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UNMIS**

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(By Public Information Office)

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# Highlights

## UN/ Agencies

### **Sudan currently cooperating with plans - UN**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 24 Aug. WASHINGTON) The Sudanese government, which fought efforts to bring international peacekeepers to the devastated Darfur region, seems to be cooperating as the U.N.-mandated force takes shape, a top U.N. official said Friday.

Goods that had been bottled up at Sudanese ports began moving more freely in July, and there have been other signs of cooperation "for the moment," said Jane Holl Lute, the U.N. Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping worldwide.

She declined to speculate on the motivations of the Arab-led government in Khartoum, which the U.S. and others blame for allowing and encouraging much of the killing of Africans and the destruction of their farms and villages in Darfur.

Lute would not go so far as to say she is fully satisfied with Khartoum's role now, nor confident that cooperation will continue.

Her U.N. planners are "able to work," Lute said.

The U.N. needs additional help with engineering projects including roadbuilding and transporting goods and troops by air. Lute was discussing U.N. hopes for more practical help from the U.S., although she said she was not on a lobbying mission.

Lute predicted the force will be "predominantly African" as the compromise U.N. Security Council resolution required. The Africa Union has said it expects to be able to fill all the peacekeeping slots with Africans, but U.S. President George W. Bush's special envoy for Darfur has said that is unrealistic.

Amnesty International's report also said air raids by Sudanese forces continued in Darfur, with strikes reported by the U.N. in North Darfur in late June. Sudanese forces also used aircraft for several bombing raids on South Darfur in August, near the town of Adila, the group said.

## **GoNU (CPA; Darfur Peace Agreement; ESPA)**

### **Sudan Armed Forces say in line with CPA provisions**

(*SudanTribune.com, AlRai AlAam, AlSudani, AlSahafa*) The Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) have strongly denied accusations by the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon on implementation of re-deployment of forces in line with military arrangements contained in the Comprehensive peace agreement (CPA).

In a statement issued Saturday, the General Command of the Armed Forces said since the signing of the CPA the SAF have been keen on the implementation of all the articles of the agreement one of those important clauses is the one about the redeployment of the Armed Forces north of the 1956 borderlines.

The statement said the accusations were detrimental to the UN's credibility on equal dealing with the CPA parties.

In a report to the U.N. Security Council circulated Thursday 23 August, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called on the Sudanese military to remove all remaining troops from southern Sudan, expressing disappointment that a July 9 deadline was not met as called for in a 2005 peace deal that ended the 21-year civil war in the southern part of the country.

The statement added that international monitors had noted in their latest report that SAF had implemented 87.5 per cent of the [re-deployment] clause, while the UN is still insisting on condemning it and exempting the other party — the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) which it alleges has only implemented 6.9 per cent of the re-deployment clause.

The SAF's statement gave some statistics with regards to the SPLA forces in northern Sudan and oil area saying they released by Ceasefire Joint Military Committee (CJMC) headed by the UNMIS : - First: the SPLM has 35,330 troops in the Southern Blue Nile area. - Second: the SPLM has 22,601 troops in the Nuba Mountain area. - Third: the SPLM has 1237 troops around Abyie area.

The SAF stated that it only has 3,655 troops in the petroleum areas according to the statistics of the UN mission "because of the intensive presence of the forces of SPLA in the area that stands at 30 thousand troops and the agreement stipulates that the area be free of arms and troops."

Under the CPA, only the joint units should police the oil areas.

"Given the lack of overture of the SPLM forces in the areas of regrouping agreed upon, a question that was discussed during the meeting of the Joint Defense Council on the 26th of June 2007 and the matter was submitted to the Presidency to take decision therein and therefore this matter is no longer to be a subject of criticism by the United Nations."

Ban also said in Thursday's report that about 3,600 Sudanese troops remain in the south, but some southern civilian sources, including the governor of Unity State, contend the figure is much higher, the Associated Press reported.

Formation of joint military units comprising elements from the north and south was a prerequisite in the 2005 deal for the full redeployment of rebel forces from Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile States, Ban said, adding that their creation was significantly behind schedule.

