

**UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN****UNMIS**Media Monitoring Report, 03 December 07

(By Public Information Office)

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Highlights

UN/ Agencies

Sudan will not allow UN forces in Darfur to conduct night flights

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 2 Dec. KHARTOUM) The Sudanese government will not allow the proposed UN-AU force in Darfur to fly at night, a senior Sudanese official said.

Sudan Foreign ministry spokesman Ali Al-Sadig told the daily AlRai AlAam that Darfur airports are not properly lighted and as such planes will not be allowed to fly at night. Al-Sadig said that any issues regarding the deployment of the Darfur peacekeeping force should be discussed within the tripartite committee that includes the UN, AU and Sudan. **Read more** <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25017>

AU-UN Representatives discusses with GoS outstanding issues related to UNAMID

(*Sudan Vision*) A working session involving AU- UN Joint Special Representative (JSR) who is also the AMIS Head of Mission, Rodolphe Adada and the chairman of the GoS technical committee for the implementation of the Hybrid Operation and Under-Secretary of the Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Mutrif Sidiq, took place at the Ministry today.

It was attended by a number of officials from both sides that reviewed outstanding issues related to the smooth functioning of United Nations African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) as well as ways and means of addressing them.

The discussions focused particularly on land allocated to UNAMID in the Darfur States, the use of El-Fashir Airport during nighttime, speeding up the process regarding the release of communication equipments as well as the issue of the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA). In this connection, the two parties agreed to finalize SOFA on the basis of UN/AU proposals, which will be considered as a working document.

The JSR expressed the pressing need for solving all these outstanding issues at this critical phase since the AU, UN and GoS are committed to start the Hybrid Operation by end of this year in the best possible condition.

UN concerned about security and stability in Darfur: Holmes

(*Khartoum Monitor, The Citizen*) The United Nations under secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator John Holms said the UN is concerned about the security situation in Darfur region. He said this in a press conference held at the United Nations mission in Sudan (UNMIS) headquarters about his visit to Darfur last Friday.

Holms told journalists that Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) want security before returning to their home areas. He said that in Southern Darfur, met big numbers of IDPs in El Neem camp, home to some 50,000 people, who expressed a strong desire to return to their home areas, if security conditions were right and services were in place.

Holms stressed that the Government of Sudan, the UN and the African Union should cooperate to address this issue quickly before it worsens.

He hopes that the UN Secretary General is going to speed up deployment of UN/AU peacekeepers in the coming months to facilitate the humanitarian work in Darfur.

U.N. aid chief appeals for more help for Somalia

(*Reuters*) The United Nations' top aid official, John Holms, arrived in Somalia on Monday, calling for more to be done to help the Horn of Africa country where almost 6,000 civilians have been killed in fighting this year.

Flying in for a one-day visit, Holms was expected to press President Abdullah Yusuf and new Prime Minister Nur Hassan Hussein for help in getting aid to thousands of Somalis uprooted by fighting between government troops and Islamist insurgents.

On his second visit to Somalia this year, Holms was due to tour camps for internally displaced families between the capital and Afgoye some 19 miles away. He was also due to travel later to the southern town of Baidoa where the interim parliament sits.

GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)

SPLM to propose new reshuffle in Sudan government - Official

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 2 Dec. KHARTOUM) Sudanese First Vice President and Chairman of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), Salva Kiir Mayadrit, will propose a cabinet reshuffle in the government of National Unity, according to a senior SPLM official.

The official who spoke to Sudan Tribune on condition of anonymity said that Kiir is working on a final list of new ministers and will submit to Sudanese president Omar Hassan Al-Bashir. The official declined to elaborate on the nature and scope of the reshuffle, but he denied reports that Mansour Khalid, appointed as the minister of external trade, will be assigned the ministry of higher education.

Read more <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25013>

Police raids, forcefully evacuates Ethiopian refugees

(The Citizen) The police raided an Ethiopian refugee community in Khartoum, rounding up scores, and forcing them to relocate, the refugee said.

