

**UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN****UNMIS**Media Monitoring Report, 15 April 2007

(By Public Information Office)

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HIGHLIGHTS :

UN/ Agencies

Khartoum expects detailed UN plan to bring non- signatories' factions on board the DPA

(*AlSahafa*) The UN Security Council will hold tomorrow a closed session to listen to a report on Darfur from the AU Chairman and the UN and AU envoys.

Sudan's representative to the UN says he expected that the consultative meeting between Konare, Eliasson and Salim with Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon will draw up detailed steps on how to start negotiations with the DPA non-signatories factions regarding a venue and date for talks. He called upon the UNSC to issue a resolution that assist in pushing the peace process forward.

Sudan Information Campaign for return (SICR) organizes Campaign Day in Mayo, Khartoum Southern

(*Khartoum Monitor*) The Sudan Information Campaign for Returns (SICR) is organizing the 5th Information Campaign Day on 16th April to inform IDPs in the Mayo Camp about verification, departure and convoy movements for the joint organized returns programme of the Government of National Unity and the Government of Southern Sudan, supported by the UN and non-governmental organizations said Annalisa Brusati, SICR Coordinator.

UN airlifts Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia to Juba

(*SudanTribune.com*) The UNHCR body for refugees is beginning Saturday the first airlift to repatriate Sudanese refugees from Ethiopia. It announces three flights are scheduled to take a total of 150 Sudanese refugees from Gambella airport in Ethiopia to Juba, Southern Sudan and plans to repatriate more than 1,000 sudanese refugees from Ethiopia over the next 10 days.

The refugees are mainly from the Dinka and Shuluk minority ethnic groups who have lived in exile for many, many years.

UNHCR spokesman Ron Redmond says the refugees are being flown home because they are returning to areas that are extremely difficult to reach by road.

UNHCR spokesman Redmond says the current airlift of refugees will have to be suspended during the rainy season. However, he says it will resume in September and October. He says the agency hopes to bring nearly 2,000 more Sudanese refugees home from Ethiopia by the end of the year *[follow the link for the full text of this story [UN airlifts Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia to Juba](#)]*.

The UNHCR has also announced an end to repatriation of Sudanese refugees from the CAR. The last flight was on Wednesday with 31 Sudanese bound for Western Equatoria State *[follow the link for the full text of this story [UN finalizes repatriation of Sudanese refugees in Central Africa](#)]*.

UN shifts from emergency war relief to recovery in Southern Sudan

(SudanTribune.com) The UN World Food Programme (WFP) said today that it will gradually shift its operations in southern Sudan from emergency war relief to longer term recovery due to a reduced demand for food aid after more than 20 years of delivering food aid to the region.

The end of the civil war in south Sudan combined with better harvests enabled WFP to launch the new strategy, which will see emergency food aid for southern Sudan cut by 19 percent this year while school feeding programmes triple in size and food-for-work projects jump from 121,000 participants last year to more than 160,000 in 2007 *[follow the link for the full text of this story [UN shifts from emergency war relief to recovery in Southern Sudan](#) . See also the United Nations Press Release on the issue in separate attachment]*.

UN says no evidence for new displacement in Southern Darfur

(SudanTribune.com) The United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) Human Rights and Organization for Coordination and Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) have said on Thursday that there is no evidence of displacement in Southern Darfur as reported by Tarjam leadership.

In their joint press release on Wednesday, they stated that on April 10, UNMIS Human Rights and OCHA visited the area of Bulbul Abu Jazo to verify reports of a massive displacement of the Tarjam tribe from Murray Jangue and Uyer to Abu Jazo following the Abala tribesmen attack on 31 March. They say the team found no evidence of the 15,000 displaced people reported by the Tarjam leadership but could only confirm a few displaced households accommodated by the community of Abu Jazo.