The joint units are also mandated to protect Sudan's oilfields, while oil installations are to be demilitarized under the agreement, he said.

Ban, who is expected to visit Sudan next month, strongly urged the two parties to complete the assignment of troops to the joint units, which he said was some nine months overdue. He also called upon the north to remove all remaining military units from the south not earmarked for joint integration.

## **NCP requests clarifications from SPLM for inviting ABC experts for a meeting in Juba**

*(AlSahafa)* The National Congress Party (NCP) has asked the SPLM to provide clarifications for inviting the ABC experts for a meeting in Juba. The SPLM Secretary General Pagan Amum said the NCP has linked its participation in the meeting with providing the requested clarifications. Amum informed that the NCP/SPLM political committee meeting yesterday discussed the conflict over Abyie, troop redeployment, militias, freedoms and the decision on expelling the president of the EU commission and the Canadian charge d'affaires Nuala Lawlor. According to Amum the CPA partners political committee will meet on Saturday to discuss the report of the security committee.

## **SPLM requests replacement of 7 federal ministers**

*(AlSahafa)* Informed sources told AlSahafa that the SPLM is still insisting on the need for an immediate ministerial reshuffle to replace some of its ministers in the Federal Government. According to these sources the SPLM is planning to raise the proposals which were made by its president Salva Kiir and which were forwarded to President El Bashir. The proposals include the SPLM intension to replace three federal ministers and four federal ministers of states.

## **Due to conflicts between CPA parties Turabi says the South would most likely separate from the North**

*(Alwan)* In an interview with El Jazeera Arabic T.V yesterday, Leader of the Popular Congress Party (PCP) Dr. Hassan el Turabi, expressed the view that the South might choose to separate from the North as a result of conflicts between the two CPA partners (NCP/SPLM)

## **Authorities arrests 20 suspects accused of carjacking NGOs vehicles**

*(AlWihda)* Director of Police Criminal Department in South Darfur, Brig. Bakhiet Bashir Ibrahim, explained that the campaign which was carried out by the police in Kalma Camp was approved by the Office of the General Prosecutor. He said a detailed memo was prepared on this issue and given to the AU which has also approved the campaign. In his briefing to the UN agencies and civil society organizations operating in the state, Brig. Bakhiet explained the reasons behind carrying out the campaign in Kalma Camp. He said that there were so many criminals who live in the camp since 2005. He believes that the presence of criminals in the camp has resulted in the carjacking of NGO vehicles. He told representatives of UN agencies and civil society organizations that 20 suspects had been arrested.

## **EU welcomes Sudan's decision to revoke expulsion of envoys**

*(SudanTribune.com – 25 Aug. BRUSSELS)* The European Commission welcomed on Saturday the Sudanese government's decision to allow the Commission's Chief Representative in Khartoum to return to complete his tenure, which expires next month.

Following direct contact taken by EU Commissioner Louis Michel with Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir, "the Sudanese government has indicated that the European Commission's Head of Delegation is welcome to return to Khartoum to complete his mandate," said the European Commission, the executive arm of the European Union (EU).

The Commission also expressed its satisfaction that the matter was resolved positively and described the outcome as "an encouraging development, which will facilitate good and productive relations between Sudan and the European Commission."

Sudan revoked its Thursday decision to expel the European Commission's chief representative, Kent Degerfelt, and acting Canadian charge d'affaires Nuala Lawlor for engaging in activities Sudan considered interference in its internal affairs, after President al-Bashir accepted an apology from EU Commissioner Michel for mistakes made by Degerfelt, Sudan's *AlRai AlAam* daily reported on Saturday.

### **British Embassy in Sudan says closure was not politically motivated**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 25 Aug. KHARTOUM) The British Embassy in Khartoum dismissed reports saying that the temporary suspension of the consular service last week meant to encourage political instability in Sudan.

The embassy described as "totally baseless" recent articles in some local newspapers suggesting that our decision to temporarily suspend public services at the Embassy was politically motivated or designed to encourage instability in Sudan".

The UK mission said it took this step as precautionary measure due to an increased threat of terrorism in Khartoum.

