



UNMIS Photo Release

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First elections workshop for Sudanese Political Parties

A one-day workshop on elections was organized today in Khartoum by the Political Parties Affairs Council (PPAC) with the support from UNMIS and the UN Development Programme. The workshop, which was the first of its kind, brought together nearly 180 representatives drawn from 62 registered political parties across the country. The PPAC was established by the Political Parties Act of 2007 as an independent national body responsible for registering and regulating political parties in the Sudan.

The training was aimed at providing party representatives with basic knowledge about the National Elections Act and the Political Parties Act, as well as issues affecting political parties during the coming elections scheduled for April 2010. The workshop ended with recommendations for a comprehensive training program for political parties.

UNMIS' Chief Electoral Affairs Officer Ray Kennedy described to the participants the principles for democratic elections and he reaffirmed the Mission's advisory role in the electoral process. This includes support in the development of operational and logistical plans and procedures for voter registration, nominations, polling, counting, and the tabulation and announcement of results; development of training plans and materials; and development of civic and voter education plans and materials.

"We are committed to supporting the National Elections Commission, the PPAC, and other stakeholders – within the resources at our disposal – to help ensure the success of these elections," Mr. Kennedy said.



PPAC Chairman Mohamed Bishara Dosa (L) and UNMIS Chief Electoral Affairs Officer Ray Kennedy (R)

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Participants from 62 registered parties attending the workshop

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