Yesterday, some of the Ethiopian Refugees called upon the international community to get more concerned about their status.

The complaints follow a patrol operation by the Sudanese police units, which the refugees accused of harassments. Ethiopian refugees claimed that the unit forced them to evacuate to the back of the UNCHR office.

Neither the police nor the UNHCR official concerned could be reached for comment by press time.

Surveys clear Sudan of Rift Valley Fever

(The Citizen) Sudan is almost clear of the Rift Valley Fever, the ministry of Animals and Fishery Resources yesterday announced. Ministry spokesperson said that the conclusion was arrived at after a number of surveys made in many states in collaboration with Ministry of Health.

Biong: Earlier oil revenues due to south from Abyei not allocated

(Sudan Tribune) Government of Southern Sudan Presidential Affairs Minister, Luka Biong said that oil revenues due to the South from Abyei had not been allocated. "Our estimate is that it may be nearly \$1 billion since 2005" he said. The Minister, who sites Abyei as the biggest obstacle north-south harmony, said UN monitors had been unable to fulfill their mandate in the area because access had been restricted by northern soldiers. No new proposal around the impasse from Khartoum has yet been acceptable, Biong said. "Whatever they are suggesting is just to take out the oil" he said.

2008 general state budget passed with SPLM reservations

(Sudan Tribune) The Cabinet of Ministers, chaired by President Omar Al Bashir, yesterday passed the FY 2008 general budget. Minister of Finance El Zubeir Ahmed El Hassan unveiled the budget's general features in a press conference at the cabinet headquarters. He was accompanied by SPLM representatives led by Dr. Luka Biong and Malik Aggar, who expressed their observations and reservations on the budget.

Mubarak al Fadil after release: I called on the President to release other detainees

(AlRai AlAam) The authorities have released yesterday the head of the Umma Party (Reform and Renewal), Mubarak al Fadil, who was accused together with 30 military and civilians of plotting a sabotage attempt against the government. Al Fadil was released by the Minister of Justice for lack evidence proving his involvement in the alleged sabotage attempt.

Vraalsen resigns from chairmanship of AEC

(*AlSahafa*) The Norwegian Ambassador Tom Vraalsen, the Head of the CPA AEC, has submitted his resignation to the GoS on the 1st of December. The GoS has accepted his resignation. Norway, the Chair of the AEC, is expected to nominate a replacement for Vraalsen. Vraalsen will hold a press conference today to highlight his report and achievements.

Clashes between SAF and civilians in Meram in South Kordofan

(*AlSudani*) A leader of the Miseriya tribe in South Kordofan said clashes were reported yesterday between a SAF force and a group from the Miseriya tribe in al Khdar area of al Meram Locality. Five people, 3 civilians and 2 soldiers, have been killed in the clashes. Other two SAF personnel were wounded. The Chief of the Miseriya Mukhtar Babo Nimir said the clashes occurred when some citizens objected to having the oil pipeline passes through their agricultural lands.

US\$ 536.1 Sudan oil revenues for October

(*AlSudani*) Sudan oil revenues for the month of October have mounted to US\$ 536.1 million. This is the highest monthly income from oil Sudan started exporting oil. The share of the GoSS is US\$ 208.3 million.

Saudi columnist calls verdict against British teacher in Sudan ‘shameful’

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 2 Dec. LONDON) A leading Saudi columnist slammed the Sudanese government and its judiciary for jailing a British teacher accused of insulting Islam for allowing her class to name a teddy bear Mohammad. “What happened in Sudan is shameful, embarrassing and a crime against Muslims worldwide” Abdel-Rahman Al-Rashid from the daily Al-Sharq Al-Awsat said in his editorial today.

The teacher Gillian Gibbons was sentenced to 15 days last Thursday after her class of seven-year-olds named a teddy bear Mohammad, the same name as Islam’s Prophet as part of a school project.

