

10 Feb 2011

www.unmissions.unmis.org



Media Monitoring Report

United Nations Mission in Sudan/ Public Information Office

Post-referendum Watch

- UNSC congratulates Sudan on successful referendum (*Al-Rai Al-Aam*)
- UN hails South Sudan independence as “new dawn” (*AFP*)
- UN troops mandate ends in July – NCP (*Sudan Radio*)
- VP Taha says Abyei is under the Presidency not the GoSS (*Al-Sahafa*)
- Joint Political Committee starts borders demarcation process (*Sudan Vision*)
- S. Africa's Zuma lauds Bashir for south Sudan vote (*AFP*)
- Athor forces enter Fanjak and Fam Al-Zaraf (*Al-Intibaha*)
- 20 killed in fresh armed clashes with Athor’s rebels in South Sudan (*ST*)
- South Sudan minister, body guard shot dead (*ST*)
- Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs inaugurates international campaign (*Sudan Vision*)

Other Headlines

- Mediation to discuss Darfur peace final document in Khartoum today (*Sudan Vision*)

NOTE: Reproduction here does not mean that the UNMIS PIO can vouch for the accuracy or veracity of the contents, nor does this report reflect the views of the United Nations Mission in Sudan. Furthermore, international copyright exists on some materials and this summary should not be disseminated beyond the intended list of recipients.

Address: UNMIS Headquarters, P.O. Box 69, Ibeid Khatim St, Khartoum 11111, SUDAN
Phone: (+249-1) 8708 6000 - Fax: (+249-1) 8708 6200

Highlights

UNSC congratulates Sudan on successful referendum

Al-Rai Al-Aam 10/2/11 – The UN Security Council expressed yesterday its total satisfaction over the conduct of the south Sudan referendum and stressed that the two neighbouring states should learn to live together in peace. The Council congratulated the NCP and the SPLM for the successful conduct of the process in a free and peaceful atmosphere.

The Council listened yesterday to a report presented by SRSG Haile Menkerios on the results of the referendum which confirmed secession by 98% of votes. The SRSG informed the Council that the NCP and the SPLM agreed on a range of issues including sharing of oil profits, bilateral economic relations, citizenship, open borders and non-interference in each others domestic affairs. He said there were still issues need to be addressed including security, non-aggression and military cooperation. He said Sudan presented a model on how the will of peace could prevail over war.

UN hails South Sudan independence as “new dawn”

AFP 9/2/11 - Southern Sudan's vote to split from the Arab-dominated north is a "new dawn" for the giant African nation, a top UN envoy said Wednesday while warning of major tasks ahead to the creation of a new country.

Haile Menkerios, head of the UN mission in Sudan who has been widely praised for his role in ensuring last month's self-determination vote went ahead peacefully, told the UN Security Council the result would have an impact on all of Africa.

The announcement of the result on Monday "will have to be remembered and celebrated in Sudan's and Africa's history as a day when the longest running civil war in the continent's history came to a definitive end," Menkerios said.

"This is a new historic moment for Sudan, a new dawn that if built up on can lead to a sustainable peace and progress in Sudan and can contribute to the same in the immediate region and throughout the continent."

Southern Sudan is now expected to declare formal independence on July 9 and the UN envoy said the two sides are working towards a new deal on their border, citizenship problems and "a broad framework for non-aggression and military cooperation."

A UN Security Council statement praised Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir and the south's leader Salva Kiir and said the council "looks forward to welcoming an independent south Sudan as a new member of the international community after July 9."

Menkerios said however that more must be done to set up the new state in the south and reinforce the north's institutions. He also highlighted heightened tensions in the Abyei region where the vote was not held and deadly clashes took place in recent weeks.

"In a sense, their work has only just begun," Menkerios said of the two leaders. "Both north and south must now strive to consolidate peace, to deliver on their promises to their people, promises to ensure effective and accountable democratic governance, to drive economic development and provide social services."

In a statement read at the meeting, Sudan's Foreign Minister Ali Karti reaffirmed his country's acceptance of the result and said the Khartoum government "looks forward to seeing a sisterly country that is stable and safe in the south."

"Stability for the north is stability for the south as well," he added. "Any threat to the north is a threat to the south."

Deng Alor Kuol, southern Sudan's minister of regional development, called for international support for the creation of the new nation.

"Building a sustainable and lasting peace for all of the people of Sudan remains our top priority," he said.

"We have no interest in returning to the hostilities and divisions of the past. It is our most sincere wish to achieve peaceful co-existence between north and south."

US Ambassador Susan Rice told the council that "as long as Abyei's status remains unresolved, it could indeed trigger further instability across Sudan."

Mark Lyall Grant, Britain's ambassador to the UN, said there are "a huge number of challenges" to be dealt with by July including the risk of new unrest in southern Sudan and in border areas.

