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We will not go back to war, Doha talks final – Al-Bashir

Local dailies report President Omar Al-Bashir yesterday addressed closing session of the NCP’s Political Sector conference. According to Al-Wifaq, Al-Bashir said the country would not go back to war and reiterated the NCP’s commitment to the implementation of the CPA as well as other agreements. The President reiterated that free and fair elections would be held, calling on all the political parties to get ready for the exercise, saying freedoms would be guaranteed for all the parties to disseminate their programmes. He added that the upcoming Darfur talks in Doha would be final, calling on all movements to participate.

Ban voices continued UN support for ICC

UN News 10/9/09 - Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today expressed the continued support of the United Nations for the work of the ICC, which he said has become the “centerpiece” of the global criminal justice system since it came into existence only several years ago.

“The establishment of the ICC was a landmark in the efforts of the international community to enforce the applicability of international humanitarian law, and to advance the cause of justice and the rule of law on a universal scale,” Mr. Ban said in a message to the Consultative Conference on International Criminal Justice.

The efforts by the UN to further the causes of peace, development and human rights are closely connected to the work of the ICC, Mr. Ban noted, adding that the world body stands ready to do all that is needed to “facilitate the Court’s noble and important mission.”

In the message, delivered by UN Legal Counsel Patricia O’Brien, the Secretary-General pointed out the increased support for the idea that justice must be an essential part of post-conflict strategies to ensure a sustainable peace.

This could take the form of international accountability mechanisms, boosting national accountability methods, and setting up possible non-judicial forums such as Truth and Reconciliation Commissions, he said.

UN says Ugandan rebels escalating attacks in South Sudan

AFP 11/9/09 - A surge in rebel attacks in southern Sudan by LRA rebels is creating grave concern, a senior UN official said on Friday. "Many innocent people are losing their lives every week, and the United Nations is very concerned about the killing, abduction, maiming and displacement of innocent civilians," said Ameerah Haq, the UN humanitarian coordinator for Sudan.

There is "grave concern" about the "increasing number of deaths due to the escalating attacks," Haq said during a visit to Western Equatoria state, which has suffered the brunt of many raids with several villages burnt.

"During the last six weeks alone, 11 incidents of LRA attacks have been reported -- seven of them in the first week of September," she told reporters. Rebels raided villages just five kilometres (three miles) from Yambio last week, while the UN was forced to airlift out aid
workers from the remote town of Ezo in August following a raid.

"The worsening humanitarian situation in Western Equatoria state demands a long-term solution to the LRA insurgence," Haq added. Security needs to be increased, especially to guard deliveries of food aid which is acting as a "magnet" to the rebels, Haq added.

"(These) have been increasing rapidly in the last few months. Over the last six weeks there were 11 such attacks," Ameerah Haq, the Resident Humanitarian Coordinator for Sudan, told journalists in the southern town of Yambio, according to Reuters.

Haq said the attacks had frightened tens of thousands into fleeing their homes in Western Equatoria. She added that the southern Sudan government was struggling to provide security in the large and sparsely populated areas of dense forest that is one of Africa's most remote corners, a task made harder because the LRA had splintered into many different small groups.

According to UN News 11/9/09, The people of southern Sudan face serious threats to their security from a brutal Ugandan rebel militia operating in the area as well as a recent flare-up of violent ethnic clashes, a senior United Nations official warned today.

The LRA is a deadly threat to communities in the extreme west of southern Sudan, said David Gressly, Regional Coordinator for South Sudan at the UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS).

The LRA continues to wage its campaign of terror in Western Equatoria state – looting and ransacking homes, churches and health facilities; stealing food, killing innocent civilians; and abducting young girls and boys, according to a report issued by the World Health Organization (WHO) earlier this month.

WHO noted that attacks intensified in August causing mass displacements in the region, with over 80,000 people forced from their homes in Western Equatoria and Central Equatoria this year.

Mr. Gressly underscored lethal inter-tribal clashes – revolving around resources particularly cattle, water and land – as another critical area of concern, stressing that "land remains an unresolved major issue, perpetuating violence in southern Sudan."

Mr. Gressly stressed that even with the help of UNMIS, it is extremely difficult for the Government to respond to these attacks, which are usually launched as pre-dawn raids and are over in a matter of hours.

“We are placing our own forces on the ground to try to check these problems, but we’re dealing with a very remote area,” he said. “Jonglei state is about the size of Bangladesh and has approximately 30 miles of unpaved road and the rest are tracks which virtually are useless six or seven months of the year because of rains.”

