



UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN  
UNMIS

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**(By Public Information Office)**

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## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

### **UN/ AU-UN Transition**

#### **Brahimi optimistic that government will approve visit of the technical assessment team**

(*Rai AlShaab, AlSahafa* – 26<sup>th</sup> May. **Khartoum**) United Nations Special Envoy Lakhdar Brahimi said he is optimistic that the Sudan government will allow the United Nations technical assessment team into the country to assess the requirements for a possible transition of the AU to a United Nations operation.

Brahimi said that the assessment team will base its work on the outcome of discussions with the government and the AU.

Brahimi assured the press at a briefing held last Thursday at UNMIS that the United Nations mission that may come in should the government give its consent is not coming in to invade or occupy the Sudan. He said it would only be an expansion of UNMIS that is currently on the ground.

On his part, foreign minister Lam Akol told a separate press conference that discussions between government and the United Nations Special Envoy reached an agreement to form a tripartite committee of the United Nations, the Sudan government and the AU to decide on what possible role the United Nations should play should it come into Darfur.

The foreign minister pointed out that the AU has the mandate to monitor the implementation of the Security Arrangements stipulated in the DPA but had in the last meeting of its Peace and Security Council in Addis recommended a transition to a United Nations operation.

He said the AU should therefore specify which part of its mandate it feels the United Nations should be charged with.

The foreign minister further added that a United Nations force to Darfur, should it be agreed upon, will have a monitoring and not enforcing role to play in the implementation of the DPA.

#### **Presidential advisor says Chapter VII mandate for international forces is “dangerous”**

(*AlAyaam* – 28<sup>th</sup> May. **Khartoum**) President Bashir advisor Ghazi Salahuldeen told the press yesterday that a UN role as a guarantee or monitor to the DPA or a humanitarian role in Darfur is an issue over which all are in agreement and discussions should continue on such a role.

He described a Chapter VII mandate for a future UN mission to Darfur as a dangerous issue and explained that a Chapter VII is only sanctioned in the event there is evidence of obstruction to the implementation of a particular agreement.

He further added that the Sudan is a member of the United Nations and signed the DPA in good faith and deserves also to be regarded in good faith.

### **Pronk described meeting with Turabi as constructive**

(*Akhbar Alyaum* – 26<sup>th</sup> May. **Khartoum**) Answering a question by reporters at a press conference at the UNMIS offices in Khartoum last Thursday, SRSG Pronk said that he held constructive discussions with Dr. Turabi who confirmed his support for peace and for a United Nations presence.

They agreed to continue talks in future, he added.

## **CPA**

### **Civil society in Abyei calls for the implementation of the Abyei protocol**

(*AlWan* – 26<sup>th</sup> May. **Khartoum**) The High Coordination Council of Civil Society Organisations for the Abyei area has presented a letter to the President of the Republic, Vice-President Salva Kiir and leaders of political forces in the country to intervene to put a stop to the suffering in the Abyei area.

The group voiced support for the ABC report and called upon the Presidency of the Republic to immediately implement it and upon the international community to put pressure on the parties to implement the Protocol on Abyei.

## **GoNU**

### **Partners to the CPA hold first joint meeting**

(*The local press, ST* – 28<sup>th</sup> May. **Khartoum**) The National Congress Party and the SPLM held their first joint meeting Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>, 17 months after they inked the CPA.

President Bashir, the chairman of the NCP, and his SPLM counterpart Salva Kiir were lavish with praises for both sides in abiding by the ceasefire agreement that ended the conflict.

They acknowledged, however, that difficult issues remained to be tackled.

Vice-President Salva Kiir cited the issues of Abyei boundary, the petroleum accounts, the Lord's Resistance Army, SAF deployment from southern Sudan, the JIUs and amendments to laws not in line with the CPA as issues that have to be tackled to maintain a smooth implementation of the CPA.

President Bashir, on his side, said that the outstanding issues have to be discussed transparently.

### **Sudan to hold anticipated election**

(*ST* – 28<sup>th</sup> May. **Khartoum**) An initial agreement to hold general elections earlier than stated in the peace agreement has been reached between the partners to the CPA.

The agreement will however be subject to discussion between the parties to the CPA as they sit to discuss the implementation of the peace agreement signed 17 months ago.

## **DPA/ Darfur**

### **Sudan envoy to enlighten Libya on the Darfur peace process**

(*ST* – 27<sup>th</sup> May. **Khartoum**) Presidential Advisor Majzoub el-Khalifa heads for Tripoli today to brief the Libyan leader on the steps taken towards the implementation of the DPA.

El-Khalifa who led the government delegation to the Abuja talks says he will hold talks with SLM leader Minni Minnawi in Libya and discuss the ongoing arrangements for their return back home.

He also said that an AU delegation led by Ambassador Sam Ibok would remain in Khartoum to discuss the formation of joint committees to implement the DPA.

### **Minnawi in el-Fasher today**

(*AlRai AIAam* – 28<sup>th</sup> May. **el-Fasher**) SLM leader Minni Minnawi arrives in el-Fasher today for the first time since signing the Darfur Peace Agreement.

The AU meanwhile says it is in continued contact with AbdulWahid who heads the other faction to convince him to sign the DPA.

### **IDPs demand disarmament of the Janjaweed**

(*AlSahafa* – 26<sup>th</sup> May. **El-Fasher**) Presidential Advisor Dr. Majzoub el-Khalifa was engaged in heated argument with IDPs in Salaam camp near el-Fasher as he was explaining the DPA to the IDPs.

El-Khalifa who led the government delegation to the talks in Abuja that culminated in the signing of the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA) was explaining the DPA before a large group of IDPs but the rally slipped a bit when somebody in the crowd demanded that the Janjaweed be disarmed.

Calm was eventually restored and Dr. Khalifa assured the IDPs that the Janjaweed will be disarmed within the coming few weeks.

He also pointed out that he is in continued contact with AbdulWahid Nur who leads one faction of the SLM to sign the DPA.

He said AbdulWahid's problem is that he wants individual compensations to be handed to him so that he can distribute it to the beneficiaries in order to gain political weight within the community.

Khalifa also promised food aid to the IDPs for the duration of the rainy season and until the next harvest.

## **Eastern Sudan**

### **Government, Eastern Front reach agreement on procedures for talks**

(*Khartoum Monitor, AlWahda* – 26<sup>th</sup> May. **Khartoum**) The Sudan government and the Eastern Front signed last Thursday an agreement in Asmara on procedural arrangements for talks on eastern Sudan.

The two sides agreed to hold talks without preconditions and to subscribe to a peaceful solution to these problems and an Eritrean role in mediating the talks.

*AlWahda* daily says they also agreed that the talks should start on 13 June.

### **Four students in National Service training camp sustain bullet injuries**

(*AlAyaam* – 28<sup>th</sup> May. **Kassala**) The Coordination Office for National Service in Kassala State admits that some students currently in training have sustained injuries.

The office however refuted earlier reports that some students suffered gun wounds and said that the injured students sustained the injuries as a result of crowding and that there was no known cause for the events that led to the injuries.

Meanwhile informed medical sources in Kassala hospital confirm that four students suffered bullet wounds and that one of these cases is of an injury caused by bullet wounds to the kidney and that the case is admitted at the hospital's intensive care unit.

## **Other developments**

### **Anti DPA demonstrations in central Khartoum**

(*AlRai AlAam* – 28<sup>th</sup> May. **Khartoum**) Police managed to restore order after anti DPA demonstrators took to the streets in central Khartoum smashing the windows of some cars.

15 students involved in the demonstrations have been arrested pending legal charges.