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(By Public Information Office)

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## Highlights

### UN/ Agencies

#### [Lidder: Abyei, border demarcation is the biggest challenges facing CPA](#)

(Miraya FM) The Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in Sudan Lt. Gen. Jasbir Singh Lidder said the biggest challenges facing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) were the issue of border demarcation and the issue of Abyei.

Lt. Gen. Lidder told Miraya FM that the only violation of the CPA was the incident that took place in Malakal in December 2006.

Lidder will leave his post within days after heading the forces of the UN Mission in Sudan during the past two years.

#### [UN Secretary General rings up Libyan leader for consultation on Darfur and differences between Sudan and Chad](#)

(Rai Al-Shaab) UN SG, Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, has telephoned the Libyan leader as part of his consultations on Darfur and Sudan-Chad differences.

The Secretary General expressed confidence of UN and the International Community in the ability of Col. Gaddafi to resolve the problem. The Secretary General commended the considerable efforts exerted by Gaddafi in this regard expressing appreciation for his wise leadership and his continued push for peace within the framework of the Desert and Coast Grouping and beyond.

### GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)

#### [Sudan demands the arrest and prosecution of the ICC prosecutor](#)

(ST) April 06, 2008 (KHARTOUM) — the prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) should be brought before a court of law, a senior Sudanese official said.

Sudan's U.N. ambassador Abdel-Mahmood Mohamad told the daily Al-Rayaam that Luis Moreno-Ocampo "is jeopardizing the political settlement in Darfur".

"He should be tried in court," Mohamad said.

The judges of the ICC issued their first arrest warrants for suspects accused of war crimes in Sudan's Darfur region in early May.

The warrants were issued for Ahmed Haroun, state minister for humanitarian affairs, and militia commander Ali Mohamed Ali Abdel-Rahman, also known as Ali Kushayb. Sudan has so far rejected handing over the two suspects.

The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) circulated a notice for the arrest of both suspects in mid-2007.

The UN Security Council (UNSC) which asked the ICC to investigate Darfur crimes under a Chapter VII mandate in resolution 1593 three years ago, appears reluctant to force Sudan's compliance.

Ocampo has been meeting extensively with world officials to press them on the extradition of Haroun and Kushayb but has had little success so far.

Sudan's UN envoy said that Ocampo is "politically bankrupt" and described him the "enemy number one of peace in Darfur".

This is not the first time Mohamad issues public rebukes of Ocampo. His sharp criticism of the ICC prosecutor has taken a more personal nature during the course of the year.

Last May the Sudanese official demanded that the UN restricts Ocampo's visits to New York to meet with officials in the world body as well as permanent representatives.

Mohamad said that Ocampo's movements "are nothing but a ridiculous political play trying to provoke countries against Sudan".

The prosecutor of the ICC will brief the UNSC in June on the status of investigations and Sudan's cooperation. He has already informed the council of Sudan's non-compliance last December.

Ocampo has expressed his frustration with lack of pressure on Sudan by world community to hand over suspects. He also revealed that he has been approached by a number of countries suggesting that he should try and indict "lower level perpetrators, easier to arrest than Ministers or powerful militia leaders".

Sudan has not ratified the Rome Statue, but the UN Security Council triggered the provisions under the Statue that enables it to refer situations in non-State parties to the world court if it deems that it is a threat to international peace and security.

International experts estimate 200,000 people have died in the conflict. The Sudanese government says 9,000 people have been killed.

[NCP: SPLM threatens implementation of agreement \(Sudan Vision\)](#)

NCP has proclaimed that the step taken by SPLM member Edward Lino by declaring himself governor of Abyei could threaten the peace agreement. NCP leading member and joint commissioner of assessment and evaluation commission for southern Kordofan, Aldirdiri Mohamed Ahmed stated that the step taken by Lino was the biggest threat to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.

He added that NCP was waiting for a statement from SPLM that will define Lino's duty in Abyei. He affirmed that NCP desires the SPLM to stop the practices of Lino in Abyei.

