



Local News Headlines

- Troops deployed in Southern Kordofan not targeting SPLA, Government (*Al-Sudani*)
- SPLM reiterates commitment to upcoming elections (*Dailies, Radio Miraya*)
- Looming crisis between NCP and SPLM over ICC (*Al Raed*)
- Dinka-Misseiriya Conference calls for countering rumors (*Dailies*)
- SAF warns Darfur armed groups of exploiting ceasefire declaration (*Al-Raed*)
- SLM-Minnawi rejects amendment of Abuja Agreement (*Dailies*)
- Darfur Compensations Commission opens account in Central Bank (*Sudan Vision*)
- Tripartite Mechanism to meet next January (*Dailies*)
- Fourteen members of Darfur tribe killed in armed attack (*Al-Ra'y al-Amm*)
- Sudanese opposition warns of "another Darfur" in Southern Kordofan State (*Al-Sahafa*)
- New radio station specialized in police affairs to be launched (*Al-Sahafa*)

Websites / International Headlines

- Darfur rebel faction sacks chief after commander's death in South Sudan (*ST*)
- SPLM ready to run for Sudan's 2009 elections (*ST*)
- Sudanese President flies to Saudi Arabia to Perform Hajj (*ST*)
- Sudan militiamen kill local chief in Darfur camp – rebels (*ST*)
- SPLM urges Sudanese government to cooperate with ICC (*Radio Miraya FM*)
- Darfur's Minnawi calls on Sudan to cooperate with ICC (*ST*)
- Sudanese businessmen send aid to Darfur (*SUNA*)
- New administrator of Abyei says security situation in area "fifty-fifty" (*SRS*)
- Ugandan government rejects new demands by rebel leader (*New Vision*)
- HIV/AIDS counselling, testing centre opens in south Sudan capital (*Radio Miraya FM*)
- Sudan: Gunmen attack aid workers in Darfur (*AKI*)

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.

Highlights

Local News Headlines

Troops deployed in Southern Kordofan not targeting SPLA, Government assures (Al-Sudani) - The government had sent strong assurances to the SPLA troops in Jawa area, Southern Kordofan State that the deployment of the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) troops meant to secure the State and deter any attempts by JEM to extend operations in the region.

The Sub-Committee on the Enforcement of Security Arrangements in the States of South Kordofan and Blue Nile reaffirmed that these statements are destined to develop tensions between the SAF and SPLA.

Head of the Sub-Committee and Governor of Blue Nile State Malik Aggar stated that the Sub-committee, in its visit to Jawa area, had been assured on the deployment of SPLA troops to the south of 1956 borders line. He pointed out to some difficulties related to the SPLA camp in Jawa, adding that they would relocate the camp to another area 11 Km from Jawa.

Yesterday's *Al-Ray-Al-am* daily newspaper and *Sudan Tribune web site* reported that SPLM condemned the Sudanese army for deploying troops in southern Kordofan saying the move constitutes a breach of a peace deal signed in 2005.

The SPLM spokesperson, Yein Mathew told reporters in Juba that Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) had deployed more than six battalions in the past three weeks in the province of Southern Kordofan. He further added that SAF informed Juba that the purpose of the troop build-up is to repel an eventual attack by the rebel JEM in the area.

But Matthew underscored that such military operation could be carried by the Joint Integrated Units, which are supposed to be the nucleus of the future Sudanese national army if the result of the 2011 referendum is for the unity of the country.

Matthew said this troop build-up was a clear violation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement that ended more than two decades of war in southern Sudan.

SPLM reiterates commitment to upcoming elections

(Dailies, Radio Miraya) - The SPLM reiterated its commitment to upcoming national elections to be held at its specified time in accordance with the CPA.

The SPLM spokesperson, Mr. Yein Matthew Chol told reporters after ending the Southern Sudan Youth Parliamentarians yesterday in Juba that the position of the SPLM party is that elections should take place in scheduled time as stated in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.

He also mentioned that the sessions discussed many issues such as the public consultations, Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan and Abyei's referendum and ICC crisis.

On Southern Kordofan, he added that differences among Nivasha partners in the region have increased tensions and called on them to look into situation before it is too late.

