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# Media Monitoring Report

United Nations Mission in Sudan/ Public Information Office

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- Doctors at Juba hospital strike over arrears delay (**Radio Miraya**)
- Journalist Lubna Hussein prefers prison to fine (**dailies**)
- UPDF pursues Kony in central Africa (the **New Vision**)

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# Highlights

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## **Al-Bashir pledges to prevent election sabotage**

President Omar Al-Bashir has reiterated the Government's commitment to conduct free, fair and transparent elections, **local dailies** report. According to **Al-Rai Al-Aam**, the President said the Government would not allow anybody to take advantage of the process to engage in subversive acts. Al-Bashir made the remarks while addressing the 5<sup>th</sup> conference of the National Union of the Sudanese Youth yesterday in Khartoum.

Meanwhile, Presidential Assistant Nafie Ali Nafie has reiterated that the presidential and parliamentary elections would take place on schedule. Nafie said in statements in Cairo that other political parties have fears about the elections, thinking it would grant the ruling party a new term. "Questioning the elections is unwarranted, it will be conducted all over the country including in the conflict areas," he said, adding that Darfur is now secure and no armed movement has the capacity to disrupt elections. According to **Al-Sudani**, Nafie warned that secession would be disastrous for the South; where inter-tribal conflict is raging, saying it would be Africa's worst conflict should the South secede.

In a related development, **Radio Miraya** 7/9/09 reported that the National Elections Commission has received one hundred and fifty appeals on the delimitation of geographical constituencies; from different political parties on Sunday. The Commission's Deputy Secretary General, Jalal Muhammad Ahmed, said in a press statement that a specialized judge would look into these appeals, starting from Monday.

However, Mr. Ahmed did not rule out the possibility of extending the period designated for the submission of the appeals. According to today's **dailies**, the NEC yesterday decided to extend the period for filing appeals until 14 September.

The Electoral Commission's Deputy Secretary General stressed that the Commission has nothing to do with the disputes between the SPLM and the NCP over the Census Results, saying the Commission would carry on with its work, unless the Presidency decides otherwise.

On the other hand, **Akhbar Al-Youm** reports DUP leader Mohamed Osman Al-Mirghani as telling journalists in Cairo after a meeting with the Egyptian Foreign Minister that talk about him contesting presidential elections was premature. However, he said his party would contest all levels of Sudan's elections. Al-Mirghani stressed the need for unity of the country.

**Al-Ayyam** reports NEC member Al-Hadi Mohamed Ahmed as saying that the Commission did not receive a notification from the SPLM that it would boycott upcoming elections. He said the NEC received the census results from the Presidency and used them for the distribution of geographical constituencies but received no official objection to the distribution.

## **SPLM SG warns no concession on referendum bill**

**Sudan Tribune website** 7/9/09 — the Sudan people's Liberation Movement (SPLM) expressed today willingness to discuss the pending issues on the implementation of 2005 peace agreement but warned it would not make any concession on the referendum bill.

SPLM Secretary General, Pagan Amum on Monday said his party is committed to resolving any pending issue in the CPA implementation before 2010 elections if its peace partner the National

Congress Party (NCP) changes their tune.

"We have never created any stumbling block for implementation of any article in the peace accord, instead we are known for concession when we realized discussions on any controversial issue takes long to conclude," he said.

Speaking to Sudan Tribune by phone from Juba, Amum said the NCP is prolonging discussion on referendum bill hoping "we will again concede anything this time like in the past."

Asked about SPLM's position on referendum law and census, Pagan said, SPLM maintains the same position on census and referendum. "Our position is that census result should not be used for power sharing in the central government as it has not been properly conducted."

"Results obtained do not even represents figures of the southern Sudanese in the provincial capitals of Malakal, Wau and Juba let alone those in rural areas," he added.

He further said that there are some areas in the country where census enumerators failed to conduct the counting due to insecurity, labour, and transport shortage amongst others. He argued that they want the NCP to consider "these genuine complaints".

"The same to referendum, everything is always simple majority. I do not understand where NCP get this suggestion of 75% vote if they are indeed committed to implementing the agreement in good faith," he wondered.

However, he said he hopes for good outcome from the talks that have just resumed today in Khartoum between SPLM and NCP high executive political committees headed by Sudan's VP Ali Osman Taha and GoSS VP Riek Machar.