#### [US condemns theft of UNICEF cars](#)

(The Citizens) The United States Government Sunday condemned the March 20 theft of vehicles by one of the Darfur rebel factions.

This seizure included a vitally needed UNICEF water rig critical to the development of adequate water supplies for hundreds of thousands of internally displaced persons in Darfur.

The United States requests the immediate return of the water rig and the other stolen property on humanitarian grounds. The water rig and the three other vehicles were stolen in Um Tujuk, North Darfur.

The missing vehicles and water rig are now believed to be in Chad.

It is essential that the Dano drilling rig be returned to the UNICEF-supported water environmental Sanitation Programme.

In the absence of the rig, work has been delayed on 110 water points in Darfur.

This has a negative impact on the health of approximately 400000 internally displaced persons, according to UNICEF.

#### [Presidential Assistant Nafe calls on SPLM to reconsider appointment of administration in Abyei calling it violation of CPA](#)

(Al-Rai Al-Aam) The Presidential Assistant and Deputy Chairman of the NCP, Dr. Nafe Ali Nafe, said SPLM's appointment of administration in Abeyi was clear violation of the CPA. "What is done by SPLM is unjustifiable," he said. He said NCP would not accept the step taken by SPLM in Abyei had to be reconsidered.

Nafe explained that a political committee was making efforts to resolve the problem and SPLM was conducting consultations.

For his part NCP Information Secretary, Dr. Kamal Obeid, said the committees set up to discuss Abyei did not meet due to continued absence of SPLM members and denied any move on the part of NCP to form administration in Abyei unilaterally saying it had to be set up jointly as provided by CPA.

For his part, Abyei Liberation Front (ALF) leader Mohamed Omer Al-Ansari said ALF had appointed Mahdi Babu Nimir as ALF senior advisor as part of preparations of what he described as ‘civil jihad’. He said he had doubt that Edward Lino was promoting foreign agenda citing his meetings with SRSG Ashraf Qazi and US charge d’Affaires in Khartoum.

Al-Ansari added that all options were open including fighting but he emphasized the need for dialogue.

For his part, Edward Lino has clarified he was not the head of an interim administration in Abyei, his role was confined to political supervision and to assist in rendering services to civilians and SPLM would not at all give up that role.

Meanwhile, UNMIS Force Commander said demarcation of borders and Abyei were the biggest challenges facing CPA. The Force Commander said the CPA witnessed no violations except Malakal incident in 2006.

#### [UN and AU Envoys to meet with Nafie, Minnawi and Deng Alor](#)

(Al-Ayyam) the newspaper has learned that UN and AU Envoys, Jan Eliasson and Salim Ahmed Salim, would meet with Presidential Assistant Nafe Ali Nafe, Senior Presidential Assistant Minni Minawi, and Foreign Minister Deng Alor.

The source told the newspaper that the two envoys would stay in Khartoum for three days after which they would travel outside Sudan and when they are back they would meet with armed movements in Darfur and Juba.

The same source affirmed that the mediators met with SLA field commanders (Abdul Wahid) in Korma (north Darfur) adding that the mediation team had daily contact with field commanders of the armed movements and some of their political officials.

#### [Chinese Ambassador to Sudan denies his country’s supply of arms to Sudan](#)

(Al-Khartoum) the Chinese Ambassador to Sudan said his country was not supplying arms to Sudan in return for \$ 5 billion investment in oil industry.

He has ruled out that Chinese investments in Sudan were being pursued at the expense of political position particularly with regard to Darfur. He has commended the efforts being exerted by the Sudanese Government to resolve the issue of Darfur.

“Claims of China supplying arms to Sudan are incorrect and illogical, China abides by International rules in this regard,” he said.

The Chinese Ambassador made the statements at press conference he held yesterday. He said there were many sources of arms for Darfur. He said Sudan Government was keen to achieve peace pointing out to his country’s support to political negotiations.

#### [Lino affirms SPLM will not abandon the Abyei Administration](#)

(Miraya FM) The head of the SPLM Abyei Administration Edward Lino said that his task was to monitor the political situation in the area.