On the other hand, the team confirmed that there was insecurity and shooting in the western region of Darfur, El Genena that has occurred between the armed Arab militias, National Security and the Government police in Dorti displaced camp but saying that there were conflicting reports about the cause of the confrontation.

According to the reports, three Arab militias and three National Security officers were reportedly injured.

The Transition Debate

Sudanese negotiators support UN helicopters in Darfur

(*SudanTribune.com*) Sudanese officials working to finalize a deal on U.N. support for the African Union mission in Darfur have recommended Khartoum permit the use of attack helicopters by AU troops, the Foreign Ministry said on Friday.

"They have made a positive recommendation and it is now up to the leadership. The president must decide," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Ali al-Sadig told Reuters.

Khartoum's acceptance of the helicopters for Darfur peacekeepers would complete an interim plan — a so-called heavy equipment package — to bolster 7,000 AU soldiers in western Sudan with additional equipment and some 3,000 U.N. personnel.

Spokesperson al-Sadig has also revealed that foreign minister Lam Akol assured visiting US envoy, Secretary of State John Negroponte, that Khartoum is committed to the agreements reached among Sudan, the UN and the African Union (AU) on peacekeeping mission in Darfur.

Lam Akol and Negroponte discussed the political and security situations in Darfur, the UN support package for the AU peacekeeping forces there, and the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in southern Sudan in addition to bilateral relations.

The spokesperson also revealed that Sudanese foreign minister criticized the international community for failing to fulfill commitments made in the Oslo Donors' Conference.

On bilateral relations between Sudan and the U.S., the Sudanese foreign minister told Negroponte that there was no room for talks about normalization of relations when sanctions against Sudan still existed, the spokesman added.

Negroponte said in a press statement following the meeting that the principle purpose of his visit was to discuss with Sudanese authorities the situation in Darfur and to convey his country's concern on humanitarian situation in the region.

The No. 2 U.S. diplomat, accompanied by Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Jendayi Frazer, will visit Juba, southern Sudan and Darfur on Saturday.

Negroponte arrived in Khartoum on Thursday on a four-day official visit in Sudan, the first leg of his first African tour which will also bring him to Libya and Chad.

China meanwhile complains that the world is not giving enough respect to Sudan in trying to deal with the situation in strife-torn Darfur and sanctions are not the solution.

"Harsh demands have been made of Sudan, but little respect has been shown for the country — one of the largest on the African continent," the China Daily said *[follow the links for the full text to*

these stories [Sudanese negotiators support UN helicopters in Darfur](#); [Sudan says committed to UN-AU force to Darfur](#); [Respect Sudan, don't impose sanctions -China](#)].

CPA

Joint Political monitoring team to hold keynote meeting tomorrow

(*AlAyaam*) The CPA Joint Political Monitoring team led by Dr. Nafie Ali Nafie, and Pagan Amum, decided yesterday to launch a meeting of the Joint Political monitoring committee to discuss issues their leaderships have delegated to them.

Also to be discussed are preparations for the next meeting of the leadership committee and of the politburos.

Committee formed to draft National Lands Commission statute

(*Alwan*) The National Constitutional Revision Commission (NCRC) has formed a committee to study and draft a National Lands Commission statute.

The NCRC had conducted a workshop in collaboration with the FAO on the statute in which various working papers relevant to the issue were presented.

Southern Sudanese resent northern troops in oil areas

(*SudanTribune.com; AlIntibaha et al*) Troops from northern Sudan have overstayed their welcome in oil-producing Unity State in the semi-autonomous south and are violating a north-south peace agreement, the spokesman for the state said on Friday.

Under the agreement signed in January 2005, ending 21 years of war between north and south, the northern troops should redeploy from the south by July 9.

But James Lily Kuol, spokesman and minister of information in the local state government, told Reuters he saw no sign this would happen and that their presence was frightening off 50,000 people who want to return to their homes in the state.

"SAF (central government) forces have increased since the signing of the (agreement). They are threatening people in this area because of the oil," he said.