### **UNSG concerned over violence in the South**

**Local dailies** report UNSG Ban Ki-moon has expressed deep concern over a series of attacks and counterattacks in the South. According to **Al-Watan**, Mr. Ban has called on the Government of Southern Sudan to redouble its efforts to ensure the protection of civilians and to work with the UN for addressing the humanitarian situation to create a conducive climate for elections and referendum.

### **UN agencies agree to assist in environmental sanitation**

UN agencies operating in the Sudan have agreed to assist in the environmental sanitation campaigns in Khartoum State to thwart outbreak of diseases due to the recent torrential rains in the state, **Akhbar Al Youm** reports. According to the paper, spraying campaigns in Khartoum state kicked off yesterday. Director of Epidemics Dr. Hayat Jibril said at a meeting with UN agencies that there was a need for an urgent plan to check the negative effects of the recent rains.

### **SPLM, political parties differ over Juba forum**

Differences emerged between the SPLM and the political parties over Juba conference scheduled for Friday, **Al-Khartoum** reports. Reportedly, the political parties are opposed to the manner in which the SPLM is handling the preparations for convening the conference, fearing SPLM might impose its agenda.

### **SPLM SG shifts the battle to oil**

Dispute between the SPLM and the NCP has shifted to the oil area as SPLM SG Pagan Amum

accused the NCP of tampering with the oil revenue figures to underpay the South, ***Al-Watan*** reports. Mr. Amum has warned that the dispute over oil revenues could be referred for an international arbitration.

However, Sudan Government has rejected the Global Witness' figures about oil revenue sharing between the GoSS and the Federal Government, saying the report was incorrect.

### **SPLM demands redistribution of Nile waters after secession**

***Al-Wifaq*** reports SPLM spokesperson Yiem Mathew told Egypt's *Al-Shurooq* newspaper yesterday that the southern Sudanese were closer to secession than they were to unity, saying that was caused by the discrimination and ill-treatment on the part of the north. Mr. Yein called for reconsideration of shares of the Nile waters, saying the South would become the eleventh Nile Basin country so shares should be redistributed accordingly.

### **“Had it not been for Kiir, war could have restarted” – SPLA**

SPLA spokesperson Kuol Diem Kuol has said the NCP continues to train and arm militias, ***Al-Wifaq*** reports. “Had it not been for Gen. Salva Kiir’s patience, war could have restarted since 2005,” Kuol was quoted by the London-based ***Al-Sharq Al-Awsat*** as saying. He said the JIUs have become isolated units in camps, blaming the Presidency for lack of training and arms for the units. “You will not believe your eyes if you visit a JIU camp. SAF JIUs are in one side and SPLM JIUs are on other. They have nothing in common,” he said. “SAF does not want to integrate with the SPLA units. We do not know the reasons,” he added. He said the JDB issued a lot of decisions but they had not been implemented. “The JDB has also submitted decisions to the Presidency but most of them have not been implemented or heeded,” he said.

With regard to referendum, he said SPLA did not receive any orders from the political leadership concerning the post-referendum period. However, he said, such instructions might come later. “We are close to the oil areas. We have a fourth infantry division in the Unity State near Bentiu. We also have presence in the White Lake area to the south of the Unity State. Our 9<sup>th</sup> infantry division is stationed to the north at the border with Southern Kordofan and it is largely drawn from the Nuba and other tribes,” he said. “We are ready to defend our people. We will not initiate a fight but if we are attacked we will defend our people by all means,” he added.

### **Famine pushes Sudanese to Uganda**

The ***Daily Monitor website*** 7/9/09 - The escalating famine in south Sudan has pushed hundreds of Sudanese to Kaabong District in northern Uganda, the area MP, Fr Simon Lokodo, has said. Speaking to Daily Monitor on Friday, Fr Lokodo said over 250 Sudanese, who arrived on 24 August from Lotukey-Ditunga, Eastern Equatoria, are currently settled in Kapeto Sub-County in Kaabong District.

"Residents are afraid of a possible outbreak of new diseases in the area," Fr Lokodo said adding: "Some are already suffering from chicken pox and it is likely that the spread of new diseases may hamper immunization campaigns that the government is currently carrying out."

