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# Media Monitoring Report

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# Highlights

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## **Sudan and UN agree to form mechanism to address food gap in Darfur**

**Akhir Lahza** 20/7/10 – Sudan Government and UN have agreed to establish a mechanism to address food gap and to secure movement of aid workers against repeated attacks and kidnappings in Darfur. Humanitarian Affairs Minister Joseph Lual Acuil has stressed the need to control the security situation but described the overall humanitarian situation as stable. HAC commissioner Suleiman Abdulrahman said the meeting of the higher committee on Darfur held yesterday in Khartoum reached understandings on the need for security and stability for aid delivery to the needy in the region including the population in areas controlled by the armed movements. He also emphasized the importance of support of the international community to the return of the IDPs to their villages.

## **Adviser describes ICC as “racist and double standard”**

**SUNA** 19/7/10 - The Presidential Advisor, Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismail, Monday held talks in Cairo with the Secretary General of the Arab League, Amro Musa, on the stance of the Arab League on the International Criminal Court (ICC), the negotiations in Doha, the preparations for the referendum of southern Sudan in January and preparations for the International Donors Conference for Eastern Sudan scheduled to be held in Kuwait by the end of November.

He told reporters after the meeting that the government is adherent to the Doha forum for realizing peace in Darfur and will not accept any other forum. He added that the Arab League and Sudan are sharing identical views in this respect, hoping that the negotiations in Doha will soon achieve the desired results in the light of the current positive indications including the improvement of the Sudanese - Chadian relations, negotiation of a number of Darfurian movements with the government under the umbrella of the Liberation and Justice Movement as well as the positive stance taken by the leader of Sudan Liberation Movement, Abdul-Wahid Mohamed Nour.

He said he assured the Arab League Secretary-General that Sudan government is maintaining the upper hand in Darfur, and that the Security forces, the Armed Forces and UNAMID are in full control of the security situation in Darfur.

Meanwhile, Dr. Ismail said that the Sudanese people do not care about the so-called International Criminal Court, describing this court as racist and pursuing double-standard.

He has lauded the refusal of the African Union, the Arab League, the Non-allied Movement and many countries to deal with the decision of the International Criminal Court.

## **UNSG urges more serious efforts by parties to end conflict in Darfur**

**UN News** 19/7/10 - Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has again urged all parties to the

conflict in Darfur to seriously pursue peace, citing ongoing violence, displacement and human rights violations in the region despite several years of United Nations-backed attempts to end the hostilities.

In his latest report to the Security Council on the joint African Union-UN mission in Darfur (UNAMID), Mr. Ban notes that 2010 has seen some indications of progress – including a protocol on border security signed by Sudan and Chad, and the holding of largely peaceful elections in Darfur.

However, efforts toward peace have remained “frustrated” by the fragmentation of Darfur’s armed groups and by ongoing military operations, which have uprooted more civilians and caused further suffering to the people of the region.

“These are not signs that peace in Darfur is being pursued with seriousness and in good faith,” says the Secretary-General.

“Without an inclusive and comprehensive peace agreement in Darfur, as southern Sudan heads towards a referendum on its future status, there is a risk of increased instability in the Sudan,” he warns.

“UNAMID must continue to expand the work it has painstakingly begun amid conditions of extreme insecurity, so that these positive developments can be converted into lasting improvements,” says Mr. Ban, who recommends that the Council renews the mission’s mandate for another year beyond 31 July, its current expiration date.

“However, if the potential of the mission is to be maximized, it is essential that Sudanese authorities show greater commitment in practical terms towards providing an enabling environment for UNAMID,” he stresses.

The Government must also remove all obstacles to the use of UNAMID aerial assets, the Secretary-General says, recalling that peacekeepers wounded in recent attacks bled to death when rapid response and medical evacuation flights were denied authorization. “That must never happen again,” he states.

### **NCP refuses help at time of need – SPLM**

***Khartoum Monitor*** 20/7/10 – The SPLM has slammed the NCP for turning down its proposals aimed at realizing peace in Darfur. According to a statement issued by SPLM SG Yasir Arman yesterday, the SPLM is not seeking mediation but support to peace efforts as it feels it is necessary as a national force with great responsibility towards the people of Darfur. This comes after the joint mediator Djibril Bassole requested GoSS President Salva Kiir Mayardit to give support to the Doha talks and efforts to realize a comprehensive peace in Darfur as Kiir is acceptable to all parties to the conflict.