Lino told Miraya FM that he is also there to continue providing services to the people of Abyei and he is not a temporary head of the administration.

He said that the SPLM's administration in Abyei would not be abandoned.

Lino called on the National Congress Party to participate in the Abyei Administration.

He added that there is no cooperation between the Security agents and the Sudan Armed Forces in the area.

Meanwhile, the head of the so-called Abyei Liberation Movement Mohammed Ahmed Al-Ansari told Miraya FM that the Movement has appointed Lt. Gen. Mahdi Babo Nimir as a general commander for the movement in the area.

Al-Ansari said the commander is to be ready on what he said as a civil-jihad.

Al-Ansari said that there is a possibility of any action including war. However, he said that dialogue is a priority.

#### [Minister of Presidential Affairs, UN Special Representative discuss arrangements for round-table conference \(SUNA\)](#)

Khartoum, April 6 (SUNA) - Minister of Presidential Affairs and Chairman of the High Coordinating Council for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR), Gen. Bakri Hassan Salih, Sunday discussed with the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for the Sudan, Ashraf Qazi, the arrangements for holding the round-table conference, scheduled to be held in the Friendship Hall on April 9, on preparations for Paris Donors Conference for supporting Sudan peace.

In this regard, the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for the Sudan, Ashraf Qazi, said in a statement to SUNA that he had a useful meeting with the minister, touching at some important issues, top of which were the DDR programme. He also referred to the serious cooperation and coordination between the UN and the concerned bodies in order to make the conference successful.

On his part, the Executive Secretary of the High Coordinating Council for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR), Brig. Osman Nouri, said the meeting got assured about completion of all the arrangements for the convocation of the round-table conference, which will be addressed by Gen. Bakri Hassan Salih, and the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for the Sudan besides representatives of the donors, DDR, UNICEF and the UNDP. The meeting touched on the excellent relations between the DDR Council and the UN as well as the arrangements for the 5th population census, said Brig. Nouri.

#### [Cabinet Affairs Minister, US Charge d'Affaires discuss progress of CPA implementation](#)

Khartoum, April 6(SUNA) - The Minister of the Cabinet Affairs, Pagan Amum, Sunday received the American Charge d'Affaires to Sudan and discussed progress of the relations between Sudan and the United States. The meeting reviewed the arrangements and issues which are expected to be discussed at a meeting between Sudanese and US Administration officials in Rome. The Minister stated that he discussed with the American diplomat progress of the implementation of Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), Abiyei protocol and efforts of the Presidency toward resolving Abiyei issue.

## **GoSS**

### **USAID launches peace solidarity with South Sudan**

(ST) April 4, 2008 (JUBA) — The USAID is in solidarity with the government of southern Sudan because the twenty one years of protracted war left the south devastated with dead toll of over two million and worst destroyed the education institutions and system that had existed in the south, United States of America Consul general, Christ Datta has said.

Consul Datta said the US Administration took the lead in rehabilitating and constructing schools in the war affected areas together with the government of South Sudan because the people of South had to start from zero. And hence building of schools as the key pillar of everything on which the future of South Sudan depends was paramount to building good system of education, he remarks.

Addressing joint press conference on CPA solidarity week in Juba in the ministry of Education, Science and Technology premises, the US Consul General, Christ Datta, says despite all that has been done during the past three years of the CPA, some people think that nothing has been done in southern Sudan, contrary, he said, a lot have been achieved on security, social cohesion, good governance, economic development, and democracy building including building of schools.

Consul Datta revealed that USAID in partnership with the government of South Sudan have constructed 115 primary schools, three secondary schools, and rehabilitated three teacher training institutes. Total of 1,126 teachers were trained and another one thousand teachers trained for interactive radio instruction teaching out of which twelve per cent are female and established over ten thousands radio listening groups.

USAID also awarded 2,500 scholarships and planned additional 3,000 scholarships for female. While in Kauda, Kurmuk and Abyei, 3,753 pupils received vitamin A tablets, 4,436 received de-worming drugs as 200 parents' teacher association members were trained.

