

**UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN****UNMIS**Media Monitoring Report, 27 August 2007

(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:**➤ UN/ Agencies**

- Wali of South Kordofan issues decree expelling the Senior UN official in the state.

➤ GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)

- Sudanese military delegation ends Vietnam visit
- Niger's PM concludes visit in Sudan
- NCP criticizes SPLM for inviting ABC experts to visit Juba, considers invitation violation of the CPA
- South Kordofan seeks assistance from Khartoum to stop JEM infiltration in the state
- Authorities arrest head of Beja Congress in Port Sudan
- AlBashir: No rape or genocide in Darfur
- 64 of the leaders of the Eastern Front to arrive in Khartoum today
- Minister of Justice receives reports of investigation committee on Kajabr events
- HAC orders CARE country manager to leave the country within 27 hours

➤ GoSS

- SPLM objects to the expulsion of Canada, EU envoys from Sudan
- Lakes state minister defects from NCP to rejoin SPLM
- 721 killed and injured in clashes between Tarjam and the Abbala

➤ Darfur

- SLM al-Nur urges AU Salim to not complicate Darfur crisis
- AU envoy holds tempestuous meeting in Darfur
- Salim: October talks final for achieving peace in Darfur
- SPLM criticizes Abdul Wahid and says his demands cannot be realized

➤ Miscellaneous

- Canada condemns Sudan's expulsion of diplomat

Highlights

UN/ Agencies

Wali of South Kordofan issues decree expelling the head of the UN office in the State

(*AlWifaq*) The Wali of South Kordofan issued a decree expelling the Senior UN official in the State and ask for his replacement. Informed sources in the State revealed that the decision was made because of the bad treatment the State Government delegation and SAF HQ commander in the State received (from the UN officials) when they were intending to visit the areas affected by rains and floods using UN planes.

Stringent measures inside the UN part of Kadugli airport were taken against the delegation as some of its members didn't have IDs, sources said. The delegation waited for two hours at the airport. A UN official decided to overcome the problem but the Senior UN official objected to that. The delegation left the airport angry due to lack of cooperation from the side of the UN.

GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)

Sudanese military delegation ends Vietnam visit

(*SudanTribune.com* – 26 Aug. HCM City) Gen. Haj Ahmed El Gaily, Chief of Joint Staff of the Sudanese Armed Forces, left Ho Chi Minh City on 24 August, concluding an official friendship visit to Vietnam.

During the visit, Gen. Haj Ahmed El Gaily and his delegation were received by Deputy Prime Minister Truong Vinh Trong, Defence Minister Phung Quang Thanh, Vietnam News Agency said.

The Sudanese military delegation also hold talks with a delegation from the Vietnam People's Army (VPA), paid a courtesy visit to leaders of the commands of Military Zones 5, 7 and Navy Zone 3.

Niger's PM concludes visit in Sudan

(*SudanTribune.com* – 26 Aug. KHARTOUM) Niger's Prime Minister Seyni Oumarou Sunday concluded his two-day visit in Sudan, during which he discussed with Sudanese President Omer al-Bashir on the situation in Niger.

The official SUNA news agency quoted Sudanese Presidential Assistant Nafie Ali Nafie as saying that Oumarou discussed with al- Bashir the current situation in Niger and other issues of common concerns during their meeting.

He also conveyed to the Sudanese president a message from Niger's President Mamadou Tandja on the ways to strengthen the bilateral relations, said the report.

NCP criticizes SPLM for inviting ABC experts to visit Juba, considers invitation violation of the CPA

(Alwan) The NCP confirmed that it has not received any official notice on the invitation that the SPLM sent to ABC experts to visit Juba. An NCP leader, AlDirdeeri Mohamed Ahmed, explained that inviting the ABC experts without consultations with the NCP is a violation of the CPA. The NCP believes that the issue of Abyei should be left to the presidency to weigh four options agreed upon by the two parties in the joint NCP-SPLM meetings.

South Kordofan seeks assistance from Khartoum to stop JEM infiltration in the State

(AlSahafa) A government staff in AlSalam Locality, South Kordofan State was killed by a group affiliated to JEM, and five staff of the Forests Department were kidnapped and released later. The State government warned that ex PDF soldiers in the western part of the State were increasingly joining the movement, leading to increasing incidents of violence in areas adjacent to south and north Darfur.

Authorities arrest head of Beja Congress in Port Sudan

(AlSahafa) Security authorities arrested yesterday morning the Head of the Beja Congress Shaibah Dhirar from his home in Port Sudan and brought him by road to Khartoum. Member of the Beja Congress Central Committee, Dr. Mahmoud Ibrahim Osman, expressed the Beja Congress concerns in regard to the behavior of the security authorities towards Dhirar especially at this critical time which coincides with the return of the Beja Congress leaders from Asmara.

Mahmoud believes that this move will negatively impact the relationship between the Eastern Front and the Government. Mahmoud said he has made some contacts with the President of the Beja Congress in Asmara, Musa Mohamed Ahmed, to take appropriate action. He explained that he has managed to contact Dhirar through his mobile phone while the latter was on his way to meet the security leaders, who summoned him, in Khartoum.

