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UNMIS Sector I Commander Col. Gani and Joint Military Coordination Office Chief-of-Staff Col. Koch attended a welcome programme for the SPLA contingent of the Joint Integrated Unit (JIU) Torit brigade, on March 3. The event marked the arrival of SPLA soldiers to Torit – a town long-held by the SAF. SAF JIU counterparts will soon arrive to Torit. JIUs are composed of equal numbers of SPLA and SAF, and are meant to ensure peace and security in Southern Sudan. They are an integral part of the Cease-fire Arrangements of the CPA and will be central to forming the Sudanese National Armed Forces, should the Southern Sudan referendum confirm unity.

SPLA commanders arriving to Torit were received with a traditional Karama- bull slaughtering ceremony -- followed by a formal salute to the State Government, with senior SPLA and SAF officials present. The Governor of Eastern Equatoria, speaking at the ceremony, said the government and military needed to cooperate to maintain security and stability in Equatoria, and the Sudanese themselves needed to take initiative to develop their country.



a look at the mission **in pictures**



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