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# Media Monitoring Report

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# Highlights

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## **“We will not extend the Interim Period even for one hour” – Nafie**

*Al-Rai Al-Aam* 20/4/11 – Presidential Assistant Nafie Ali Nafie who is also the deputy chairman of the ruling NCP said the Interim Period would not be extended, adding “there is no tendency to do that”. “We will not extend the Interim Period even for one hour. We neither have desire nor see justification for that” he told reporters yesterday.

With regard to UNAMID, Nafie denied knowledge about any move to revoke the mission’s mandate in Darfur, adding it is up to the concerned bodies to do so. “I have never heard anything about this” he said.

## **“We will intervene in the South to end support to Darfur movements if need be” – Defence Minister**

*Al-Rai Al-Aam* 20/4/11 – Defence Minister Gen. Abdul Rahim Mohamed Hussein said the Sudanese armed forces might intervene in the South, if need be, to stop support to Darfur movements based in the region. However, Gen. Hussein, who was speaking to the Blue Nile TV indicated that “military intervention remains a secondary option” but directed strong warning to the GoSS, saying “take your hands off Darfur and kick out Darfur rebels”. He described South Sudan secession as the biggest bill Sudan has settled for the sake of peace and coexistence.

Meanwhile, *Al-Sudani* 20/4/11 reports President Al-Bashir has affirmed his Government’s keenness to establish permanent peace with the nascent country in the South and to exchange benefits and interest across the border but called upon the GoSS to stop supporting Darfur movements. The President made the remarks yesterday while launching a number of vocational and sport facilities in Khartoum.

## **Hundreds killed, wounded in Dinka-Misseriya clashes near Mayom**

*Al-Tayyar* 20/4/11 – Over 60 civilians were killed and hundreds wounded in bloody clashes between the Misseriya and Dinka in Kanj-Kanj area near Mayor at the border between southern Kordofan and Unity states. The fighting broke out since early morning yesterday and continued until the time the newspaper went to press. According to sources, the clashes were sparked by last week’s attack by the Dinka in which three Misseriya were killed and 10,000 cattle rustled. Reportedly, rebel leader Peter Gatdet’s forces are fighting on the side of the Misseriya.

According to *Sudan Tribune website* 19/4/11, hundreds of civilians were displaced on Tuesday in Mayom County as a result of clashes between the South Sudan army (SPLA) and militia loyal to Peter Gatdet, Unity state officials say.

Unity state’s government led by Governor Taban Deng Gai strongly condemned the attacks it said were carried out by Gatdet’s militia in Guong Payam [district] in Mayom County on Tuesday afternoon. Authorities alleged that Sudan’s ruling National Congress Party (NCP) was sponsoring rebellions in oil-rich Unity state.

Gatdet fought against the SPLA, backed by Khartoum, for much of the two decade long conflict.

He integrated the SPLA in 2006 but he declared on April 11 that he planned to overthrow the southern government complaining of corruption and bad governance.

State minister of Information and Communication Gideon Gatpan Thoar speaking on local radio condemned the "barbaric attack" in Guong payam of Mayom County, which saw villages completely destroyed.

He added that the Unity state government had tried on many occasions to have dialogue with the Khartoum government to track down the militia activities between the neighboring southern Kordofan and Unity but no solution had ever reached.

Thoar said the NCP had illegally built up militias in southern Kordofan, by allocating them to the Division 5 Hakdana and Division 14 base of the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF), north Sudan's official army.

The Unity state spokesman said that his government's response would be to immediately withdraw all northern workers out of Unity state. He said that northern workers on Unity state's oil fields would begin being evacuated on April 19.

He however added that security would be provided to the northern oil-workers as well as local and international staff.

Before his rebellion Gatdet was the deputy commander of the SPLA division in Northern Bhar – El-Gazal. He quit the SPLA last month to take up arms against the Government of South Sudan, claiming it is corrupt and dominated by the Dinka ethnic group. Gatdet is from South Sudan's second largest ethnic group the Nuer.

The rebel South Sudan Liberation Army (SSLA) is reported to have taken control of Guong Payam [district] of Mayom County on Tuesday after heavy fighting with the SPLA.

Two SPLA drivers died and four were killed by landmines in Unity state on Tuesday. The landmines exploded under four SPLA trucks on the Mayom-Abiemhnom road, Major General Koang Chuol, head of SPLA operations for division 4 in Unity state told Sudan Tribune.

The spokesman of the SSLA, Bol Gatkuoth Kol, a former MP in the southern parliament, confirmed that his group had planted the mines and said that the attack was a warning for the citizens to move away from Mayom town before real conflict begins.

He said the SSLA had planted mines across Unity State and especially in Mayom County, which he says is the first territory the SSLA plans to control.

Kol said that the mine explosions were not an accident but a military operation to warn SPLA forces in the area that war has been declared against South Sudan's army.