Sources suggest that the reason behind arresting Dhirar is probably part of the efforts to bridge the differences between him and the Head of the organization who is expected to arrive today in Khartoum from Asmara. It should be noted that Dhirar has recently decided to withdraw the membership of the Beja Congress in the Eastern Front.

AlBashir: No rape or genocide in Darfur

(AlRai AlAam) President Bashir confirmed while addressing the Daawa Supreme Council yesterday that the last meeting of the council of ministers in Darfur proved that the allegations on rape and genocide in Darfur have no grounds, describing the meeting as the real beginning of the rehabilitation process and peace in Darfur. Meanwhile, Ahmad Abu Al Gasim, in charge of the dossier of unifying the non signatories revealed that SLM/ Shafie –Abakar- Unity factions will name in the meeting next week in Tripoli their representatives for the forthcoming negotiations. An invitation, according to Al Gasim, would be extended to Darfur leaders of all hue and cries.

64 of the leaders of the Eastern Front to arrive in Khartoum today

(*AlRai AlAam*) Deputy Head of the reception committee said 64 of the leaders of the Eastern Front, coming from Asmara will arrive in Khartoum today to implement the EPA. FVP Kiir will address the ceremony in the Friendship Hall.

Minister of Justice receives reports of investigation committee on Kajabr events

(*AlKhabar*) Kajabr incident investigation committee's report will be received today by the Minister of Justice after the committee finalized technical aspects of the report. The report will be submitted to the prosecutor general for study before taking the right decision.

HAC orders CARE country manager to leave the country within 27 hours

(*Sudan Vision*) The Humanitarian Affairs Commission (HAC) last Saturday rejected permission for completing the tenure of CARE Regional Manager to Sudan, Paul Parker, ordering him to leave the country within 72 hours.

HAC explained that delay in the country's Manager departure may subject him to legal measures pursuant to Sudanese immigration laws.

Authorized source informed Sudan Vision that Parker's dispatch of his duties was tainted with transgressions, including meddling into internal political and security affairs that have no connection with his mission as a country manager for voluntary humanitarian work.

The sources added that CARE Country Manager had previously sent a message to his office in Khartoum from Darfur stating that he expected conditions in Darfur region to deteriorate substantially, meanwhile predicting several dark scenarios for the situation in Darfur, in addition to undertaking visits and making remarks that are not in any way associated with the nature of his humanitarian work.

GoSS

SPLM objects to the expulsion of Canada, EU envoys from Sudan

(*SudanTribune.com* – 26 Aug. KHARTOUM) The Southern partners in Sudan's Government of National Unity expressed anger over the expulsion of western envoys last week.

Unidentified sources told daily Al-Hayat newspaper published in London that Sudan People Liberation Army (SPLM) protested the government's decision on the grounds that it was taken without consultation.

Sudan announced Thursday the expulsion of the European Commission's representative and the Canadian diplomat for "interfering" in the country's affairs due to unacceptable contacts with opposition leaders.

SPLM told their National Congress Party (NCP) counterparts that this is the second time a similar incident occurs since the expulsion of the top UN official in Sudan last year. Last year Sudan expelled Jan Pronk, the UN Secretary General Special Representative to Sudan for what they described as "exceeding his mandate". SPLM at the time condemned his expulsion.

Analysts say that NCP routinely bypasses SPLM when making decisions on issues relating to foreign policy.

The post of foreign ministry is occupied by an SPLM member Lam Akol. However Akol has grown increasingly unpopular among SPLM for his stances on Darfur that contradict with those of his movement.

However there are unconfirmed reports that Akol is due to be removed from his position in a cabinet reshuffle per SPLM request.

Lakes state minister defects from NCP to rejoin SPLM

(SudanTribune.com – 26 Aug. RUMBEK) The Lakes State minister of Agriculture has defected from the National Congress Party (NCP) and rejoined the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM). The minister was followed by 13 other members in his move.

Colonel Khamis Abellatif, the minister of the NCP in Lakes state government, announced in a public rally on Friday August 24 his decision to rejoin the SPLM. Other 13 leading regional members also announced their defection from the NCP.

The Governor of Lakes State Daniel Awet Akot and the SPLM Secretary General in the Lakes, Samuel Mathiang Kiir, welcomed Khamis's decision and hailed the move.

Sudan Tribune has learnt that Khamis had sent his resignation letter to the chairman of the NCP, Omer al-Bashir, and his deputy for political affairs, Nafie Ali Nafie, on August 22 while he was in Khartoum.

Minister of Agriculture and Animals resources, Khamis is also a colonel in the Sudan Armed Forces. After his resignation it is not clear if he can keep his ministerial post, however in accordance with the CPA, the NCP has to appoint another minister to replace him in the Lakes government.

Khamis had been widely known in the Lakes State when he had reigned from his position last year after divergences with the former governor of the Lakes John Lat. At that time he accused the former governor of corruption and delay of his plans to develop agriculture in the state.

721 killed and injured in clashes between Tarjam and the Abbala

(Allintibaha) A fact finding committee, established by peace and reconciliation committee in Darfur Transitional Authority revealed that the actual number of those killed is 471 and the number of the injured 250. The committee will submit its report to the head of the DTA who is expected to put in place a lasting solution to the problem.