Sudanese officials have said that only the president can overrule the verdict describing the judicial system as independent from government influence. But Al-Rashid scathingly dismissed the independence of Sudanese judiciary.

Al-Rashid accused Khartoum of using the judiciary to intimidate the international community, namely Britain, over the Darfur peacekeeping force as well as against its opponents.

But some Sudanese think that Gibbons issue has been manipulated and that it was simply a misunderstanding. *Read more* <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25018>

Sudan pardons British 'teddy' teacher

(*Agence France-Presse*) Sudanese President Omar al-Beshir on Monday pardoned a British woman teacher jailed for 15 days for insulting religion by naming a teddy bear after the Prophet Mohammed, a presidential advisor said.

"She was pardoned thanks to the mediation of Lord Ahmed and Baroness Warsi. She will be released in about an hour," Mahjoub Fadl Badri told AFP.

Two British Muslim peers, Lord Nazir Ahmed and Baroness Sayeeda Warsi from the upper house of parliament were on Monday meeting Beshir at the Republican Palace after flying to Khartoum in order to secure a pardon.

Wearing a traditional white gown and turban, Beshir received the peers in a relaxed atmosphere at a plush room at the palace decorated with white gilt-upholstered sofas where reporters were briefly admitted.

The arrest and jail sentence of the 54-year-old mother of two sparked outrage in Britain and a diplomatic crisis between London and Khartoum, further straining relations already frayed over nearly five years of war in Darfur.

The British peers, who had been due to return home on Monday morning, delayed their departure at the last minute amid signs that their mission to secure Gibbons's release was gathering momentum.

Sudan's Committee of Muslim scholars said in a statement in the local press that Gibbons should not be released early because she was handed such a light sentence.

Being found guilty of insulting religion and inciting hatred in Sudan is punishable by up to six months in prison, 40 lashes and a fine.

Gibbons is said to have been well-treated during her incarceration, with the British peers giving an upbeat assessment after visiting her at the secret location where Sudanese officials say she was being held for her own safety.

Gibbons herself issued a statement obtained by Britain's Channel 4 News television saying she was being well looked after.

SPLM says Sudan security arrested cadre in Khartoum

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 2 Dec. KHARTOUM) The Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) last week slammed the arrest of one its leading members in Khartoum State, it further described the move as anti-constitutional.

In a statement issued on November 27, the SPLM said shocked by the arrest of Amar Najm Eddine al-Jak, the SPLM Secretary of Media and Culture for Khartoum State.

Deng Guj Aweil, SPLM Northern Sector spokesperson, said the security forces arrested Ammar on Friday 23 November in the morning at Khartoum airport while he

was on his way to Juba. Security service didn't state any reason for Ammar arrest, the SPLM said.

The former rebel movement said worried by the increase in arrests of SPLM cadres without substantive accusations.

Ministry of Interior said has Evidence of Trafficking S. Children by French Organization

(SMC) Ministry of interior said its has evidence to prove the existence of Sudanese Children amongst the children exposed to trafficking attempt committed by French organization named Zoe's Arik. It was noted that the Chadian authorities alleged there was no Sudanese amongst the abducted children.

Criminal investigation Department Chief Gen Abas Al Tahir told (smc) that witnesses have confirmed that the French organization received Sudanese children from their parents on allegation of providing education and treatment. Gen Al Tahir said the government should continue demanding the surrender of suspects including those who were set free. He said the ministry of interior should reactivate the claim presented against the French organization in collaboration with the ministry of foreign affairs and Interpol.

Parliamentarians in North & South Discuss Implementation of CPA

(SMC) A delegation from southern Sudan legislative council discussed today with states council means of implementing Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). Head of southern legislative council Gibrail Mathor Milak said the delegation represents all political colors in the south.

He said the delegation has come to deliver messages from the south that southerners reject war. Milak adds that the legislative institution in the south supports peace and the national unity.