### **SPLA criticizes Peter Gadet over “Mayom” defection declaration**

*Sudan Tribune website* 20/4/11 - The spokesman for the southern army has openly criticized Major General Peter Yak Gatdet, its former officer-turned rebel leader over the latter's recent “Mayom Declaration” which claims to overthrow the Juba government and form an interim

cabinet composed of all the political parties in the nascent state.

Last week, the newly formed South Sudan Liberation Army (SSLA), in a statement entitled 'The Mayom Declaration' issued on April 11, said it was determined to bring down the government of Southern Sudan led by President Salva Kiir and replace it by a "national broad-based government agreed upon by all the South Sudan political parties".

The Declaration was signed also by Brigadier General Carlo Kol, Deputy Commander of Joint Integrated Units (JIUs) and Colonel Bol Gatkouth Kol, a former member of the South Sudan Legislative Assembly and a member of the South's ruling Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM).

However, Phillip Aguer, the spokesperson of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) – the South's official army - has dismissed this declaration, describing it as baseless statements orchestrated by elements within the Khartoum regime under the pretext of liberating southerners.

"Firstly, the word Liberation is not a transient concept, but a philosophy that requires consistent sacrifice and well founded goals and objectives. South Sudan knows what it means since 1955 up to now," Aguer told Sudan Tribune.

Acknowledging the declaration's stand on the 2005 CPA, Aguer questions how Major Gen. Gatdet's SSLA could claim to have "set the country on the path of democratic transformation and respect of human rights". The SPLA spokesperson said that under the SPLM's stewardship there have been elections and plebiscite to gain the independence of the region.

"Transformation mean abandoning means of war in achieving political ends and adoption of democratic means which begin with elections and free political competition which South Sudan has just began last April to be followed by building institutions of democracy," the SPLA spokesperson said.

He added, "In addition to this question, can Khartoum teach us democracy and transformation after [the South has fought] more than fifty years of war against slavery and persecution by the same Khartoum [governments]?"

Major Gen. Gatdet, Aguer said, has no authority to question the integrity of the southern army nor it's mode of operation, saying the renegade officer failed to correct the wrongs he talked about with his own troops when he reportedly commanded a force of over 20,000 SPLA soldiers.

"If he [Major Gen. Gatdet] thinks there was corruption in the army, [then] what has he done to convince the 20,000 men and officers under him since 2006 that he is the man to heal the SPLA and the South Sudan of corruption," Aguer asked.

The southern army, its spokesperson said, have always had their salaries paid promptly since 2005 based on what he called a consolidated pay policy, which caters for all institutions of the South Sudan government. The policy, he added, is being reviewed in the new financial year.

Aguer also challenged the former SPLA officer-turned rebel leader to name some of the soldiers he alleged never got any salaries since 2005, as proclaimed by the latter in the 'Mayom

declaration’.

Onyoti Adigo Nyikwec, the opposition leader in South Sudan parliament said much as he never had access to the details within the Mayom Declaration, it is important for the South’s ruling party to consider the views expressed by the other parties as the country prepares for its July independence.

"I cannot comment on a document that I have not seen or read. But if you asked me the way forward, I will say that for any government to succeed in its political transition, it must fully take in to account the views expressed by the other political forces. That is what democracy entails," Nyikwec, also a member of the opposition SPLM-DC, told Sudan Tribune by phone.

### **SAF completes arrangements to demobilise southern Sudanese in its ranks**

*Al-Rai Al-Aam* 20/04/11 – The SAF said it had completed all arrangements related to the demobilisation of southern Sudanese elements within its ranks. SAF Spokesperson Al-Suwarni Khaled said yesterday that the Joint Defence Board had reached an agreement that the southern Sudanese in the ranks of the SAF would be demobilised as from 9th April 2011.

### **Southern Sudanese employees of SSMO transferred south**

*Al-Ahram Al-Youm* 20/04/11 – The Sudan Standards and Metrology Organisation (SSMO) has terminated the services of its southern employees with effect from last Monday ahead of redeployment to its offices in southern Sudan.

Federal Minister for Cabinet Affairs, Luka Biong, has lauded the decision by the weights and standards regulatory body and expressed his appreciation to its chief and his administration.

### **Southerners have become foreigners**

*Al-Intibaha* 20/4/11 – Coordinator of National Service (conscription) in Khartoum state, Esam Al-Din Mirghani, said southern Sudanese students would not be required to undergo national service because they have become foreigners.

### **Southerners registration Committee to meet tomorrow –Biong**

*Ajras Al-Hurriya* 20/4/11 – Cabinet Affairs Minister Luka Biong said the two CPA parties have agreed to discuss, resolve and sign the pending issues as one package. He said part of these understandings reached between them include the registration of southern Sudanese in the civil service, army and police and that their entitlements should be settled, adding “they should not be demobilized now”. Biong said the committee set up to find out the total number of southerners serving in the central government including the army and police would meet tomorrow. Biong, however, pointed out that the SPLM is stick to its position on the need to give southerners the choice to reside in the North or South.