In addition to combating the deadly violence, Mr. Gressly said that much work needs to be done on the political front to complete milestones set in the 2005 peace treaty which ended one of Africa’s longest and bloodiest civil wars.

Search will not cease until the south is arms-free – Kiir
FVP Salva Kiir Mayardit has announced that the search for arms which kicked off in Juba would not be discontinued before the South is announced free of arms, al-Sahafa reports. He said the
whole exercise aims at realizing security and stability for the civilians in the region. He has called for the relentless continuation of the search and also called on civilians and civil society organizations to assist to make the operation a success.

Al-Ayyam reports Kiir has also instructed GoSS officials to surrender arms in their possession to the security, asking authorities to reconsider arms licenses. Civilians in Juba have welcomed the campaign to collect illegal arms, saying the step can contribute towards improvement of the security situation in the city.

According to **Sudan Tribune website** 12/9/09, the GoSS today said it would extend coordinated and joint police and military illegal arms search operation into the ten states in the region.

South Sudan minister of internal affairs General Gier Chuang Aluong told Sudan Tribune today that the huge quantity of retrieved firearms necessitated the need to extend such exercise to all the ten states.

South Sudan President Salva Kiir Mayradit yesterday ordered the extension of the operation to all the ten states of southern Sudan with immediate effect, Gier further said.

Kiir also urged the general public to cooperate with the security organs in identifying criminals working days and nights to derail the CPA.

"This search came as a result of many killings occurring at nights in Juba town by unknown thugs or criminals who are wearing military uniforms" said minister Gier Chuang Aluong.

"These unknown groups of armed criminals wearing military uniforms and positioned themselves in areas often not accessible by our nights patrolling forces," further added minister Chuang.

Asked why the government publicly displays the collected arms, he said the intention is to tell the public about the outcome of the three-day operations.

**Sudan criticizes UNSG’s report on Darfur**

**Akhir Lahza** reports Sudan Government has criticized UNSG Ban Ki-moon’s report to the SC on the situation in Darfur, viewing it as biased. Presidential Adviser Mustafa Osman Ismail has described the report as a “new conspiracy” against the Sudan”.

According to **Sudan Vision**, Ismail accused Ki-moon of presenting a report different from that of the former JSR Rodolphe Adada in which he affirmed improvement of the situation in Darfur. Ismail said Ki-moon’s report was also contrary to that of the outgoing UNAMID Force Commander.

"The Western nations need somebody who will provide them with negative reports unlike Adada who resigned recently proving his loyalty to Africa," Ismail said, adding "We wish if he would witness with us the achievement of peace." He affirmed that Western plots began to collapse one by one, adding that the accounts revealed by National Group for Correcting Track of Darfur Crisis (NGCTDC) in Addis Ababa was a new exposure of those plots.

He said the UNSC is managing 70% of crises in Africa to serve the interest of Western nations. He indicated that the international body subspecialty keeps intervening in Africa's affairs. "The
African summit sent special signals to UNSC to turn its attention to the double-standard in dealing with its member states,” Ismail explained.

He further reiterated his government’s resolve to achieve a comprehensive peace in Darfur through upcoming round of negotiations scheduled for October in the Qatari capital of Doha. He affirmed that the coming round of talks would be all-inclusive.

Ismail made the remarks yesterday while addressing the periodical forum by the Presidential Press Office.

**NCP pledges to beat secessionists**

The NCP has announced its readiness for the referendum battle in the north and the south to defeat what it described as secessionists to prevent the country from slipping into the jaws of imperialism, Zionism, corruption Governments and bloodbath, *Al-Sahafa* reports. NCP official Mohamed Mandour Al-Mahdi, in a paper presented to a workshop said the SPLM had recruited some of its elements to advance foreign agenda to divide the country. “Southern unionists are true nationalists who will never allow the secessionists elements to push their region into a dark destiny,” he said, adding the southerners would vote for unity if left alone. He said the NCP would defend unity of the country and the separatists would be defeated.

According to *Sudan Tribune website*, Al-Mahdi said that the NCP would mobilize all its resources in the South and form an alliance with pro-unity southerners and national parties in the South to overcome secessionists and foreign agendas that want the South to turn into a small state with no basis to sustain itself so it can easily be controlled. “We know the regional and international greed in South,” he said.

He also criticized the SPLM leadership for its “resorting to hostilities” and “working with foreigners against the nation”.

**Threat of new north-south conflict remains -UN**

*Reuters* 11/9/09 - A new conflict could erupt in Sudan if its former civil war foes fail to agree on how to manage a 2011 referendum on whether the south should secede from the north, a U.N. official said on Friday.