"The Khartoum government does not want the state government to have responsibility for the oil. ... We don't think they (the northern troops) will go and there are more than there are allowed to be," the official added.

There was no immediate comment from the government in Khartoum.

Another worry, Kuol said, is that northern troops and troops from the former southern rebel group, the Sudan People's Liberation Army, have not integrated their units in the area, as they were meant to do under the peace deal.

The two armies are living in separate barracks and taking separate orders. "There is fear from the people. What would you feel if there were two armies staying together but taking separate instructions? Something can occur," he said.

Kuol said the southern government should try to persuade the Khartoum government of national unity to redeploy the northern troops and renegotiate control over the oil fields.

Southern Sudan decries slow progress in peace deal

(*SudanTribune.com*) Southern Sudan on Saturday decried the slow progress in the implementation of the historic north- south peace agreement, which ended Africa's longest civil war in the vast region.

Addressing a news conference in Nairobi, Southern Sudan Regional Cooperation Minister Bernaba Marial Benjamin called on regional countries, which spearheaded the peace process to move to intervene and ensure specific aspects of the deal are implemented to make unity attractive.

Benjamin said two years after the triumphant signing of the landmark peace deal, escalating militia attacks in the south and continued disputes over ownership of Sudan's oil fields, mainly located in the south, and power sharing have not been resolved.

He said there has not yet been any progress on ascertaining the north-south borders, which will determine the division of the oilfields.

"The National Petroleum Commission (NCP) must be encouraged to be transparent with oil contracts and the sharing of oil revenues. This is a very serious matter which we urge the IGAD to address in the next summit," Benjamin said.

African foreign ministers have on their part called for an urgent summit to discuss the implementation of the CPA, saying key deadlines had lapsed [*follow the links for the full text of these stories* [Southern Sudan decries slow progress in peace deal](#); [IGAD calls for urgent summit on Sudan's CPA implementation](#)].

Southern Sudan/ GoSS/SPLM

SPLA graduates 44 medical officers

(*The Citizen*) Vice-President Salva Kiir yesterday officiated over the graduation ceremony of 44 officers who are going to serve in the SPLA Medical Corps.

The 44 officers were recruited in December 2006 and completed their basic 7 weeks military training at Pariak SPLA Training Centre in Jonglei State.

Kiir told the 44 officers that their role in delivering medical services to the army is needed and that the day, April 14th 2007, was a great and memorable day of the inception of the SPLA Medical Corps.

New road map to chart course against AIDS in Southern Sudan

(SudanTribune.com) Efforts to control the spread of HIV in southern Sudan have been given a shot in the arm by a US \$28.5 million grant from the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis, as well as a new roadmap for containing the epidemic.

The money comes more than two years after the Comprehensive Peace Agreement ended 21 years of war in the south, which left the region largely dependent on the United Nations (UN) and nongovernmental agencies to provide the few available health services.

According to Patrick Sweeting, head of the UN Development Programme (UNDP) in southern Sudan, work on the roadmap was led by UNDP and the Global Fund, in cooperation with the Southern Sudan AIDS Commission (SSAC); it is expected to lead to a national HIV/AIDS policy and strategic framework by the end of July.

Tekleab Kedamo, a programme coordinator for the Global Fund, said the roadmap was divided into two parts: a planning stage, which has just been completed, and a later coordination stage. The SSAC would play a central role in implementing the plan [*follow the link for the full text of the story* [New road map to chart course against AIDS in Southern Sudan](#)].

Ugandan rebels and government sign new truce

(SudanTribune.com) Shaking hands and embracing, Uganda's government and Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels signed a new two-month truce on Saturday, boosting efforts to end one of Africa's longest and most brutal wars.

The two sides also agreed to resume talks on April 26 in the south Sudan capital, Juba, to try to end the two-decade-old conflict that has killed tens of thousands.