The Darfur problem has been internalized and it therefore needs the effort of all national forces. The statement wondered why the NCP turned down Bassole’s request. Arman dismissed a statement by the NCP saying that the SPLM is party to the government, adding that the SPLM has no say in drawing up negotiation policies for the settlement of the Darfur problem. It does not make sense that the NCP turns down SPLM’s offer of

support at a time it is campaigning for unity.

### **JEM forces will be uprooted soon – SAF**

**Al-Sahafa** 20/7/10 - The Sudanese armed forces have vowed to wipe out JEM forces from Wadi Hawar area of North Darfur. SAF Spokesperson Lt. Col. Al-Sawarmi Khaled said the army would not allow JEM to regroup and deploy anywhere in North Darfur, adding that the army would continue its combing operations in the areas where JEM combatants are suspected to be holed up.

Meanwhile, **Al-Rai Al-Aam** reports that President Al-Bashir is travelling to the Chadian capital tomorrow to participate at the summit meeting of the Sahel and Sahara Group scheduled for Thursday and Friday. While in Chad, Al-Bashir is expected to hold talks with his Chadian counterpart on bilateral relations between Khartoum and N'djamena. Reportedly, preparations are underway for an important summit between presidents Al-Bashir and Kaddafi for discussion on recent developments.

According to the newspaper, Libyan President Kaddafi, told Radio Monte Carlo yesterday that he had informed JEM leader Khalil Ibrahim not to engage in any activity that might hamper the Darfur peace talks.

## **Pre-referendum Watch**

### **Nationality, resources dominate post-referendum negotiations in Juba**

**Al-Ahdath** 20/7/10 – The NCP and the SPLM yesterday held consultations in Juba on post-referendum arrangement and the pending CPA issues and decided to complete their consultations in Khartoum.

State Minister for Humanitarian Affairs Mutrif Siddiq told reporters that the two partners decided to shift their negotiations to Khartoum to be completed through four committees which will deliberate on security, nationality, finance, resources, debts, assets besides the international treaties to which Sudan is a party. He said the meeting in Juba was intended to set the groundwork and guidelines for the negotiations, adding that the meeting in Juba represents the actual and formal start of negotiations between the two CPA partners on post-referendum arrangement. He said yesterday's meeting, which was attended by Head of AUHIP Mbeki, was addressed by experts on issues of nationality, finance, economy, security and natural resources.

Meanwhile, SPLM SG Pagan Amum said Juba meeting was intended to arrive at an agreement to avoid civilians being negatively affected by the result of the referendum should the southerners opt for separation.

According to **Miraya FM** 19/7/10, Amum said that northerners living in Southern Sudan should continue with their normal life weather the southerners opt for unity or separation and the same should apply to southerners in the north. He expressed optimism in reaching understandings on these issues, clarifying that the negotiations are conducted in a positive spirit.

## **UN committed to assist referendum Commission**

**Al-Sahafa** 20/7/10 – While the UN has expressed total readiness to assist the Southern Sudan Referendum Commission to carry out its task, the US pledged technical and logistical facilities for the Commission to perform its work during the remaining period.

Commission Rapporteur Tariq Osman Al-Tahir said the Commission held important meetings yesterday with US envoy Scott Gration and SRSG Haile Menkerios. He said the meeting with the SRSG focused on collaboration and coordination needed to make the Commission's work a success.

## **Blue Nile Popular Consultation Commission to be formed this week**

**Al-Sahafa** 20/7/10 – Blue Nile Legislative Assembly Speaker Prof. Mohamed Hassan Abdul Rahman said that the Blue Nile Popular Consultation Commission would be established during this week. He anticipated a smooth conduct of popular consultation in the area, given the serious political will of the two partners and the awareness campaigns launched by the Assembly.

## **SPLA promises not to interfere with the referendum**

**Al-Ayyam** 20/7/10 – SPLM is reportedly on high alert to confront LRA militias in Raja area in Western Bahr El Ghazal state seeking to destabilize the region ahead of the upcoming referendum. SPLA Spokesperson Maj. Gen. Kuol Diem Kuol said they have put their forces on maximum alert in Western Bahr el Ghazal and Western Equatoria areas and civilians have also been alerted to inform the SPLA when they spot the militias.

However, SAF Spokesperson Lt. Col. Al-Sawarmi Saad refuted SPLA's claims about presence of LRA militias in the area and also denied that SAF is backing the militias.

Meanwhile, the SPLA has also denounced the NCP's call on the international community, UN and all the political forces to exert efforts to ensure non-interference of the SPLA in registration and voting for the referendum so that the exercise is free and fair.

"The SPLA will not interfere in the referendum process," Kuol said.