David Gressly, U.N. regional coordinator for southern Sudan, told reporters via video link that the north and south need to prepare now for both possible outcomes of the referendum and warned that they were behind schedule.

"Neither side seems to want a renewed conflict," he said.

It was possible, he said, for the two sides to peacefully accept either outcome but that would require "hard decisions in the very near future on how to come to that final accommodation" so the north and south can live together -- either as a united Sudan or as two neighboring countries.

"The alternative is a renewed conflict and that is a very real threat out there," he said.

Gressly said the most important hard decisions on the referendum include who will vote, what kind of turnout will be required and what percentage of the vote will be necessary to decide unity with the north or secession for the south.

Gressly also expressed concern about the fact that southern Sudan remains "awash in arms".
due to the long civil war and the weakness of the southern Sudanese security forces. People feel the need to keep weapons for self-defense, he said.

He also said violent attacks and raids by bandits seeking control of cattle, water and land continue to plague the inhabitants of southern Sudan.

In a related development, Sudan Tribune website 10/9/09 reported the ex-foes of the 22 years civil war in Sudan failed to break a deadlock on two main items of the CPA throwing into doubt the future of the accord already on shaky ground.

The tripartite committee that includes the US, National Congress Party (NCP) and Sudan People Liberation Movement (SPLM) held another round of talks in Southern capital of Juba today.

Two issues remain outstanding between the dominant NCP and the SPLM including the referendum law and the census results that are to be used in determining the geographical constituencies but the South asserts the figures were rigged and rejects it.

The US special envoy to Sudan Scott Gration appearing downbeat said he was “disappointed” but vowed to continue discussions on the two items.

“I'm very disappointed that while we had excellent discussions, and I think we framed out the issues on both sides, we were not able to reach an agreement on the referendum law,” he told reporters in Juba.

“We will continue to discuss these issues on the margin of the UN General Assembly, and other times where it is appropriate,” he added.

Radio Miraya 12/9/09 reported Secretary General of the SPLM-Southern Sector, Ann Ito, as saying that the 9 points of disputes between the SPLM and NCP in the referendum bill were still in a deadlock. She stressed the importance of the presence of international observers during the forthcoming referendum and the need to determine the side to be responsible in guaranteeing the referendum.

SPLM and PCP agree on “50%+1” for secession

The SPLM and the Turabi-led PCP have agreed on the need for holding the referendum on schedule, Al-Sahafa reports. The two sides also agreed that the percentage needed for separation should be “50%+1”. PCP political secretary said Kiir and Al-Turabi who met in Juba did not discuss formation of alliance during the upcoming elections but their joint political stances could serve as a good basis for the process.

Sudan Tribune website 12/9/09 reported the Southern Sudan ruling party and the opposition Popular Congress Party (PCP) agreed to enhance their political relations and called today to implement the outstanding issues in 2005 peace deal, and to exert needed efforts to end the Darfur conflict.

PCP leader Hassan Al-Turabi arrived in Juba on Friday where he was welcomed by the SPLM Secretary General Pagan Amum. The visit comes one week after the visit of the Umma Part leader Sadiq Al-Mahdi.

Speaking to the press after his arrival to Juba, he said his visit aims to consult with the SPLM
leadership to overcome differences on the results of the census and ways to ensure fair elections next year.

The Sudanese First Vice President and President of southern Sudan government, Salva Kiir and Al-Turabi discussed on Saturday evening the implementation of the 2005 peace agreement and the next year election.

The two political forces, in a statement released following the meeting, said agreed to strengthen their political relations and reaffirmed their support, to implement the outstanding issues of the peace agreement, including running of fair election and 2011 referendum in a favorable environment; in addition to push forward the peace process to resolve Darfur conflict.

The SPLM and PCP also supported efforts to enhance diversity, multicultural and multiethnic society which are seen as crucial for peaceful coexistence between the Sudanese.

The views (of the two leaders) were very close "if not identical" said Abdallah Deng Nhial, the PCP deputy secretary general.

**Monday deadline for appeals against constituencies – NEC**

The NEC announced it has received over 300 appeals from various political parties against the delimitation and distribution of geographical constituencies, *Al-Watan* reports. The Commission said 150 of the appeals received had been considered and that Monday Sept 14 would be the deadline for receiving objections.

**Sudan’s Bashir to skip UNGA meetings**

*Sudan Tribune website* 12/9/09 — The Sudanese president Omer Al-Bashir will not take part in the UN 64th General Assembly meetings, according to Sudan state media.