Meanwhile the USAID Director for southern Sudan mission, Allan Reed, stated that they together with GoSS ministry of education have positively worked out education curriculum for the South. Adding that USAID relationship with Juba government started before signing of the CPA and since then partners have done a great improvement in the field of education.

Reed said the US department of technical assistance has assigned four senior advisors, one to GoSS and three are to six states to help in building the ministries capacity on policies development, planning, budgeting, program implementation, monitoring and evaluation. He also lauded the support of other agencies involved in education program for the south.

When asked whether it was appropriate to have South Sudanese children studying under tree during the era of twenty one century and yet the designated agencies for supporting education program in South Sudan registered them as success of their school enrolment campaign, US Consul General, Christ Datta said the most important thing was that the children are learning because there are teachers to teach them. Of course, he says every child should be given the best learning opportunity in a clean environment where there are teachers and text books to help children learn.

## 10 TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

Responding to question why the government could not built technical school since the last one in South Sudan was built in 1954, the undersecretary in the ministry of Education, Science and Technology, William Ater, stated that it was expensive to construct technical school during the war time. However, he said plans are on the way to construct ten technical schools in each of the ten states of South Sudan by the year 2011 but depending on availability of adequate budget of GoSS ministry of education.

The undersecretary said prior to signing of CPA, there were 400,00 children studying in the liberated area of SPLM/A but after CPA the number has risen to one million two hundred thousands. He further revealed that from next year South Sudan will have its own national examinations set by southern academicians for secondary school than relaying on Khartoum.

Ater say the ministry of education target was to increase technical schools because South Sudan requires much technical knowledge of science and technology than academic knowledge to enable southern take over from costly highered foreign professionals. He said the only two technical schools of Torit and Tonj are in the process of being rehabilitated thereafter the ministry will move to other states for construction of technical schools.

Regarding the three South Sudan public universities relocation to their original places, Mr. Ater said its one of the top priorities of the government of South Sudan and that this year ministry of finance has released some funds to effect relocation to the South.

However, he disclosed that during the year 2006, government of South Sudan had big problems of getting admission for South Sudanese returnees into universities of Juba, Wau and Malakal because one of the government of national unity ministry of higher education in Khartoum issued statements stating that they will not accept imported certificates from foreign countries of Uganda and Kenya where most southern Sudanese got their primary and secondary educations during the twenty one years of war.



Nevertheless, the undersecretary said the government of South Sudan managed to solve the problems which resulted in admitting 750 students mostly from Uganda, Kenya and a few from Ethiopia during the academic year 2006/2007. As for academic year 2007/2008 1,300 students are admitted and additional 1,400 under went through English language test screening and they too got admitted in the three universities of the South.

Undersecretary Ater observed that Juba University has major problems of accommodation because the campus was meant for less than 2,000 students. Therefore he appeals to both parents and students to understand the situation facing Juba University administration which is located within the center of Juba city made it difficult to expand. However, with CPA in progress, the university will soon expand to east of river Nile at Bilinya campus for the purpose of accommodating more students, he assured.

When asked why the UN agencies concern with promoting education in the war torn South Sudan are asking communities to first contribute toward construction of basic schools in their localities, Mrs. Grace Datio, state minister of education of western Equatoria said GoSS policy towards basic education is free education to all children, however, she said it was appropriate for the community to contribute towards construction of schools because they have greater role to play in molding future of their children. The state minister further said the registration amount of two Sudanese pounds is not fee but to help assist school administration support some of their basic needs for enhancing teaching.

Undersecretary Ater recalled that before the CPA was signed three years ago, there were 16,000 volunteers' teachers in New Sudan administrative areas who were catered for by the community through digging for teachers while others contributes groundnuts and grain to upkeep teachers in class rooms.

## **Darfur**

[Egyptian President affirms his country's readiness to send additional troops to Darfur, receives message from President Bashir](#)

(Al-Hayat) Egyptian President, Hosni Mubarak, received a written message from his Sudanese counterpart, Omer Bashir, conveyed by the Sudanese Presidential Advisor Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismail dealing with developments of situations in Darfur and bilateral relations between Sudan and Egypt.