Looming crisis between NCP and SPLM over ICC

(Al Raed) – The NCP strongly criticized its partner the SPLM over the statement made by its Secretary General Pagan Amum on which he called for cooperation with the ICC. The NCP described the position announced by the SPLM official as anti- national and against the decisions of the Council of Ministers and the Parliament. A leading figure in the NCP stated that “Pagan is always leading the country towards crisis”

Dinka-Misseiriya Conference calls for countering rumors

(Dailies) - The reconciliation conference between Dinka and Misseiriya concluded in Abyei yesterday with proactive session including tribal leadership, native administration as well as representatives of the UN Mission and the joint forces.

Deputy Administrator of Abyei Rahama Al-Nur noted that the conference came up with recommendations that stipulated Misseiriya commitment to respect the old nomadic routes and to ensure they would not access private farms in some villages. He pointed out that the conference recommended establishing special committees to monitor the situation jointly with Sheikhs, Mayors and villages leadership to prevent violations.

Recommendations called for the two parties to set up joint committees to prepare for comprehensive conference including all neighboring tribes in other states and formation of a committee to promote awareness of the agreement at the village level.

The conference stressed the importance of countering rumors, disinformation and propaganda that could escalate tensions among area’s population groups. The conference also called on government to speed up repatriating IDPs to their original villages.

SAF warns Darfur armed groups of exploiting ceasefire declaration

(Al-Raed) - SAF warned of providing any military support to Darfur armed groups and confirmed SAF’s readiness to repulse any possible attacks by rebel groups in the three states of Darfur.

A high ranking source in the office of the Military spokesperson said the armed forces abide by the ceasefire declaration but that it should not be exploited by any party to provide support to the armed groups in Darfur.

The source pointed out that they monitored the military support provided to JEM via southern states to a camp near Raja, Western Bahr Al Ghazal State.

SLM-Minnawi rejects amendment of Abuja Agreement

(Dailies) - The Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM)-Minnawi’s faction said that it would not hold out on any rights stipulated in the Abuja Peace Agreement. SLM spokesperson Saif Al-Din Haroon told *Radio Miraya FM* that “any negotiations between the Government and the Darfur armed movements should not be at the expense of the Abuja Agreement.” Haroon added that “the Government should think of other options as grounds of negotiation with the Darfur movements.”

Darfur Compensations Commission opens account in Central Bank of Sudan

(Sudan Vision) Compensation Commission in the Darfur Regional Interim Authority announced it has begun to set up a special account in Central Bank of Sudan. The Commission said an amount of SDG40 million (US\$20m) would be available for implementation of the President's pledges.

A committee including representatives of GoNU, IDPs, Refugees, national administrations, civil society organizations, women and children, political forces, and a representative from the Abuja signatories has been formed.

Compensations will be distributed in response to the committee's decisions and according to the financial and legal procedures set for the purpose.

The Commission is conducting wide consultations amongst Darfur people to start its mission besides its efforts to attract more funds from the local, regional, international charity institutions to upgrade the funds for the affected persons.

(Ajrad Al Hurriya) reports the Humanitarian Aid Commissioner Hassabu Mohamed Abdelrahman stated that compensation would be distributed in the villages but not in the camps. Hassabu revealed that the Sudanese Businessmen Federation pledged to set-up three model villages for returnees, one in each of Darfur three states.

(SUNA) reports the Association launched Saturday humanitarian aid convoy to North Darfur State in the context of the national efforts for the voluntary return programme. Minister of Finance and National Economy and chairman of the higher committee for supporting Darfur Dr. Awad Ahmed Al-Jaz pointed out that the support convoy is the second one to be staged by the Federation. The first convoy went to West Darfur. The third will go to South Darfur.

Tripartite Mechanism to meet next January

(Dailies) – The Tripartite Mechanism between Sudan, UN and AU will hold its fourth meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in the second week of next January to review the implementation of parties' commitments made at last November is meeting in Khartoum.

Fourteen members of Darfur tribe killed in armed attack

Al-Ra'y al-Amm, 4/12/08 -- Fourteen members of the Habbaniyah tribe were killed and another eight were injured when a group travelling on horseback and in vehicles whose roofs had been removed and who were armed with heavy artillery launched an attack on Al-Nadhif area, part of Buram locality, in southern Darfur.