The Sudanese Media Center (SMC) website widely considered to be run by National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS) quoted a senior unidentified official as saying that Bashir’s adviser Ghazi Salah Al-Deen will lead the delegation.

The official said that Sudan will deliver an address to the General Assembly that focuses on developments in the country particularly the situation in Darfur, CPA and Sudan’s position on various issues of mutual concern.

**SPLM distances itself from national security bill**

*Sudan Tribune website* 11/9/09 — The Sudan People’s Liberation Movement distanced its self from a National Security bill adopted yesterday by the Sudanese cabinet saying this version is different from what had been jointly discussed.

During the discussion on the bill of national security law the two parties disagreed over the power to arrest attributed to the security services. The former rebel movement considers it as not conforming with the interim constitution and the 2005 peace agreement.

The national security bill which has been approved yesterday by the Council of Ministers is not the bill discussed by the joint political committee, said Yasir Arman who is the SLPM deputy secretary general and head of its parliamentarian group at the National Assembly.

The security apparatus in accordance with the constitution and the CPA has no right to arrest
people, or search, confiscate and seize their funds; said Arman reaffirming the position of his party.

**Abyei chief administrator pledges support to border demarcation**

*Sudan Tribune website* 10/9/09 – The Abyei chief Administrator, Brigadier General, Arop Mayak Montoc, today pledged his support to border technical demarcation team currently in the area.

Addressing a meeting attended by UNMIS members upon arrival of the border technical team accompanied by both foreign and national journalists, he said his administration will whole heartedly extend them any necessary support the team may need for their work.

He also said glad to see journalists part of the team but warned them not to report conflicting stories saying the area remains fragile to renewal of clashes which unprofessional reporting may cause.

"When you go out on your own without being accompanied by our reporters, please be careful and selective with your interviews, because some of your interviews may spark violence particularly interviews with local people who are neither chiefs nor youth leaders," he advised.

**GoSS and Kenya agree to refer border demarcation to IGAD**

*Radio Miraya* 12/9/09 - The governments of Southern Sudan has agreed with the government of Kenya to refer the issue of border demarcation on both sides to the Inter-governmental Authority for Development, IGAD. The decision was made during a reconciliation conference between the Sudanese tribe of Toposa and the Turkana tribe of Kenya. The conference was held at the Nadapal area.

The conference concluded with the importance of drawing a final map accepted by the two countries, affirming to put an end to the border tribal conflicts and the formation of a joint mechanism to monitor the recurrent clashes, and support the co-existence between such tribes.

Southern Sudan and Kenya also agreed to reduce trade taxation on their borders.

The Minister of Regional Cooperation, Oyay Deng, signed the memorandum on behalf of the Government of southern Sudan, and the Minister of the Kenyan Internal Affairs, George Sisoti, signed on behalf his government.
Southern Sudan Media Monitoring Report 11-Sept-2009

UNMIS-PIO Juba

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- South Sudan apologizes to foreign diplomats after weapons search operation
- Sudan’s SPLM blames NCP for breakdown of CPA talks
- Abyei chief administrator pledges to support border technical demarcation team
- WHO warns of epidemics in conflict areas of south
- Jonglei calls for reconciliation
- South Sudan and Kenya Border Dispute to be settled
- President Kiir Presides Over Army Graduation in Lakes State
- SPLM Intensifies Campaigns in Eastern Equatoria State Ahead of Forthcoming Elections
- UDP protests exclusion from Juba Conference

Other stories

- Debates resume within SPLM over who should contest against Bashir
- Envoy Gration Seeks Deal for Peace Accord
- Bishop Disputes UN Army Chief Claim War is Over
- Arab ministers support Darfur peace process, and Sudan unity

Commentary

- Rural development, a key to reduce poverty in South Sudan

New Summary
South Sudan apologizes to foreign diplomats after weapons search operation
September 10, 2009 (JUBA) — Southern Sudan government apologized today to western diplomats for unfriendly treatment and the violation of diplomatic rules by army and police forces who entered Consular and Diplomatic residence and premises yesterday during the time of search.
http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article32423

Sudan’s SPLM blames NCP for breakdown of CPA talks
September 10, 2009 (WASHINGTON) — The ex-foes of the 22 years civil war in Sudan failed to break a deadlock on two main items of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) throwing into doubt the future of the accord already on shaky ground.
http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article32422

Abyei chief administrator pledges to support border technical demarcation team
September 10, 2009 (ABYEI) — The Abyei chief Administrator, Brigadier General, Arop Mayak Montoc, today pledged his support to border technical demarcation team currently in the area.