"Clearly, to make peace sustainable, to make stability sustainable, a great deal of peace-building work, of nation-building work, will need to be done over the next months and years," he told reporters.

UN troops mandate ends in July – NCP

Sudan Radio 10/2/11 – The NCP Council of Leaders held a meeting yesterday chaired by party president Omer Hassan Al-Bashir in presence of his deputies Ali Osman Taha and Nafie Ali Nafie.

The meeting accepted the referendum results and urged the government to establish good relations with the South and work for resolving the pending issues during the remaining part of the interim period.

Meanwhile, NCP spokesperson Fathi Sheilla told reporters that the NCP Council of Leaders affirmed that the mandate of the UN troops end in July.

NCP leading figure, Dr. Al-Fateh Izzel-Din, who is also the Chairman of the National Assembly's Committee for Labour, Administration and Grievances, said he expects extension of the interim period for several years if not indefinitely should the two parties reach an agreement, according to *Al-Tayyar* 10/2/11.

“Extension of the interim period is out of the question,” says MP Mohamed Al-Hassan Al-Amin (NCP), according to *Al-Rai Al-Aam* 10/2/11. “Extension of the interim period is not on the table”, says National Assembly Deputy Speaker Atem Garang (SPLM).

VP Taha says Abyei is under the Presidency not the GoSS

Al-Sahafa 10/2/11 – VP Ali Osman Taha has pointed out that the Abyei territory is run by the Presidency not the GoSS.

Taha, at a meeting yesterday in the Ministry of Defence, directed the setting up of a mechanism to promote interests of the two parties in the North and the South after July.

Meanwhile, SAF spokesperson Lt. Col. Al-Sawarmi Khalid said that Taha’s meeting which was attended by ministers of defence, interior, NISS Director, DG of police and joint chief of staff, focused on post-referendum security arrangements.

Joint Political Committee starts borders demarcation process

Sudan Vision 10/2/11 - NCP and SPLM agree to start borders demarcation between north and south Sudan as of next Wednesday.

The joint political committee discussed in its meeting yesterday the borders demarcation, the citizenship and Abyei issue.

SPLM Secretary-General, Pagan Amum said in press statements that the Presidency Establishment issued directives to provide the required support to the technical committee to expedite its mission in the demarcation process.

Amum said that the technical committee agreed to submit the five contentious points to the political committee for review along with proposals for solution.

He pointed out that the political committee discussed the issue of citizenship and it was agreed to protect the citizens in the north and the south in the light of the referendum results which confirmed south Sudan secession.

On his part, Presidential Advisor, Lt. Gen. Salah abdallah said that the meeting was dominated by positive spirit adding that the meetings would continue today for discussion on the Abyei issue.

He disclosed that they are confident that they will manage to accomplish resolving all the issues in the remaining period.

S. Africa's Zuma lauds Bashir for south Sudan vote

AFP 9/2/11 - South African President Jacob Zuma praised Sudanese leader Omar al-Bashir on Wednesday for accepting the result of south Sudan's landmark independence referendum.

"President Zuma lauds the efforts of both President al-Bashir and First Vice President Salva Kiir on delivering a peaceful and credible referendum for the people of southern Sudan," the South African foreign ministry said in a statement.

"The acceptance of the results by President al-Bashir demonstrates the strong political will for

peace that exists among the leadership in the Sudan and sets the foundation for a harmonious co-existence between the people of north and south Sudan."

"South Africa stands ready to recognise and welcome the new state of South Sudan to the community of nations in July 2011 and will continue to strengthen its relations with the people of north and south Sudan," said the statement.

Athor forces enter Fanjak and Fam Al-Zaraf

Al-Intibaha 10/2/11 – Forces of Gen. George Athor entered Fam Al-Zaraf in Fanjak County in Jonglei state following military clashes with SPLA yesterday.

Hundreds of SPLA soldiers were killed in the attack which was launched on Athor by the SPLA army. Athor told the newspaper on telephone yesterday that his forces captured Fam Al-Zaraf area.

20 killed in fresh armed clashes with Athor's rebels in South Sudan

Sudan Tribune.com 9/2/11 - At least 20 people have been confirmed dead and several others wounded in what appears to be renewed military confrontation between forces belonging to the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and armed groups loyal to General George Athor Deng Dut in Jonglei State.

Speaking to Sudan Tribune on Wednesday from his base in Khorfoules, the rebel commander said southern Sudan army attacked his fighters in different locations in Jonglei state.

"The SPLA forces launched an attack on three of our operational outposts today in Koliet, Kolnyang and Fangak. They attack us at exactly 10.00am in Koliet and Door and about 11.00am in Fangak", Athor told Sudan Tribune by a telephone from his base.