The closure of the consular service at the UK embassy came after Sudanese police found three weapons caches in the capital during the past week. Police arrested eight Sudanese in connection with the stores, which mostly contained grenades and ammunition.

### **Sudan denies accusation of violating arms embargo in Darfur**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 25 Aug. KHARTOUM) The Sudanese government has denied an accusation by an international non-governmental group that Khartoum continued to violate a UN arms embargo in the conflict-torn western region of Darfur, Sudan's *AlRai AlAam* daily reported on Saturday.

Ali al-Sadig, the spokesman of the Sudanese Foreign Ministry, was quoted by the Arabic-language newspaper as saying that what had been reported by the London-based Amnesty International was "fabricated."

"The government has not violated any agreement on arms embargo," the spokesman stressed, adding that the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) had the rights of conducting movements in Darfur.

The United Nations imposed an embargo on the sale and delivery of arms to Darfur in July 2004 which was extended in March 2005.

A spokesman of the SAF told the newspaper that the equipment were being transported to Darfur routinely to enable the Sudanese army there to carry out its duties.

Accusing the Sudanese government of continuing to violate the UN arms embargo in Darfur on Thursday, the Amnesty International also urged the UN to give the future hybrid peacekeeping force in the region the authority to confiscate weapons from combatants.

In its report, the Amnesty International published photographs it said obtained from credible witnesses supporting the claim of arms embargo violations.

The photographs were taken in July and showed military shipments at the Sudanese army airport in the West Darfur state capital of El Geneina, according to the group.

### **Sudan must implement CPA - AU**

*(SudanTribune.com – 24 Aug. ADDIS ABABA)* The African Union (AU) appealed to the governments of Sudan and its semi-autonomous south on Friday to speed up the implementation of a 2005 peace deal designed to end two decades of war between the former foes.

The war between the Arabic-speaking Islamist government in Khartoum and the mostly Christian and animist black southern rebels killed two million people and displaced twice as many before the two sides signed a peace deal in January 2005.

The peace pact created a semi-autonomous southern authority, a national coalition government, separate north and south militaries and sharing of oil wealth — with the option of full independence for the south in a referendum by 2011.

But African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security Said Djinnit told reporters both sides had yet to put the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) into practice.

"The CPA implementation process continues to face serious challenges that need the full attention of both Khartoum and South Sudan, in reaching agreement over the oil revenue sharing and north-south border," he said.

South Sudan accuses Khartoum of failing to honour its side of the bargain — of not sharing revenues from the country's rich oil fields and renegeing on the border agreement, especially in the oil-rich province of Abyei, where tensions are rising.

"Lack of implementation by the government of Sudan on the demarcation of the south and north Sudan border... could bring the collapse of CPA," said Arop Deng Kol, a south Sudanese diplomat in Ethiopia.

Khartoum officials were not available for comment.

## **GoSS**

### **AU urges Oslo donors to honor financial pledge to South Sudan**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 25 Aug. ADDIS ABABA) The African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) appealed to the international community to fulfil its obligations promised at the Oslo donors conference for the financing of reconstruction and development projects in southern Sudan and to work towards helping Sudan by alleviating the burdens of foreign debts.

Ambassador Mohiddin Salim, Sudan's representative in the African Union, told the official SUNA following the conclusion of the AUPSC meeting in Addis Ababa on Friday August 24, regarding the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), that the Council called in its final statement on the African Ministerial Committee for reconstructing the south, to make their postponed visit to southern Sudan to look into the development and reconstruction process.

Salim pointed out that the statement emphasized the need for more efforts by both parties to the Convention to solve the pending problems between them according to the requirements of the agreement.

He indicated the Council's confidence in the parties to reach formulas and mechanisms to address problems, such as Abyei and the border demarcation between the North and South.

The Sudanese Ambassador noted that the meeting had heard a report by the African Union Commission presented by Said Djinnit, the African peace and security commissioner, about the implementation track of the Convention and a report from Telar Deng, the state minister at the presidency and head of Sudan's delegation to the meeting.