Dr. Mustafa said he had conveyed to President Mubarak Sudan's appreciation for Egypt's troops contribution to UNAMID.

According to Dr. Mustafa President Mubarak has expressed readiness to send additional troops to Darfur if Sudan so requested.

[Darfur rebel leader denounces Janjaweed attack in El-Fasher](#)

(ST) April 6, 2008 (PARIS) – The leader of the rebel Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM), Abdel Wahid al-Nur slammed the attacks carried by the Janjaweed militia in the capital of North Darfur today urging international pressures to disarm them.

"The Khartoum backed Janjaweed militia, on Sunday, attacked El-Fasher market and shot indiscriminately, killing one person, injuring four others and looting shops in the market.

Al-Nur appealed to the international community to condemn the attack and to pressurize Sudanese government to disarm this "state terrorist organization" which "commits war crimes and atrocities in Darfur since four years."

The rebel leader pointed out that this attack happened in the capital of North Darfur State where are the premises of the peacekeeping operation which is supposed to protect Darfur civilians.

The pro-ruling party media SMC said the "Border Guard Forces", a name given to the Janjaweed militia by the Sudanese government, looted the town to protest against the incomplete salary disbursement.

The rebel leader, who demands to deliver security before the peace talks, said that he wants peace today before tomorrow adding that world has to imagine what these militias can do in "the remote villages where isolated civilians are exposed to their violence on daily basis."

He further said that information received from El-Fasher say that petrified shopkeepers deserted their premises, and the population of the town remained in absolute fear at home.

This attack is not the first against the capital of North Darfur. On October 10, 2006 the pro-Sudanese government militia attacked el-Fasher market followed by another attack against El-Fasher's cattle market on December 4, 2006.

At that time, Minawi threatened to quit his position as senior presidential assistant if the assault was not halted.

#### [Four persons killed and wounded in indiscriminate shooting in El Fasher](#)

(Al-Wifaq) One person killed and three others wounded yesterday noon in El Fasher, the Capital of North Darfur.

The incident occurred when a group of the western military Command's border guards fired indiscriminately in the heart of a main market in the city to protest some administrative measures with regard to monthly salaries.

At press conference held after the incident, the governor of North Darfur Osman Mohamed Yousuf Kibir said the incident was individual and the perpetrators would be held responsible. Mr. Kibir has condemned the attack.

He said the situation was brought under control, returned to normalcy and administrative measures were being taken against those responsible.

### **Miscellaneous**

#### **Egypt to cultivate wheat in Sudan (ST)**

April 6, 2008 (CAIRO) – Sudanese government has welcomed on Sunday Egyptian proposal to grow wheat in the Sudan, the official MENA reported.

"The Sudanese government welcomed the Egyptian proposal calling for the cultivation of swathes of Sudanese land with wheat, and has formed committees to look into this proposal," said the Sudanese presidential adviser Mustafa Osman Ismail.

Ismail, who is visiting Cairo nowadays, added Saudi Arabia and some other Gulf Arab countries had made a similar proposal and said that "committees have started work in delineating the requested lands for this project".

"Water is plentiful, the land is very fertile and modern technology can help not just to reach a level of self-sufficiency for Egypt and Sudan but for the Arab region as a whole," Ismail said.

Higher global wheat prices in recent months have squeezed wheat-importing countries such as Egypt, the most populous Arab country.

Egypt is one of the world's biggest wheat importers, typically buying more than 6 million tonnes of overseas wheat a year to make subsidised bread, mostly for the urban poor.

#### **PCP holds its General Conference in south Sudan for the first time**

(Miraya FM) The Popular Congress Party has for the first time conducted its General Conference in south Sudan.

The Secretary General of the Dr. Hassan Al Turabi attended the conference in Wau town of the Western Bahr el Ghazal State.

Al Turabi told Miraya FM his party is aiming at preaching the fundamental rights and freedoms to all the people of Sudan.

He added that the Comprehensive Peace Agreement should be implemented to the letter.

Al Turabi said his party has held similar conferences in northern, western and eastern Sudan.