He appealed to the government to create a camp where the refugees can all settle as solutions are sought.

But State Minister for Disaster Preparedness Musa Ecweru said the government cannot deliver food to the refugees unless they register with the government as refugees through the ministry of internal affairs.

"We don't just give food to the people we see on the street. If they crossed as Internally Displaced Persons, we can put a mechanism on how to help them," Mr Ecweru told Daily Monitor in a phone interview on Friday. He said Uganda currently does not have camps for the refugees unless they are created.

### **Rate of inflation rises 10.4% in August**

**Al-Watan** reports a circular issued by the Central Bureau of Statistics indicated that the rate of inflation rose to 10.4% during August compared to 9.8% in July 2009.

### **Sudan says government "overstaffed"**

**Sudan Tribune website** 7/9/09 — The Sudanese minister of finance and national economy Awad Al-Jazz acknowledged that the Government is overstaffed, creating a drain on the country's resources. Al-Jazz addressing the Sudan workers unions said that the "enlarged" Government bureaucracy is stipulated by the peace agreements. The Sudanese official was suggesting that agreements signed between Khartoum and ex-rebels in East, West and South of the country mandates creating new position to integrate them into the government.

Al-Jazz blamed the international community "for not fulfilling its financial obligations". However, he noted that the salaries have been "paid on time". Sudan is largely dependent on oil exports but as global financial credit crisis began to unfold, crude prices dropped sharply widening the budget deficit. The Sudanese finance minister said that the financial and food crisis will compel Sudan to utilize the available resources.

### **Fresh round of UN-backed Darfur peace talks to start next month**

**UN News Centre** 7/9/09 - United Nations-backed mediation talks aimed at resolving the long-running conflict in Darfur between the Sudanese Government and the region's armed movements will resume late next month, it was announced today.

The talks will not start until the last week of October, given the time needed for the many armed movements to complete discussions on their possible unification for the peace process, according to a communiqué issued by UNAMID.

Today's communiqué follows consultations in Doha, between Djibril Bassolé, the AU-UN Joint Chief Mediator for Darfur, and Ahmed Bin Abdullah Al-Mahmoud, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs in Qatar, which has been sponsoring the mediation efforts.

Mr. Bassolé and Mr. Al-Mahmoud have invited the armed movements to take part in a capacity-building workshop in Doha in early October so they can discuss issues related to the peace process, including how to improve security for Darfur's inhabitants and how to boost socio-economic development in the region.

Mr. Bassolé and Mr. Al-Mahmoud have also agreed to organize a civil society forum in Doha before the start of final peace talks to allow the many Darfurian communities to discuss peace and reconciliation efforts.

### **Sudan's Bashir gives award to UN peacekeeper**

**AFP** 7/9/09 - President Omar al-Bashir granted the outgoing head of the UN peacekeeping force in the Darfur region one of the country's top honours in a ceremony in Khartoum on Monday, a UN spokesman said.

Adada, who stood down on Monday as head of the world's largest peacekeeping force following

a two-year mandate, received the award on a farewell visit to Bashir.

His mandate was renewed for six months from July but Adada resigned with effect from the end of July. He said he left for personal reasons but UN and Sudanese sources took the view that he was pushed out by countries who did not like his comments on Darfur.

"The enemies of Sudan were not pleased by the report of Rodolphe Adada on Darfur, therefore they refused to renew his office term," Bashir said on Thursday, according to official Suna news agency.

"Although on several occasions intense pressure has been brought to bear on me, I have always refused to buckle under this pressure and implement any other agenda but that of the Security Council mandate," Adada wrote on Sunday in a letter to the people of Darfur.

He told AFP last month: "I have achieved results. The main result is the end of massacres in Darfur."

### **Documents obtained at the border indicate arms for Chad**

**Al-Rai Al-Aam** reports it has obtained documents in the form of cargo indicating shipment of military equipment for the Chadian army at the Sudanese border. According to the documents, the first batch of equipment is supposed to reach during the coming days, to be followed by other shipments.

### **SPLA denies supporting Darfur armed groups**

The SPLA has denied accusations by the Assistant to the President, Nafei Ali Nafei, that it was supplying arms to Darfur movements, **Akhir Lahza** reports.