On his part states council deputy speaker Abdallah Al Hardalo said he believes that the unity of the country could be maintained through exchanging of visits between the parliamentarians in north and south.

Sudanese government reviews position on oil revenue

(BBC Mon Suna website) In its regular meeting on oil revenues sharing, the Joint Committee for Oil Accounts, which includes the National Government and Government of Southern Sudan, has reviewed production position, prices, domestic use and exports and sharing of the return in accordance with the provisions of wealth-sharing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA).

The committee also reviewed the Oil Revenues Stabilization Account (ORSA) which registered 153.8m dollars in last October and the share of oil producing states which amounted to 9.56m dollars; 3.45m dollars for the Unity State, 4.04m dollars for Upper Nile State and South Kordofan State 2.07m dollars.

The committee attributed the increase of the revenues to the rise of the Dar Field production alongside receiving of three shipments of last August exports revenues.

USA hoping for Kenya's presence at Somalia, Sudan peace talks

(BBC Mon, Daily Nation website) The United States hopes Kenya will be able to join high-level talks this week on Somalia and Sudan, a senior Africa policy maker said on Friday [30 November].

"We hope Kenya will be there," Jendayi Frazer, the assistant secretary of state for African affairs, told reporters at a Washington briefing on Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's upcoming talks at African Union headquarters in Ethiopia. "Kenya is in the midst of an election campaign, a very close election campaign," Ms Frazer noted.

Secretary of State Rice is scheduled to arrive in Addis Ababa on Wednesday 5 December. Following talks with leaders of the Great Lakes countries, Ms Rice plans to hold a ministerial-level meeting on Somalia. In addition to Kenya's hoped-for participation, the talks will include officials from Somalia, Uganda, Djibouti, Ethiopia, the United Nations and African Union.

Secretary of State Rice will also discuss Sudan with the member states of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, IGAD. "These are the countries that were, in a sense, semi-guarantors of the CPA, having helped to negotiate it under Kenya's leadership," Ms Frazer said, referring to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement that ended 20 years of fighting in southern Sudan.

GoSS

Murle Tribe Demands Investigation of Bor Massacre

(Sudan Vision) Leaders of Murle tribe in Southern Sudan have asked the Government of the South to form a committee to investigate Jonglei State Governor on the massacre that took place in Bor, whose toll were some civil service leaders from Murle tribe and a number of patients in Bor Hospital.

A statement issued yesterday by Murle leaders demanded moving the wounded out of the Legislative Assembly headquarters to a safer location outside the regions of Dinka Bor for receiving medical treatment.

Informed Sources in Juba said the demand for investigation came after the Murle leaders accused Jonglei governor of being informed before hand of the incident, citing that, at a meeting that took place the night before the incident, the Minister of Finance in the Government of the South and Speaker of the Legislative Assembly had informed the governor of the intention of some Dinka members to provoke the Murles. "They know who did it," the source said, refusing to divulge more.

The source told Sudan Vision that the victims of the massacre included Al-Nashu, senior executive officer of Pibor District along with 11 members of Murle tribe and a number of the hospital's patients and their attendants.

SPLM Yay Joseph describes conflict between Dinka Bor and Murle as historical, denies SPLM involvement

(*Akhbar Alyaum*) The SPLM and Dinka Bor leader, Yay Joseph, denied allegations by Brig. Zawagin Niatti in which he accused SPLM of planning to commit genocide against the Murle tribe. He said the SPLM is not party to the conflicts between the Murle and Dinka Bor. The clashes which Brig. Niatti has referred to resulted from attempts by the Murle to loot Dinka Bor cattle. Yay explained that the conflicts between the two tribes are not new but have historically characterized their relationships.

Darfur

Chad rebels regroup and vow to fight Deby

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 2 Dec. N'DJAMENA) The Chadian army faced battles on two fronts in the east of the country against rebels who said Sunday they would step up their attacks on government forces.

The Union of Forces for Democracy and Development (UFDD) and the Rally of Forces for Change (RFC) said they are now coordinating their battle with the army in areas near Sudan's troubled Darfur region.