## **Southern Kordofan Elections Focus**

### **SPLM threatens to stage demonstration if elections are rigged**

*Al-Rai Al-Aam* 20/4/11 – The SPLM has threatened to organize demonstrations if elections in southern Kordofan are rigged by the NCP. SPLM Chair in southern Kordofan Abdul Aziz Al-

Hilu, who is expected to kick off his elections campaign today in Al-Fula, has warned the NCP against trying to influence the will of voters by money.

Al-Hilu said the people of the state had suffered injustice and marginalization for long years so they are waiting to decide their destiny through elections and popular consultation and they would not tolerate any rigging which, if happens, will mean the change of the regime in the centre will begin from southern Kordofan.

Meanwhile, *Al-Intibaha* 20/4/11 reports NCP deputy chairman Nafie Ali Nafie has accused the SPLM of seeking to sabotage elections in the area. “We know that the SPLM will neither win the gubernatorial post nor secure majority in the parliament and that is why it seeks to create trouble” he said. “We are certain that the NCP candidate will sweep elections. Ahmed Haroun deserves that victory” he added. Nafie said the NCP would sweep the majority constituencies except 8 or 9 constituencies and denied that he had any differences with Ahmed Haroun.

### **Southern Kordofan has paid dearly in the war – VP Taha**

*Al-Sahafa* 20/04/11 – VP Ali Osman Taha said Southern Kordofan had paid dearly during the course of the war and this has caused deterioration in all sectors of life.

Taha, who wrapped up a two-day tour of Southern Kordofan, had addressed mass rallies in a number of localities, pointing out that there would be no separation of religion from the state in Sudan. He has also ruled out a return to war.

## **Other Highlights**

### **Owner of targeted vehicle charged with homicide**

*Al-Intibaha* 20/4/11 – Supreme Prosecution in the Red Sea state revealed new information with regard to the incident of recent bombing of a vehicle in eastern Sudan. Prosecutor Mohamed Osman Abdullah told reporters yesterday that the prosecution directed charges against two people under section 130 and 182, adding that investigations have established that the owner of the targeted vehicle, Fateh Al-Rahman Al-Badawi Al-Sheikh, is working as vehicle broker and he mentioned during investigation that he sold the car to Essa Hamid Haddab who was killed in the bombing but he failed to produce documents to prove that he sold the car to the second party (Haddab). The prosecution accused him of murder after establishing that intensive contacts had taken place between the two sides since early April.

### **Political parties’ leaders to meet today**

*Al-Akhbar* 20/4/11 – leaders of political parties under the umbrella of National Consensus Forces are to hold a meeting today to discuss freedoms in general and the issue of detainees in particular with a focus on detention of PCP leader Hassan Al-Turabi.

### **Sudan determined to nominate Mustafa Osman for Arab League top post**

*Al-Akhbar* 20/4/11 – Informed sources revealed that Sudan is determined to nominate Presidential Adviser Mustafa Osman Ismail for the post of secretary-general of the Arab League should Egypt insist on nomination of Mustafa Al-Fiqhi, former chairman of the Egyptian Parliament’s Foreign Relations Committee. According to the sources, Sudan will nominate

Mustafa or supports Qatar's candidate should Egypt impose its nominee.

### **Sudan has never hosted ousted leader - official**

*Al-Ahram Al-Youm* 20/4/11 – the Sudanese government, reacting to statements that US is looking for countries to host Gaddafi, said it had not received any leader who was ousted or had problems with his people.

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Khaled Musa said Sudan, throughout its history, has not received any ousted leader, adding the Sudanese government received no official request to host Gaddafi.

### **Nafie dismisses press report attributed to him concerning Al Turabi**

*Al-Rai Al-Aam* 20/4/11 – Presidential Aide and NCP deputy chairman Nafie Ali Nafie has dismissed a report attributed to him by a local newspaper and a website to the effect that he mentioned to a meeting with security authorities that the detained PCP leader Hassan Al-Turabi would be allowed out of prison only when he is dead.

“The NCP deputy chairman has not convened such a meeting and did not meet with any of the officials referred to in the report to discuss such issues and topics” says a press release issued by Nafie's office.

### **South Darfur governor warns aid agencies “not to cross the red line”**

*Al-Ahdath* 20/04/11 – The Government of South Darfur State has reiterated demands for aid agencies operating in the region to coordinate their movements with the local security bodies to avoid kidnapping. According to the SMC, Governor Abdulhameed Musa Kasha warned aid agencies not to “cross the red line” and to abide by their respective mandates in accordance to the agreements they reached with the government.

Governor Kasha pointed out that uncoordinated movement by some international aid agencies have exposed them to great risks, making them a great liability to state authorities. He called on aid agencies in the region to shift from humanitarian to development assistance.

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