

The head of the AU High Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) Thabo Mbeki and UNMIS chief Haile Menkerios met yesterday with US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, **local dailies** report. Mbeki and Menkerios briefed the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) on progress regarding the North-South peace agreement (CPA) and on the situation in Darfur.

"Secretary Clinton reaffirmed the U.S. commitment to the full implementation of the CPA, including conducting the referenda on time, in an environment conducive to a credible and peaceful vote, and with outcomes that are respected by the international community".

## New Ministers take the oath of office

The newly-appointed federal ministers and state ministers were sworn in before President Al-Bashir yesterday, **local dailies** report. Addressing them following the ceremony, Al-Bashir underlined the need to preserve the country's unity, to implement the CPA and to resolve the problem in Darfur.

Speaking on foreign policy, Foreign Minister Ali Karti said that the government would continue to dialogue with the international community and would "extend an open hand while aspiring for support for unity."

## Thirteen killed in South Sudan clashes

**Reuters Khartoum, 16/06/10 - The** SPLA said on Wednesday 10 members of a renegade militia and three soldiers were killed in a gun battle in the region's Jonglei State.

A 35-strong search team came across George Athor's rebels on Tuesday, a day after it had flushed him out of a hideout, according to the southern army (SPLA).

"The reconnaissance platoon found his new place suddenly and there was an exchange of fire near Dier village in Khorfulus County," SPLA spokesperson Kuol Diem Kuol said.

"From the SPLA side, three were killed and eight wounded and from Athor's side 10 killed."

Athor did not answer calls on Wednesday.

Earlier Kuol said SPLA troops attacked Athor's forces in the village of Wunlam on Monday night, after they were led to the hideout, also in Khorfulus County, by one of Athor's men captured in an earlier fight.

"He is running with less than 30 soldiers. They are his close relatives from the village ... Our forces are now pursuing him. We expect his capture within days," said Kuol, adding the SPLA captured 13 of Athor's men and radio equipment on Monday.

## **Calm returns to Juba University following clashes**

Calm has returned to Juba University following student clashes last week, *Radio Miraya* reports. The Under-Secretary for Higher Education in the GoSS Ministry of Education, Atem Kuir Jok, reported these developments following a meeting held on Monday to resolve causes of conflict among the students.

He said that students' identity and meal cards will be screened adding that police presence in the campus will be enforced to ensure security and prevent the recurrence of similar incidents.

## **Worsening humanitarian situation in Lakes State**

*MirayaFM.org* 16/06/10 – Chueibet County in Lakes State is witnessing a deteriorating humanitarian situation due to continuous insecurity. County Commissioner, Madang Majok, said that continuous cattle raids and the long draught last year have contributed to the problem. He noted that the food assistance provided by the World Food Programme (WFP) to over 90,000 people in the county is insufficient.

He called on state authorities to request WFP to increase the food ratios from 25% to 50% to meet the needs of the vulnerable people in the county.

## **UNICEF calls for more government investment in child welfare**

UNICEF called on the Sudanese government to invest more money and efforts in child welfare to cover the huge gap in education and healthcare the country, *Al-Ayyam* reports. This came in the celebrations of the African Child Day that took place yesterday.

Sudan's future will be affected in a negative manner if the country fails to invest in these sectors, UNICEF's Sudan Representative Nils Kastberg warned.

## **Khartoum dismisses beheading of 10 Ugandan Soldiers in remote CAR**

*Sudantribune.com* Juba, 16/06/10 - Khartoum has hit back and strongly denied killing of 10 Ugandan soldiers in the dense thick bushes of remote Central Africa Republic

Sudan army categorical refuted on Wednesday claims that armed men from Sudan had killed Ugandan soldiers last month as they pursued Lord's Resistance Army rebels in Central African Republic.

The government sponsored *Sudanese Media Centre (SMC)* website quoted army spokesman Sawarmi Khalid Saad as saying "The Sudanese army refutes allegations by Ugandan military officials that a number of Ugandan soldiers were killed by Sudanese militia," reports AFP news agency.

Ugandan Army suspects Janjaweed of being behind the CAR beheadings.

On Tuesday, Ugandan Lieutenant Colonel Felix Kulayigye said an unknown Sudanese militia, not the LRA, was likely responsible for the killings. "It could be more than 10 killed. We are still investigating the exact number," Kulayigye said, adding he believes the Ugandans ran into a group of armed Sudanese men who had crossed the border on a hunting expedition.

## **Two Darfur rebel figures turn themselves to ICC after extended evasion**

*Sudantribune.com* Washington, 16/06/10 - The judges at the International Criminal Court (ICC) yesterday unsealed summons to appear for two rebel figures suspected of leading an attack on African Union (AU) peacekeepers in Darfur back in 2007 which led to the death of 12 and severely wounding eight others in Haskanita, in northern Darfur soldiers from Nigeria, Senegal, Mali and Botswana.

It was the deadliest single attack on the peacekeepers since they began their mission in late

2004

The summons issued last August named the former Chief of Staff of Sudan Liberation Army (SLA-Unity) Saleh Mohammed Jerbo Jamus and Abdallah Banda Abakaer Nourain described as the Commander-in-Chief of Justice and Equality Movement (JEM Collective-Leadership) which is part of the United Resistance Front (URF).

The ICC documents released today showed that the judges had found reasonable grounds to believe that Banda and Jerbo were criminally responsible for murder, an intentional attack on peacekeepers, and pillaging, all of which are punishable under the Statute of the tribunal.