Bior Ajang, the Undersecretary for the GoSS Ministry of SPLA Affairs, yesterday described the accusations as baseless, calling upon Nafei to provide evidence to substantiate the charges. He pointed out that the SPLM/A had hosted a meeting of the Darfur armed groups to help them unify their negotiating position in order to reach an agreement with the government for an end to the crisis in Darfur.

### **Darfur Authority discusses refugee return from Chad**

The Advisor for the Local Authority and Tribal Affairs at the Transitional Darfur Regional Authority Al-Melik Yagoub Al-Melik (TDRA) has accused the armed groups in Darfur of being the real obstacles to peace and the return of refugees and IDPs, **Akhir Lahza** reports.

According to Al-Melik, a delegation from the Sudanese refugees in Chad conveyed to Senior Presidential Assistant Minni Minnawi their desire to return home, adding the TDRA is prepared to meet all the requirements for the return of the refugees whose number is estimated at 15,000 households.

### **Doctors at Juba hospital strike over arrears**

**Radio Miraya** 7/9/09 - Doctors at Juba Hospital have gone on strike today over eight month arrears pay. One of the doctors told Miraya FM why they went on strike.

### **Journalist Lubna Hussein prefers prison to fine**

**Local dailies** report a Khartoum Court yesterday refused the defence's request to dismiss the case against journalist Lubna Hussein who was being tried of indecency. According to **Al-Sudani**, the Court ruled that she was guilty of indecency and had to pay SDG 500 (\$200) fine or



face one month imprisonment. Reportedly, Lubna Hussein preferred imprisonment.

**AP** 8/9/09 reported a woman journalist, convicted yesterday of public indecency for wearing trousers, was spared a flogging and fined \$200.

But a defiant Lubna Hussein said she won't pay the fine and would take a month in prison instead to protest Sudan's morality laws.

The 43-year-old journalist's arrest in July sparked an international outcry, and she has sought to embarrass the government since then. The fine appeared to be an attempt to curb the criticism.

"I will not pay a penny," said Hussein, who wore the same trousers in court that sparked her arrest. Police rounded up about 40 women protesting outside the courthouse, some of them wearing trousers in a sign of solidarity.

Morality police, enforcing Islamic law arrested Hussein and other women in a Khartoum public cafe in July.

Ten women received a quick, closed-door trial and were flogged, choosing to avoid the stigma of a public morality trial.

Hussein insisted on a public trial and even resigned from her job in the U.N.'s public information office because it gave her immunity.

According to **Sudan Radio Service** 7/9/09, Police in Khartoum arrested about forty-four women's rights activists while they were holding a peaceful demonstration in front of a court which delivered its verdict in the case of journalist Lubna Husayn... All the protesters were later released on bail.

Speaking to Sudan Radio Service by phone from an undisclosed location, Faysal al-Baqir a human right activist condemned the detention of the activists.

He said, "Forty-four women were arrested by the police while they were exercising their right to freedom of expression. They had gathered in front of the court of the journalist Lubna Ahmed Husayn. They were demanding an end to violence against women who seek to abolish the Public Order Law. They demanded these things in a very organized way. The police behaved brutally. They detained forty-four women, including Amira Uthman, who was severely beaten by the police. As a human rights defender, I consider this act as brutality, violent, a brutality against freedom of expression and freedom of association. The police must not act in such a way."

### **UPDF pursues Kony in central Africa**

The **New Vision** 8/9/09 - Uganda's military offensive against the LRA rebels and their leader, Joseph Kony, has been extended to the Central Africa Republic (CAR).

The Ministry of Defence said yesterday the Ugandan forces were pursuing the rebels in the jungles of CAR. "The offensive is going on. The Central Africa Republic authorized us to pursue the LRA in its territory. Our boys are there and are doing the job," the army spokesman, Lt-Col Felix Kulayigye, said yesterday.

There were reports that Kony and his fighters were oscillating between Congo and CAR.

A local tabloid reported yesterday that in the recent attack, Kony's son named Saleh had been

killed. Kulayigye declined to comment on the reports. "I would have told you if I knew about it," he said.

