



UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN

UNMIS

UNMIS Media Monitoring Report, 17th August 2006**(By Public Information Office)**

NOTE: Reproduction here does not mean that the UNMIS PIO can vouch for the accuracy or veracity of the contents, nor does this report reflect the views of the United Nations Mission in Sudan. Furthermore, international copyright exists on some materials and this summary should not be disseminated beyond the intended list of recipients.

IN THE NEWS TODAY:**➤ United Nations and the Transition Debate**

- UN Security Council to discuss Annan report on Darfur
- African Union says lacks fund to maintain Darfur presence
- HABITAT opens offices in southern Sudan
- UNMIS Sector II in Wau gives briefing

➤ GoNU

- National Congress Party, SPLM exert efforts to resolve their differences over the Government of South Kordofan

➤ Southern Sudan/GoSS/SPLM

- All NGOs in south to open head offices in southern Sudan

➤ Darfur/Darfur Peace Agreement

- AU orders Darfur rebel officials to leave its camps

HIGHLIGHTS:

United Nations and the Transition Debate

UN Security Council to discuss Annan report on Darfur

(*ST* – 16th Aug. UN) The UN Security Council will hold consultations on Sudan's Darfur region on Thursday, 17 August. Members are expected to discuss the recent report of the Secretary-General containing options for transition and for assistance from the UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) to the AU Mission in the Sudan (AMIS), as well as his 10 August update on Darfur. Khartoum's recent plan for increasing security in Darfur is also expected to be discussed.

According to Security Council Report (SCR), no formal action is expected at this point, but discussions are currently taking place among the Permanent Five states (P5) and African members on a UK draft containing the mandate of an expanded UNMIS in Darfur. It is unclear whether the discussions may soon be broadened to include other Council members.

There are some divisions among the P5 on the issue of transition, especially the extent to which any interim Council resolution should definitively establish the full mandate for the UN force. Some seem to believe that this is premature in the absence of confirmation from Khartoum that it has given consent to the operation. Others in favour of the resolution may be of the view that it is highly desirable to explain the mandate now as it will clarify the nature of the operation and that will actually be helpful in encouraging formal consent. And there is a third view that approving the mandate now is essential so as to demonstrate the concern of Council members with the deteriorating situation in Darfur.

It is not clear as yet whether there has been any attempt to negotiate a middle ground between these positions. But they do not seem irreconcilable and the Council showed on a number of hard issues in July that a negotiated middle ground was achievable.

African Union says lacks fund to maintain Darfur presence

(*AP/ST* – 16th Aug. Cairo) The African Union lacks the funds to maintain its peacekeeping force or to boost its efficiency amid a deteriorating security and humanitarian situation in Sudan's Darfur, a top AU official in Sudan said as the U.N. Security Council prepares to discuss a U.N. force for the region.

But the chief AU negotiator in Sudan said the AU hasn't yet decided whether it would prolong its mission.

"We can only stay if we are provided the adequate funding and equipment," Sam Ibok told The AP in a phone interview from the Sudanese capital.

"We came to help the Darfurians," Ibok said. "But Darfur rebels are attacking our people and killing our people, enough is enough," he said, echoing a widespread feeling of dismay among AU personnel as they face rising hostility from various Darfurian factions that accuse it of failing to end the violence.

On the other hand, the EU has pledged an amount of 120 million euros to cover AMIS' needs until 30th September. The US has also pledged to support AMIS until that period.

HABITAT opens offices in southern Sudan

(*AlRai AlAam* – 17th Aug. **Khrt.**) UN-Habitat has opened new offices in southern Sudan to consolidate the efforts for reconstruction.

Anna Tibajuka, the organisation's Executive Director, said that UN-Habitat has enough experience to contribute in post-conflict reconstruction and the improvement of settlements.

UNMIS Sector II in Wau gives briefing

(*Khartoum Monitor* – 17th Aug. **Khrt.**) In a press conference yesterday at UNMIS offices in Wau, the head of office, Mr. Fred Babi briefed the media on UNMIS' achievements for the short term and the way forward in cooperating with the government and the local community at large.

He said that the key responsibilities of UNMIS is to monitor and verify the movement of troops, the return of refugees as well as their reintegration into the community, mobilising humanitarian groups and to cross-check on human rights issues.

UNMIS Sector II has succeeded in constructing a United Nations compound for the TCCs, he said, and added that the UNMIS compound in Wau, once finished, will be the biggest complex in the region.

He also stressed that UNMSI has funded many macro projects for the local community in greater Bahr-el-Ghazal at the total cost of \$550,000 for various community projects in Kajok and Warab.

GoNU

National Congress Party, SPLM exert efforts to resolve their differences over the Government of South Kordfan

(*AlAyaam* - 17th Aug. **Khrt.**) The government of the south Kordofan revealed that NCP and SPLM have formed a committee in charge of resolving their differences over the tow article in the constitution of the State in order to pass it to the legislative council in the state to verify it.

The head of the NCP in the state Aisa Bushra in a press statements the committee with the purpose of the tow disputed points mentioned in the state's constitution namely: the rotation to the legislative council presidency and the representation in the localities of the state he asserted that the constitution will repasts to legislative council for verifying on the 24th of August 2006

Southern Sudan/GoSS/SPLM

All NGOs in south to open head offices in southern Sudan

(*Juba Post* – 17th Aug. **Juba**) All NGOs in southern Sudan are required to open head offices in southern Sudan to allow the GoSS to monitor their activities, said the head of the Southern Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation.

The SRRC commissioner said decree is applicable to all international and national NGOs operating in southern Sudan.

Darfur/Darfur Peace Agreement

AU orders Darfur rebel officials to leave its camps*

(ST- 16th Aug. Khrt.) The African Union's peace monitoring force in Darfur has ordered all representatives of rebel groups who did not sign a May peace deal to leave its camps, officials said on Wednesday.

"The AU have ordered us to leave their camps within 24 hours from this morning," Hamad Hassan Hamad of the rebel Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) told Reuters.

"This includes all those who did not sign the peace deal, the JEM and the AbdulWahid faction," said Hamad, who was a JEM representative at the AU base in el-Geneina town in West Darfur state.

One AU official confirmed the decision, which had been requested by the government in Khartoum, but did not give further details. The government says those who did not sign the agreement in May are outlaws.

The move could hinder investigations of truce violations as AU troops may not be able to travel safely in areas controlled by the two factions that did not sign the peace deal.

** Full text of the AMIS statement is in the separate attachment.*

COMMENTARIES

Gorge Du of The Citizen daily paper of the 17th write an article titled SPLM demands release illegally detained MPS

Leading member of SPLM said NCP has started a series of arrest targeting SPLM constitutional office holders.

At least tow members of the Parliament,Yaha Mohmned of Gazira state and Mohammed Abuker of Wesern Darfur state have been arrested without large legal grounds.NCP is misusing the police and judiciary in its campaigns against SPLM in the north

Agak ,who heads the political office in the Northern SPLM sector ,accused the police of racism and brutality.at least 400 houses were demolished by police in Dar Esslam village in Gazira state near Wad Madani

The MPs at the interim National Assembly have given the Attorney General 84 hours to release Mr :Mohmmmed Abaker, the head of SPLM bloc in West Darfur's legislatives council,who has been taken by security personnel to some unknown destination .according to the source closed to him.

The heads of the political office in the Northern SPLM sector emphatically described the arrest as illegal.