He added that a report was presented by Bernaba Benjamin, the minister for regional cooperation in the southern Sudan government, and that the meeting heard reports from the ambassador of Kenya at African Union, who is the current chairman of IGAD and South Africa as chairman of the African Ministerial Committee for the reconstruction of the south.

### **World focus on Darfur could hamper CPA - South Sudan**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 24 Aug. ADDIS ABABA) South Sudan's information minister voiced concerns Friday that the world focus on ending the conflict in Darfur could hamper the implementation of the peace deal between Khartoum and the south.

"The conflict in Darfur impacts the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in many ways," Samson Kwaje told AFP after a meeting of the African Union's Peace and Security Council on the implementation of the north-south accord.

"The money pledged is going towards that conflict, so are political support and political attention," he added.

In April 2005, the international community pledged 4.5 billion dollars (about 3.5 billion euros) for the reconstruction of southern Sudan, but government officials have said that little has trickled in.

The agreement signed in January 2005 ended two decades of fighting between Khartoum and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, which now sits in unity government with President Omar al-Beshir's party.

But the implementation of the deal has been dogged by persistent distrust between the former foes and mutual accusations of stalling on key points such as disputed border territories and the sharing of oil revenue.

Since the signing of the north-south peace deal, international attention has turned to the western region of Darfur, which has been mired in a deadly civil conflict since February 2003.

After months of intense diplomatic jockeying, the international community obtained Sudan's green light last month for the deployment of the world's largest peacekeeping mission in Darfur.

Following consultations earlier this month with Darfur's myriad rebel groups, plans are now afoot for a speedy resumption of final settlement talks.

But Kwaje warned that peace in the south and in Darfur were closely linked and that overlooking the former could negatively affect the latter.

"Darfurians believe the CPA is a model for stability. If it collapses, then there won't be peace in Darfur," he said.

The southern Sudanese minister singled out the oil-rich southern region of Abyei as a particular source of concern.

"Oil is being mined in the area but it is only benefitting the North. Our major concern is stability in Abyei, since there is no administration there," he explained.

AU Commissioner for Peace and Security echoed concerns over the Abyei region and also stressed that an effective implementation of the north-south peace deal would boost the chances of peace in Darfur.

"The implementation of the CPA would consolidate unity and stability in Sudan. We believe that it would provide a lasting solution not just for Sudan but also for the entire region," he told reporters after the meeting.

"We are concerned about the slow implementation, especially over Abyei, and the lack of funds coming over as pledged by countries," he added. "We encourage both sides to expedite their efforts because time is not on our side."



The meeting was attended by Daniel arap Moi, the former president of Kenya who was recently appointed a special mediator for the southern Sudan peace process.

A population census in Sudan is due to take place in April 2008 before elections take place, in compliance with the peace deal.

Southern Sudan is due to hold a referendum on self-determination three years later.

## **Darfur**

### **SLM Revolutionary Liberation Council reduces Minawi's powers**

(*AlRai AlAam*) There are indications of an imminent crisis within the SLM resulting from a decision reducing the powers of Mini Minawi issued by the SLM Revolutionary Liberation Council which met recently in ElFashir. SLM spokesperson, Saif el Din Salih Haroun said to AlRai AlAam that the Council has resolved to reduce Minawi's power in respect to appointments in constitutional portfolios and naming delegations representing SLM. AlRai AlAam has got information suggesting that Minawi has opposed this move.

### **IDPs warn Salim of entering their camps**

(*AlAyam*) The IDPs and Refugees Committee in Darfur IDP camps warned the AU envoy Salim Ahmed Salim, who is expected to visit Darfur, of entering their camps.

### **Darfur rebel leader demands inquiry on refugee camp raid**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 25 Aug. LONDON) The leader of a Darfur rebel faction sent a letter to the UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon demanding an international inquiry into a recent raid by Sudanese government forces on a refugee camp.

"The leader of a Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) faction of Ahmed Abdel Shafi called on the UN chief to establish an independent "Special Commission of Inquiry" into the incident.

Last week Sudanese forces surrounded and attacked Darfur's most volatile camp on Tuesday to flush out rebels they say are behind recent attacks on police.