## **Southern Sudan Media Monitoring Report 8-Sept-2009**

### **UNMIS-PIO Juba**

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### **Today's Headlines:**

- SPLM Secretary General warns no concession on referendum bill
- Electoral Commission receives 150 appeals on geographical constituencies
- Sudan: Oil Production Figures Underpinning Peace Agreement Don't Add Up, Warns Global Witness
- Sudan Denies Claiming Country's Land
- Peace Conference to Unite Greater Kapoeta Communities to be Held Next Week
- UDF Rally in Rumbek Aborts

### **Other stories**

- Joint Coordination between Sudan Government, UN to Tackle Food Gaps in the South
- Sudan's Bashir gives award to UN peacekeeper
- Nyamale, A human child's gift to the church

### **New Summary**

#### **SPLM Secretary General warns no concession on referendum bill**

September 7, 2009 (KHARTOUM) — Sudan people's Liberation Movement (SPLM) expressed



today willingness to discuss the pending issues on the implementation of 2005 peace agreement but warned it would not make any concession on referendum bill.

<http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article32381>

## Electoral Commission receives 150 appeals on geographical constituencies

The National Elections Commission has received one hundred and fifty appeals on the Delimitation of Geographical Constituencies; from different political parties on Sunday. The Commission's Deputy Secretary General, Jalal Muhammad Ahmed, said in a press statement that a specialized judge would look into these appeals starting from Monday.

<http://www.mirayafm.org/news/headlines/200909078156/>

## Oil Production Figures Underpinning Peace Agreement Don't Add Up, Warns Global Witness

The 2005 peace agreement, which brought to an end to the conflict between north and south Sudan, one of Africa's longest-running and most bloody wars, was based on an agreement to share oil revenues. However, new evidence uncovered by Global Witness raises serious questions about whether the revenues are being shared fairly.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200909070157.html>

## Uganda: Sudan Denies Claiming Country's Land

Kampala — THE Government of Southern Sudan has dismissed press reports that its army, the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), attacked Ugandans in Lefori Sub-county, Moyo District.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200909071198.html>

**Peace Conference to Unite Greater Kapoeta Communities to be Held Next Week**  
TORIT, 4 September (Gurtong) – A major peace and reconciliation conference that seeks to unite the three warring ethnic communities in the greater Kapoeta has been set for September 14-15 in Lauro Payam, Budi County.

The conference that has been organised by the South Sudan Peace Commission in collaboration with the Government of Southern Sudan and the Government of Eastern Equatoria state, will be used to unite the Boya, Didinga and Toposa ethnic communities.

[http://www.gurtong.org/ResourceCenter/weeklyupdates/wu\\_contents.asp?wkupdt\\_id=3179](http://www.gurtong.org/ResourceCenter/weeklyupdates/wu_contents.asp?wkupdt_id=3179)

## UDF Rally in Rumbek Aborts

RUMBEK, 5 September (Gurtong) – The first ever political rally convened by the United Democratic Front (UDF) party branch in Lakes State over the weekend ended prematurely following security fears.

Reports indicated that the rally was called off after rumours went round that students from the nearby Rumbek Senior Secondary School were planning to disrupt it.

[http://www.gurtong.org/ResourceCenter/weeklyupdates/wu\\_contents.asp?wkupdt\\_id=3178](http://www.gurtong.org/ResourceCenter/weeklyupdates/wu_contents.asp?wkupdt_id=3178)

## Other stories

## Joint Coordination between Sudan Government, UN to Tackle Food Gaps in the South

State Minister of Humanitarian Affairs, Abdelbagi Al-Jailani revealed that the government and UN are working together to tackle the food gaps in the South. In statement to SUNA,

He said that they are talking about food gap in Jonglei State which could turn into a looming famine particularly in places where LRA is active in east and west equatoria.

<http://www.sudanvisiondaily.com/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=49281>

## Sudan's Beshir gives award to UN peacekeeper

KHARTOUM (AFP) – President Omar al-Beshir granted the outgoing head of the UN peacekeeping force in the Darfur region one of the country's top honours in a ceremony in Khartoum on Monday, a UN spokesman said.

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090907/wl\\_africa\\_afp/sudanconflictdarfurun\\_20090907173542](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090907/wl_africa_afp/sudanconflictdarfurun_20090907173542)

## Nyamale, A human child's gift to the church

September 8, 2009 (JUBA) – Nyamale, 11, was given to the church as a human gift by John Dhill and Mary Chol when she was only a few months old. Her friends call her the daughter of God.

<http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article32386>