The deal gave the LRA guerrillas a six-week deadline to assemble in Ri-Kwangba, near the border with Democratic Republic of Congo, while guaranteeing the rebels' security.

LRA leader Joseph Kony was present along with Kampala's top negotiator, Internal Affairs Minister Ruhakana Rugunda.

Mozambique's former president Joaquim Chissano, the U.N. envoy in the peace efforts, witnessed the signing and promised to attend talks planned later this month.

Darfur/ Darfur Peace Agreement

Mezni, Ibok hold talks with Dr. Majzoub el Khalifa and Minnawi

(*AlHayat*) Dr. Majzoub el-Khalifa and Minnawi held a meeting yesterday at the beginning of a 3-day workshop where specialised committees are to revise the Darfur Peace Agreement articles.

The meeting was held in the presence of African Union's Nouredine Mezni and Sam Ibok.

Governor of W. Darfur unveils disarmament plan

(*AlHayat*) The Governor of W. Darfur has unveiled a plan to collect arms in villages and markets.

He said that the state had started an intensive campaign in collaboration with all security services to disarm civilians in the region. A number of suspects were arrested and will be brought to justice to ensure stability and security of the state.

35 killed in tribal clashes near Kulbus, W. Darfur

(*AlSudani*) 35 people were killed and many others injured in armed clashes between the Gumur and Duruk in AbuDukha area near Kulbus.

An MP for Kulbus reports that the situation is bound to deteriorate due to the absence of a government authority in the area.

Chad wants peace with Sudan - Chad FM

(*SudanTribune.com*) Chad's foreign minister on Saturday said his country wanted to turn the page on soured relations with Sudan after deadly border clashes earlier in the week. The minister requested Sudan's cooperation to contain rebels.

Ahmat Allam-Mi was in Sudan's capital Khartoum on Saturday to meet Sudanese President Omar Hassan-al Bashir after a border clash which left several dead.

Allami said a committee had been set up in Chad to determine who was responsible for the clashes but repeated his position that Chadian forces went into Sudan to pursue rebels.

He proposed setting up an accord that would allow Chad to pursue what he called Sudan-based rebels back into Sudan.

"We apologised but we can't say the responsibility was ours alone. The (Sudanese) forces were not supposed to be in that area. But I don't believe the other side has the same view of what happened there," said Allam-Mi.

Sudanese foreign ministry official Abdelrahman Mokhtar said that in the letter Deby had apologised for the incursion and said he wanted to "turn over a new page in relations between the two countries."

"President Beshir was understanding and affirmed his desire to work with Mr Deby Itno to bury the differences" between the two countries. He said Deby also expressed his desire to visit Khartoum.

Libya sent its number two diplomat Abdelsalam Triki to both capitals in a bid to ease tensions, obtaining a commitment on Thursday from Beshir to maintain good relations with the neighbouring country.

SPLM task force on Darfur says conflicts has grown "complex"

(*SudanTribune.com*) The Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) task force on Darfur has expressed concern about the growing insecurity in the region saying that the conflict has become more complex. Further, the former rebels expect the peace process to be very complicated.

Chairperson of the Task Force and SPLM Special Envoy on Darfur, Reverend Clement Janda, said the resolution of the four year crisis in Darfur needs huge efforts because the conflict has become more complex. However, he added that the task force was "prepared to face the challenge".

Rev. Janda, who held a meeting on Friday with the First Vice President didn't elaborate on the SPLM strategy to reenergize the peace talks between Khartoum and rebel groups opposed to the Darfur Peace Agreement.

In a statement after the meeting with the President, Rev. Janda said they thanked the President for entrusting to them this "noble task", and had discussed with him how they would get the process started.

Rev. Janda said that such visits would be "part and parcel" of the task force to Darfur. He reiterated that in the light of his experience during the last round of the Abuja peace talks, he said that he had never received a more difficult assignment than this new role.