The move on Kalma camp, home to 90,000 people, followed two attacks in the past week on police posts in South Darfur, one near Kalma and the other inside al-Salam camp. One policeman was killed and eight injured.

Abdel Shafi said that Darfuri refugees "find themselves continuously humiliated and terrorized in their safe haven camps".

"The UN has an obligation (according to the law) to protect IDPs and refugees" Abdel Shafi said in the letter.

Abdel Shafi's faction has been one of several groups to attend the Arusha Tanzania talks earlier this month aimed at uniting the Darfur rebels' political position.

During a meeting in Arusha, Tanzania earlier this month, most Darfur rebel factions agreed on a common platform to pave the way for final settlement talks with Khartoum.

However following the camp raids Abdel Shafi said his group was "reassessing" its commitment to the internationally-sponsored peace initiative.

Abdel Shafi said in his letter that the attack "raises more questions about the GoS [government of Sudan] true intention to resolve the Sudanese conflict in Darfur through peaceful means".

The Darfur conflict began in 2003 when an ethnic minority rose up against the Arab-dominated government in Khartoum, which then was accused of enlisting the Janjaweed militia group to help crush the rebellion.

### **Rebel JEM appeals on Security Council to debate over Darfur IDPs**

*(SudanTribune.com – 23 Aug. LONDON)* A Darfur rebel group has condemned the attack of Sudanese forces on Kalma camp in South Darfur. It also appealed the UN Security Council to convene a special session to discuss the situation of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Darfur camps.

Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) requested the international community to draw more attention to the situation of the IDPs in Darfur camps. "The Security Council should hold a special session on Darfur IDPs because the attack against Kalma camps transgresses international human rights law and international humanitarian law."

JEM spokesperson Ahmed Hussein Adam told Sudan Tribune that Kalma attack represents a clear violation of UN Guiding Principles of Internal Displacement.

Ahmed said the purpose of the attack was the destruction of the IDPs camp — because it serves as symbol of the plight of Darfur people — in order to close the dossier of Darfur. "Sudanese president al-Bashir, during his visit to Darfur last month, had directed and announced it publicly that IDPs camps should be cleared before the deployment of the hybrid troops." Ahmed said.

Sudanese forces surrounded and attacked Darfur's largest camp of Kalma on Tuesday 21 August to flush out rebels they say are behind recent attacks on police posts last week.

JEM spokesperson also invited all the Darfur rebel groups to coordinate action together in order to adopt a joint position on such sensitive issue.

Different rebel reports say that the assault against Sudanese police was organized to manage a pretext to attack Kalma camp in south Darfur.

African Union and United Nation three days after remain silent on the attack. "Their reports on the attack are needed to sort out who is really behind the assault against the police and to understand the real motivation of Kalma." Western diplomat said.

### **German Chancellor to discuss Darfur with China**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 25 Aug. BERLIN) German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Saturday she will discuss ways to combat human rights violations in Sudan's Darfur region when she visits China on the first leg of a trip to Asia starting this weekend.

Merkel, whose country currently chairs the Group of Eight, sets off Sunday on her visit to China and Japan, which also is meant to deepen economic ties and further the German leader's drive for action to fight global warming.

She made clear, however, that human rights also would be on the agenda. When she last visited China in May 2006, she said she had discussed the country's human rights record and called it an "important issue of bilateral dialogue."

"China has very close relations with Africa, and we naturally will speak about how we can combat the terrible human rights violations in Sudan, in the Darfur region," she said.

China has been accused of not doing more to stop the bloodshed in Darfur, where more than 200,000 people have been killed and 2.5 million others displaced since February 2003.

After resisting calls for intervention, China dispatched a special envoy and lobbied Sudan to accept a United Nations peacekeeping force.

### **Miscellaneous**

#### **Three killed and 37 injured in grenade explosion in Mandela (Omdurman)**

(*AlSahafa*) Three persons have been killed and 37 others have suffered injuries as a result of a grenade explosion in by a JIU personnel in Mandela area in Khartoum South.