The arbitration tribunal on July 22 said that the Abyei Boundary Commission Experts had exceeded their mandate when they included Heglig and Bamboo oilfields in the territory of the nine Dinka Ngok chiefdoms transferred to Kordofan in 1905 and annexed the oil rich area to southern Kordofan state.
http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article32418

WHO warns of epidemics in conflict areas of south
NAIROBI, 8 September 2009 (IRIN) - Conflict-affected areas of Southern Sudan, such as Ezo County in Western Equatoria State where Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) rebels have been active, are facing a high risk of epidemics, the World Health Organization (WHO) warns.

Jonglei calls for reconciliation
September 8, 2009 (BOR) – Authorities in Jonglei state called on citizens last Tuesday at a public rally to look beyond tribal differences but help government in apprehending outlaws by "not standing with criminals."

Gov. Kuol, who returns from Pibor town Monday evening, calls Jonglei citizen to engage in unity for purpose and abandon tribal differences that have torn the state apart. Further, Gov. Kuol said the 1991 Nuer’s massacre of Bor ethnic group, considerately headed by Dr. Riek Machar – south Sudan's vice President, should be forgotten.
http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article32413

South Sudan and Kenya Border Dispute to be settled

TORIT, 10 September (Gurtong) – The long-standing border dispute between South Sudan and neighbouring Kenya is on course to being settled.

On Monday, leaders from both sides held a meeting in Nadapal, an entry point to Sudan, to bring the clashes between the Turkana and the Toposa ethnic communities of Kenya and South Sudan respectively to an end.
President Kiir Presides Over Army Graduation in Lakes State
RUMBEK, 8 September (Gurtong) - The First Vice President of the Republic of Sudan and President of the Government of Southern Sudan General Salva Kiir Mayardit on Monday presided over the passing out parade for police officers at Malou Infantry School in Rumbek.

SPLM Intensifies Campaigns in Eastern Equatoria State Ahead of Forthcoming Elections
TORIT, 7 September (Gurtong) – The Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM) has intensified campaigns in Eastern Equatoria State ahead of the forthcoming general elections, a party official has said.

The party’s chairman in the state Brigadier General Louis Lobong Lojore told Gurtong on phone that the party was devising strategic plans to realise an accommodative and friendly environment towards holding free and fair elections across the country.

UDP protests exclusion from Juba Conference
September 10, 2009 (KHARTOUM) — The leader of a newly formed Party, United Democratic Party (UDP), Mr. Tong Lual Ayat, today protested exclusion from Juba conference saying it violates South-South dialogue and unity of purpose amongst southern political parties.

Debates resume within SPLM over who should contest against Bashir
September 10, 2009 (KHARTOUM) – Just months before Sudanese get into elections that are being described as a test for democracy, southern elites are sharply debating about who from the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM) should contest against current Sudanese President Bashir of the ruling National Congress Party.
http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article32420

Envoy Gration Seeks Deal for Peace Accord
U.S. Special Envoy for Sudan Scott Gration is in Juba, Southern Sudan, to hold talks with the Sudan People's Liberation Movement and President Omar Hassan al-Bashir's National Congress Party on two sticking points to implementation of a broader 2005 peace accord, the State Department announced September 8.
http://allafrica.com/stories/200909100239.html

Bishop Disputes UN Army Chief Claim War is Over
Khartoum — A Catholic bishop in the heart of Darfur, theatre of a bloody 6-year conflict, has disputed a recent claim by a senior UN military official that the war has all but ended. Bishop Antonio Menegazzo, Apostolic Administrator of El-Obeid, the Sudanese diocese that covers Darfur, expressed surprise at last month's claim by General Martin Luther Agwai, the former commander of the United Nations-African Union peace-keeping force in Darfur (UNAMID).
http://allafrica.com/stories/200909100144.html
Arab ministers support Darfur peace process, and Sudan unity
September 10, 2009 (CAIRO) – An Arab League ministerial committee on Sudan reaffirmed its support to the ongoing efforts sponsored Qatar to achieve peace in the troubled Sudanese province and said opposed to any attempt to endanger the unity of Sudan.
http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article32421

Rural development, a key to reduce poverty in South Sudan
September 10, 2009 — Even though the government of south Sudan has put so much effort on development projects that improve living standards and access to basic needs, such as water, shelter, food, health care and education, most people still live in a shadow of fear of starvation due to a multitude of harsh experiences they went through has a result of war and couldn’t help themselves with all abandoned resources we had in Southern Sudan.
http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article32424