A statement by the ICC said that Banda and Jerbo arrived voluntarily on Wednesday morning and are staying at an undisclosed location pending a procedural hearing on Thursday in which they will be informed of the crimes which they are alleged to have committed and of their rights under the Rome Statute. No details were given on how they reached the Netherlands. Many countries cooperating with the court in moving suspects prefer to remain anonymous.

They are barred from leaving the premises of the Court, including that location, for the whole period of their stay in the Netherlands without the permission of the Pre-Trial Chamber. Banda and Jerbo are also prohibited from discussing the charges or make any political statements from the premises of the court.

The two rebel figures were originally scheduled to surrender to the ICC last February but their appearance was cancelled for unknown reasons.

Banda will be represented by the Kuwaiti lawyer Labeed Abdal while Jerbo will have Amin Eldeeb from Egypt as his advocate.

The ICC prosecutor office welcomes the voluntary appearance of the rebel figures saying it was "the culmination of months of efforts,"

"The appearance of the two suspects means that all the persons we wish to prosecute in connection with the Haskanita attack have now appeared before the court," he said.

A further hearing will be held "within a reasonable time" to confirm the charges against Banda and Jerbo — a requirement before the case can go to trial.

An official for the main JEM group welcomed the move by Banda and Jerbo in turning themselves in.

"JEM commends and salutes the courage of Banda and Saleh Mohammed Jerbo Jamus and the right decision they took in handing themselves over to the ICC," said Ahmed Hussein Adam, a JEM spokesman. "JEM reiterates its unconditional support to the ICC to serve justice. We urge al-Bashir and Haroun to do the same by handing themselves to the ICC."

Banda was a senior military commander in JEM before he was dismissed during a bitter split among the movement's governing elite in mid 2007. Banda went on to form a rival faction, the JEM Collective Leadership, with former JEM vice president Abu Garda.

## **America urged to withdraw military aid to Sudan**

**Sudantribune.com** Juba, 16/06/10 - As Sudan joined the rest of the continent to mark the day of the African Child yesterday, a US-based human rights body has urged America to withdraw its military assistance to Sudan over its alleged failure to abide by recent calls to end rampant use of child soldiers.

In a damning report, entitled "US: Step Up Pressure on Allies Using Child Soldiers," Human Rights Watch urged the US to put pressure on governments identified by the State Department as using child soldiers to either end the practice or lose US military assistance.

The other countries, according to the State Department's 2010 annual report on Trafficking in Persons, are Chad, Burma, DR Congo, Somalia and Yemen, all accused of using child soldiers in their armed forces or supporting allied militias that use child soldiers.

In recent years, however, each of these countries mentioned, with the exception of Burma, reportedly received military assistance from Americans, usually in the form of military training.

## Pre-Referendum Monitor:

### Donors pledge commitment to support post-referendum south

The Joint Donors' Team (JDT) yesterday expressed at a workshop on post-referendum donor coordination, the commitment of various organisations and donor states to support the post-referendum period in southern Sudan, irrespective of whether the votes results in unity or separation, *The Citizen* reports.

Addressing the same workshop in Juba yesterday, UN Deputy Resident Coordinator for southern Sudan, Lise Grande, said that the humanitarian crisis in southern Sudan is among the urgent UN programmes for southern Sudan. She said that the United Nations Security Council would possible meet in September this year and would discuss capacity building for southern Sudan.

Grande cited the referendum, the security situation and capacity building as the three priority areas for the UN.

### North-South borders as "barriers" can harm future cooperation - Machar

*Sudantribune.com* Juba, 16/06/10- The north-south borders should not be looked at as a barrier because it can harm the needed future economic cooperation between the two would-be separate and independent countries, says GoSS Vice-President Riek Machar.

The GoSS VP made the remarks during a press conference held with international and national journalists in Juba. He said there are many economic issues that will continue to demand mutual cooperation between the two regions "even if" the South would vote for secession and become an independent country in the next six months.

He reaffirmed his earlier remarks which suggested that even if an agreement would not be reached on the remaining contentious border points, the referenda for Southern Sudan and Abyei can be conducted as scheduled by 9th January 2011.

"Even if there is no agreement on these issues, the completion of demarcation of the borders should not be connected with the referendum. The referendum by itself can be conducted even if the borders are not completed," he said.

Foreign Minister Ali Karti on Tuesday reaffirmed that the north-south borders should be demarcated before the conduct of the referendum arguing that "the demarcation will help establish where people live and where (natural) resources are located."

But Machar argued that if the two parties got into a situation whereby they agree that the borders be demarcated ahead of the conduct of the referendum then "the issue would drag on for a very long period of time".

"If you lock yourself into a situation where you say borders must be demarcated, experience in the world like Norway and Russia had forty years discussing their borders....US and Canada are still discussing borders up to date. Will we wait until we agree on specifics of the borders?" he asked.

He also added that the two parties know where the borders are on paper and that the Abyei boundaries would also be completed in time. "Abyei's delimitations of the borders have been done on paper and demarcation of it was started, but then stopped. That would also be completed. So on paper we know where the borders are," he said.

"If you begin to look at the borders as if you have put a barrier, you harm the common interest. So we should look at the borders as practically, yes, these are borders of this side and the other side, but there are other things that are very important for the two parties."

### **International plot for southern Sudanese secession – opposition figure**

The head of the National Consensus Forces, Farouq Abu-Eissa, has commended the support of African States have shown for Sudanese unity through their representatives at the UN, reports ***Al-Akhbar***. He pointed out that this was a contrast from the position of the international community and some western circles that back the push for separation in southern Sudan.

Abu-Eissa revealed that representatives of the AU Panel had pointed out in New York that the continent would back Sudanese unity and had pointed out that the CPA itself advocates for unity.

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