Darfur

SLM al-Nur urges AU Salim to not complicate Darfur crisis

(SudanTribune.com – 26 Aug. LONDON) The leader of the rebel Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) has dismissed a call to rejoin Darfur talks process launched today by the

African Union envoy to Darfur. He urged him to not complicate the resolution of Darfur crisis

Commenting a statement by Salim Ahmed Salim during a visit to his birthplace town of Zalingei today, Abdul Wahid al-Nur urged the AU envoy to "not mislead the international community and increase the suffering of Darfur civilians."

Salim called today on Abdul Wahid al-Nur to join the AU-UN map road for peace in Darfur. However, he admitted for the first time al-Nur demand for security before talks but he portrayed it as an exaggeration by the rebel leader.

"I accept Abdul Wahid's position," he said. "(But) what I don't accept is to say that unless we have absolute security it is not worth it, because at the end of the day it is the negotiations which will ensure durable security."

Abdul Wahid said that Salim as broker of Abuja deal has to ask Khartoum to disarm the Janjaweed militia before inviting the non signatories to join this inexistent agreement. According to Abuja peace deal Sudan had to disarm the militia before October 15.

"The AU envoy should not turn a blind eye to the reality. I call him to not mislead the world or to complicate the current crisis and provoke more suffering for our people on the ground. If he is sincere in his will for peace in Darfur Salim has to ask Khartoum to disarm the militia, and to stop the resettlement of newcomers from Arab tribes from Chad and Niger." He also has to wait for the deployment of the international troops on the ground before the talks." He added.

Further the rebel leader said "I'm asking Khartoum to stop the violence before the talks." "We can't negotiate while Khartoum continues to impose its military solution." He also said that Salim has to realize the number of the killed or displaced persons in Darfur since May 2006, date of Abuja agreement.

Sanctions arms embargo violations

The rebel leader urged the UN Security Council to sanction Sudan's violation of arms embargo in Darfur following photos published by Amnesty International last week.

Adel Wahid said his movement has similar reports and can provide more on Sudanese government violation of the UN resolution 1591. "We have many evidences in this regard. The problem is that international community gives credibility only to international institutions or IONG." He said.

AU envoy holds tempestuous meeting in Darfur

(*SudanTribune.com* – 26 Aug. EL-GENEINA, Sudan) African Union envoy Salim Ahmed Salim, seeking support from west Sudan's Darfuris for a ceasefire and peace talks, had a stormy reception when he met community and tribal leaders on Sunday.

Some of those Salim met at the African Union base in the town of el-Geneina walked out, accusing him angrily of favoring rebel groups.

Salim was meeting leaders of the millions who have fled their homes during 4-1/2 years of conflict and live in miserable camps across Darfur — university professors, community workers and lawyers — and asking them how best to tackle peace talks due in October.

"We want to listen to you," was Salim's message as he missed a formal lunch to demonstrate his commitment to hearing their points of view.

Salim and his U.N. counterpart, Jan Eliasson, are trying to regain the confidence of the 4.2 million people displaced by the conflict and reliant on aid, and get all Darfur's population involved in the new talks.

Salim: October talks final for achieving peace in Darfur

(AlSahafa) AU envoy urged yesterday all parties connected to the conflict in Darfur to heed to the ceasefire in order to support peace talks scheduled in October. Any peace agreement must be agreed upon by all the Darfurians. Salim stated, following his meeting with West Darfur Wali, that the upcoming round of talks in October shall be the last talks to close Darfur file.

SPLM criticizes Abdul Wahid and says his demands cannot be realized

(AlWihda) SPLM strongly criticized the position of SLM leader Abdul Wahid calling to reopen negotiations on Abuja agreement. An SPLM leader, Dr. Lual Deng, Abdul Wahid's demands are impossible to achieve and not related to the people of Darfur due to his stay outside of Sudan. Lual acknowledged difficulties in unifying the rebel movements. Nevertheless, the SPLM is attempting to bring them together.

Miscellaneous

Canada condemns Sudan's expulsion of diplomat

(SudanTribune.com – 26 Aug. OTTAWA) Canada has no intention of apologizing for one of its diplomats after the Sudanese government expelled Ottawa's charge d' affaires, Foreign Minister Maxime Bernier said on Sunday.

"Canada condemns the Government of Sudan's decision to expel the charge d' affaires as this expulsion is entirely unjustified, and there is no question of Canada issuing an apology," Bernier said in a statement.

The Canadian diplomat, Nuala Lawlor, was instructed to leave Khartoum after Bernier tried without success to persuade his Sudanese counterpart to rescind the expulsion, Bernier said.

Sudan announced Thursday the expulsion of the European Commission's representative and the Canadian diplomat for "interfering" in the country's affairs due to unacceptable contacts with opposition leaders.

But on Saturday Sudanese officials invited the European envoy, Kent Degerfelt of Sweden, back.

Khartoum alleged Louis Michel, the European development commissioner, had apologized to Sudanese President Omar al-Beshir over the actions of the European envoy.