The rebel leader accused internal affairs minister in the government of south Sudan, Gier Chuang and Jonglei State Governor Kuol of organising the attacks through Ayod county commissioner and the minister law enforcement.

"These attacks were launched by Ayod County commissioner Thoi Ruai Chany and Jonglei state minister of law enforcement Gabriel Duop Lam under instructions of internal affairs minister in the government of south Sudan Gier Chuang Aluong and Jonglei State governor Kuol Manyang", said Athor.

Dok James Puok, spokesman of General Athor, also in an interview with Sudan Tribune from the regional capital of Juba confirmed the clash.

"The SPLA forces attacked our forces today in three different places resulting into lost of lives on both sides. They attacked our forces in Koliet, Kolnyang and Door but they were repulsed and our forces and took Fangak from them and gained control of these places and many other operational outposts they attacked today... The SPLA forces in Fangak also launched an attack on our positions but were repulsed and we followed. Our forces captured Fangak chased them to Tunja. Fangak is now control of our forces", he said.

He said three soldiers loyal to Athor were killed and was still waiting for reports from other places.

The spokesman of the rebel group described the clash as one of the heaviest attacks "because it witnessed the use of heavy artilleries mounted on army trucks and other heavy weapons "they had encountered but claimed their forces had captured five wounded soldiers and a "pick up vehicle was captured and another was destroyed."

He said the captured soldiers "confessed that 17 of their colleagues were killed during the attack".

Puok said their accusations implicating Jonglei Governor Kuol and Minister Gier were confirmed by the captives. "We have said several times said that we are committed to peace but our efforts and commitment to peaceful settlements are being backtracked and frustrated by continuous activities by minister Gier Chuang and Jonglei State Governor Kuol. They do not need peace and stability in Jonglei and in the whole of South Sudan".

"They are the ones who organised these attacks through Ayod County commissioner Thoi Ruai Chany and Jonglei State minister law enforcement, Gabriel Duop Lam today", said Puok.

Colonel Phillip Aguer Panyang, spokesman of the SPLA in a separate interview with Sudan Tribune denied that SPLA forces attacked General Athor, claiming that it was Athor who launched an attack on SPLA forces.

"It was unfortunate that General Athor attacked our forces in clear violation of the ceasefire today. They attacked Fangak which has no SPLA forces. There were only about three or four policemen in the area during the attack", said Panyang, claiming SPLA forces were delivering food rations to Athor's troops, in accordance with the ceasefire agreement. "How can we attack them and we are aware of the ceasefire?" he asked.

Chol Atem, a member of the SPLM in an interview with Sudan Tribune from Juba, condemned the attack and accused Athor of creating instability in the area for own interests.

"Athor is a power hungry person and must stop lying to the media, saying that he was attacked by the SPLA. This is not true. It is false.

"In the fact the media who talks to him are the ones portraying him as a rebel, he is not a rebel. He is a just a disgruntled, selfish and power hunger person. Who does not know him? Tell me who does not know George Athor?" Atem asked.

South Sudan minister, body guard shot dead

Sudan Tribune.com 9/2/11 - A senior minister in the government of South Sudan has been shot dead in his office, just two days after the final results indicated that the population in the semi-autonomous region overwhelmingly voted for separation in the self-determination referendum.

The late Jimmy Lemi Milla was reportedly shot five times by Emmanuel David Luga, a brother-in-law to the minister, who previously served as his driver. Also killed in the melee was the minister body guard whose identity could not readily be established.

The incident, which occurred at about 10:30am, according to multiple sources, could have been triggered off by "personal grievances" over unpaid salary arrears.

The minister of internal affairs s Gier Chuang Aluong told reporters that the incident “was not politically-motivated but an isolated criminal incident”. "Both the late Minister and Emmanuel are members of Pajulu ethnic group," he further added.

Multiple sources say the assailant, who previously worked as the minister’s driver reportedly developed grievances with the latter after he lost his job and was demanding unpaid salary arrears over a two-month period.

"This man (killer) always vowed to teach the minister a lesson one day over his unpaid salaries. Maybe today was the day he has always planned," a source within the ministry said.

Narrating the movie-like incident, an eyewitness told Sudan Tribune that the killer, first rushed to the deceased minister’s car, smashed the front window and grabbed a gun belonging to the body guard.

“With the gun in his hand, the man entered the building and rushed upstairs and kept telling people he has no problem with anybody apart from the minister. He then shot the minister bodyguard who was seated outside the office before proceeding to kill to kill Jimmy”, said the visibly-shocked eyewitness.

Thomas Wani Kundo, a Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM) legislator in the National Assembly described the late Milla as a “very cooperative, simply and straight forward man.”