The delegation was headed by the Reverend Clement Janda, Chairperson of the Task Force and SPLM Special Envoy on Darfur. Rev. Janda was involved for five months in the Darfur peace talks held in Abuja, Nigeria, in 2006. The delegation also included two members of the Task Force, Priscilla Nyannyang Joseph and Achier Deng Akol.

Two of the members of the seven-member Task Force, Lt Gen. Abdelaziz Adam el Hilu and Maj. Gen. Yasir Saeed Arman, are currently in the United States. But efforts are being made to bring all the members of the Task Force together.

The initial objective of the SPLM is to hold a meeting for the holdout rebels in Juba in order to address their demands and to fix a common ground for the expected peace talks.

Libya to host international conference on Darfur

(*SudanTribune.com*) Libya will host an international conference on the war-torn Sudanese region of Darfur later this month, a senior Libyan official said on Friday.

"A conference on Darfur will take place on April 28 with representatives of the United States, Britain, Sudan, Chad, Eritrea, the African Union and European Union," Libya's deputy foreign minister Ali Abdelsalam Triki told reporters.

He did not specify the level of participation but said US Deputy Secretary of State John Negroponte was expected in Libya on April 17 for talks focusing on Sudan and Somalia, both riven by bloody conflicts.

UK accused of collaborating with Sudan over Darfur refugees

(*SudanTribune.com*) Human rights campaigners claim the Home Office is collaborating with the Sudanese government to question asylum-seekers fleeing the violence in Darfur.

The charities allege that the UK has passed information about individuals to the Sudanese embassy despite claims that they face persecution if they are returned to their homeland.

A coalition of pressure groups will today write to John Reid, the Home Secretary, attacking the Home Office for allowing Sudanese officials to interview people when they report to immigration offices. The Home Office insisted that it never passed information on asylum applications or criminal records to foreign governments. Officials said they did involve other countries to establish the nationality of people whose asylum applications had been rejected and people in Britain illegally so they could be given travel documents to allow them to return home.

Other Developments

Sudan expels BBC correspondent, because of "hostile reporting"

(*SudanTribune.com*) Authorities in Sudan have expelled a BBC correspondent on the grounds of allegations of hostile reporting and have described his work as part of the western media propaganda against Khartoum.

The BBC correspondent in Sudan, Jonah Fisher, was served with an expulsion letter from the Sudan's ministry of interior on March 25 indicating that he should leave the country within 30 days for his hostile reporting on Darfur and on the ICC report that has named two Sudanese including the Junior minister in the ministry for humanitarian affairs Ahmed Haron.

Jonah Fisher who has decided to leave the country on Friday 13 ahead of the deadline given to him by the Sudanese authorities, compiled in 2006 a documentary on Darfur that alleged that the Janjaweed militia were getting direct support from the Sudan government.

Jonah Fisher, the BBC correspondent in Sudan since October 2004, was not able to comment on his expulsion.

Gadhafi's hand seen in Chad objections to UN force

(*SudanTribune.com*) Libyan leader Muammar Gadhafi is steering Chad's opposition to a U.N. military peacekeeping force in its violence-torn east, where civilians are being killed in droves as a proposed U.N. deployment stalls, analysts say.

They say Gadhafi, a critic of Western democracy and self-styled champion of African nationalism, has stepped up pressure on his southern neighbour, Chadian President Idriss Deby, to resist a planned U.N. military force for eastern Chad.

The Chadian leader said he preferred a civil police force in a stance regional experts say showed the hand of Gadhafi.

"Libya's primary objective is to ensure an international military force does not deploy," said Colin Thomas-Jensen, Africa analyst with the International Crisis Group think tank.

The stalling over the Chad U.N. force now mirrors the situation in Sudan's Darfur, where the Sudanese government has long been resisting international pressure for U.N. peacekeepers to bolster a struggling African Union military contingent.

"Gadhafi wants no Western force in his backyard," said another Chad expert, who declined to be named.