The UFDD has fought three major battles with the army since Monday, after a month old peace accord collapsed.

The situation was calm on Sunday but UFDD secretary general Abakar Tollimi told AFP: "We are currently regrouping. After three very intense battles our forces have to be reorganized." **Read more** <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25016>

Armed group attacks Kalma camp

(*AlSahafa*) An unidentified armed group attacked Kalma IDP camp in Nyala, the capital of South Darfur. According to eye witnesses the armed group attacked Centre 6 inside the camp at 1 am yesterday and terrorized the IDPs.

Sudan pledges to facilitate Darfur force, still maintains obstacles

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 2 Dec. KHARTOUM) Sudan has vowed to facilitate preparation for the deployment of a 26000 peacekeeping force in Darfur; but Khartoum still shows opposition to some important facilities.

Jean-Marie Guehenno, chief of the UN peacekeeping unit on November 27, told the Security Council that obstacles raised by Sudan ranging from rejection of non-African troops, failure to provide land and operational restrictions on the force meant the mission's viability was in doubt.

In a meeting held Sunday at the foreign ministry with Rodolphe Adada the AU-UN Joint Special Representative for Darfur, Mutrif Sidiq, head of the Sudanese

government technical committee for the implementation of the Hybrid Operation pledged to allocate the necessary land for UNAMIS in Geneina and Zalingei.

He also agreed to expedite the release of all communication equipments from customs before the end of the week.

UNAMID had not received allocated land in El-Geneina and Zalingei regions in Darfur. The Sudanese government also impounded UNAMID communications equipment for weeks. *Read more* <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25005>

Darfur peace mediators, regional partners to meet in Egypt

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 2 Dec. KHARTOUM) Darfur peace envoys will meet the regional partners in the on going political process to end the 4 1/2 years conflict next week in Egypt.

The African Union and United Nations Special Envoys for Darfur, Salim Ahmed Salim and Jan Eliasson, will meet Regional Partners of the Darfur Peace Process: Chad, Egypt, Eritrea, and Libya, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on Tuesday 4 December 2007.

"The purpose of the meeting is to brief the Partners on the latest developments, to undertake a joint appraisal of the second phase of the Sirte Process, and to agree on a common approach on the way forward." The mediation said in a press statement.

Darfur relief to cost \$825 million in 2008 - UN

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 2 Dec. KHARTOUM) The costs of humanitarian operations in Darfur during 2008 are estimated at US\$825 million, the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator, John Holmes, said in the Sudanese capital Khartoum.

The Sudan Work Plan, to be launched on 11 December, includes UN and some non-governmental organizations' activities and goes beyond humanitarian relief to embrace "early recovery" and development projects.

For the whole country, the 2008 Sudan Work Plan will come with a US\$2.2 billion price tag. The humanitarian component for the appeal for 2007 was \$1.8 billion, of which, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), one billion US\$ has been received for projects across the country.

Read more <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25010>

Joint AU-UN commander says ready to defend hybrid forces in Sudan

(*BBC Mon, Akhir Lahzah*) The commander of the joint [African-UN] force for Darfur, Gen Martin Luther Agwai, has announced their readiness to defend any peace-keeping mission that comes as part of the hybrid forces.

Speaking to the press following a three-hour long meeting with the UN secretary-general's envoy for humanitarian affairs in Darfur, John Holmes, Agwai asserted that the joint-forces would defend the hybrid forces, particularly the Chinese troops after

the armed rebels threatened them. He further revealed a phone call he received from the [Darfur rebel] Justice and Equality Movement saying that they would attack the Chinese troops because it supports the government's policies.

Luther expressed optimism that the rest of the hybrid force would be deployed after one month from now. He pointed out that 9,500 of the hybrid force was already on the ground and said that Darfur would witness a security turbulence and the people would be frustrated if the hybrid forces were not deployed.