“The late minister’s death, coming at this crucial time is certainly a big blow to not only the people of Lainya County, but the entire South Sudan region. It will also impact negatively on the image of the GoSS [Government of South Sudan] leadership,” he told journalists Wednesday.

Kundo, also the SPLM caucus leader in the Khartoum-based assembly appealed to the southern population not to get derailed by the impromptu incident, but reconcile and move the country forward.

Believed to have been in his late 60s, Milla, who hails from Lainya County in Central Equatoria State, previously served its Deputy Governor. He also served as minister for Parliamentary Affairs in the Government of National Unity (GoNU).

In August last year, he was appointed minister for Cooperatives and Rural Development when then minister, Anne Itto Leonardo was transferred to Agriculture and Forestry ministry following the untimely death of Samson Lukare Kwaje.

Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs inaugurates international campaign

Sudan Vision 10/2/11 - The Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs called on the international community, the United Nations and humanitarian organization to contribute towards southern refugees' return to south Sudan.

The UN has pledged to transport 645,000 refugees 500,000 of them are in Kosti now while 145 thousand are in Khartoum. Informed source of the ministry told Sudan Vision daily that the

meeting conducted yesterday between the humanitarian affairs, number of humanitarian organizations, ministers from south Sudan in addition to donors and MPs revealed tragic situations under which refugees live. The source said that the total number of southern refugees in Khartoum is 250,000.

The donors called on the ministry to set up plan to enable them to provide refugees with their needs. Minister of Humanitarian Affairs Joseph Lual Achiol briefed the meeting on tough circumstances facing refugees waiting for deportation, calling for establishing program systemizing voluntary return. He also called on humanitarian organizations to support southern refugees who are waiting in Kosti now. He stressed the importance of punishing those who misused money allocated for voluntary return. "There is an urgent need for deporting refugees" added the minister.

First Vice President and President of South Sudan Government Salva Kiir Mayardit has directed the Minister of Humanitarian Affairs to kick off international campaign aiming at transporting southern refugees.

Other Highlights

Mediation to discuss Darfur peace final document in Khartoum today

Sudan Vision 10/2/11 - The mediation member, Qatar State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ahmed Bin Abdallah Al-Mahmoud is scheduled to discuss today in Khartoum the final document of Darfur peace with President Al-Bashir, Presidential Advisor in charge of Darfur file, Dr. Ghazi Salah Addeen and the head of the Sudan delegation to Doha peace talks, Dr. Amin Hassan Omer.

Informed sources reported that talks would focus on a draft document to be presented by the mediation members for reaching a final agreement on Darfur peace.

According to the sources, the government might put on the table its reservations on the performance of the AU-UN Chief Joint Mediator, Basole.

Dr. Salah Addeen views that Darfur peace process is entering a new phase which depends on Darfur peoples' political engagement in that process.

Addressing a mass rally in El Ginena, West Darfur, he urged acceleration of the process so as to get it finalized before the coming July, to allow devotion of efforts for formulation of the permanent constitution of the Sudan.

The Sudan is expected to lead a pioneering role and assume a pivotal position on the African Continent, he said, renewing government's firm determination to realize justice and sustainable peace in Darfur.

" Our concern with the course of development does not mean negligence of the other ones, as any state that respects itself should not allow its people tasked with enforcing justice to be under the threat of kidnapping by out-law groups."

"Our visit to Darfur is not for launching empty slogans, rather it targets bolstering of the course of development crucial to establishing justice," the presidential advisor said.

Blaming those who mock the idea of peace-from-within Darfur, he says that peace will not be effective unless it comes from villages and towns across the board in the three states of Darfur, expressing his respect of efforts contributed by brothers and neighbors.

He added, "Local environment conducive to the growth and flourish of a stable peace is crucial, otherwise it will be fragile and liable to destabilization."

Salah Addeen indicated that allocation of additional funds to development in the region targeted enabling average citizens reap the fruit of peace wherever they were, pointing out such funds should be invested in integrated projects for making the citizens directly benefit from them.

He further stressed the importance of Darfur site with regard to Africa, that site, he said, is characterized by a sort of social communication and intermingled factors influential on the peoples of the region, adding that, its site is more crucial than its natural resources.

Wrapping up his speech, Dr. Ghazi said, "West Darfur a state could be a model state, as it leads in terms of security, stability and freedom from tribal conflicts."

The Presidential Advisor in charge of Darfur file, Dr. Ghazi Salah Addeen, arrived in Darfur yesterday leading a government delegation for inaugurating development projects in the three states of the region.

United Nations Mission In Sudan - Public Information Office

Address: UNMIS Headquarters, P.O. Box 69, Ibeid Khatim St, Khartoum 11111, SUDAN
Phone: (+249-1) 8708 6000 - Fax: (+249-1) 8708 6200