Sudanese opposition warns of "another Darfur" in Southern Kordofan State

Al-Sahafa, 4/12/08 -- Faruk Abu-Isa, a leading member of the National Democratic Alliance has told *Al-Sahafa* of growing opposition concerns about potential violence in South Kordofan State and of the state becoming another Darfur. The opposition also called on the NCP and the SPLM, to be sensible and prudent in order to avoid the state plunging into more conflicts.

New radio station specialized in police affairs to be launched

Al-Sahafa, 4/12/08 -- Sahirun 99.6 FM, a new FM station specializing in police affairs and security awareness is soon to be launched. The 24/7 station aims to establish communication with citizens in order to consolidate and enforce security within the community and safeguard the established values and traditions within the Sudanese society. Transmission will cover all parts of Khartoum State with a view to expansion to cover all of country's states in the years to come.

Websites / International Headlines

Darfur rebel faction sacks chief after commander's death in South Sudan

Sudan Tribune website, 6/12/08 (NAIROBI) — An SLM faction has suspended its chairman Ahmed Abdel Shafi following the killing of its chief commander [Abdel Karim] in southern Sudan and has appointed Minni Minawi's former political adviser, Ibrahim Ahmed Ibrahim, interim chairman for three months. The SLM press announcement did not accuse Abdel Shafi of killing Abdel Karim but did call on the GoSS to arrest Abdel Shafi and to restrict him to the south until a GoSS investigation into the circumstance of the murder of Abdel Karim is completed and those responsible are brought to trial.

SLM-Abdel Shafi comprises rebel dissidents from the Minawi group who rejected the Darfur Peace Agreement and a breakaway group from the Abdel Wahid Al-Nur-led movement, also opposed to signing the DPA. Ahmed Abdel Shafi, who was chief commander of the SLA-AW, formed his group from Asmara in August 2007, and is considered close to the SPLM. (ST)

SPLM ready to run for Sudan's 2009 elections

Sudan Tribune website, 6/12/08 (JUBA) – SPLM has reaffirmed its readiness to run for the 2009 elections as per the CPA schedule, according to a press statement issued Friday in Juba. The SPLM higher political organ also called for the National Council to extend its current session until all the laws relating to democratic transition in the country particularly the national security law and the press and publications law have been revised. In addition, it called for immediate cessation of press censorship, detention and torture. (ST)

Sudanese President flies to Saudi Arabia to Perform Hajj

Sudan Tribune website, 6/12/08 (KHARTOUM) -- President Al-Bashir flew to Mecca today to perform the rituals of Hajj, the first time he has done so in several years. [The pilgrimage occurs from the 8th to 12th day of Dhu al-Hijjah, (6 to 10 December).] (ST)

Sudan militiamen kill local chief in Darfur camp - rebels

Sudan Tribune website, 6/12/08 (EL-FASHER) — The Sudan Tribune reports government-backed janjaweed militia killed a local chief at Hassa Hissa camp, near Zanlinge in West Darfur state, where a militiaman died last week following a quarrel with residents from the camps. Musa Abakr Posh was killed on Saturday in his house inside the camp, his son Al-Fadil told Sudan Tribune.

SLM leader Abdel Wahid Al-Nur told Sudan Tribune that Posh had devoted his life to serving the interest of the people of Darfur since the onset of the conflict and that his killing proved Khartoum is not serious about the unilateral ceasefire. (ST)

SPLM urges Sudanese government to cooperate with ICC

Radio Miraya FM website, 6/12/08 -- SPLM Political Bureau has called on the NCP to cooperate with the ICC to prevent any confrontations between Sudan and the international community. Spokesperson Yen Matthew Chol told a press conference in Juba that the SPLM has also demanded the National Interim Assembly not to go on recess before enacting bills which are crucial for free and fair elections. Chol added that the SPLM has expressed worries over nine bills pending and that if those bills are not passed it might create a big problem. He said the SPLM position is that elections should take place as scheduled in the CPA. Meanwhile, NCP says the decision not to cooperate with the ICC is that of the Council of Ministers and the National Interim Assembly and not just the NCP alone.

Darfur's Minnawi calls on Sudan to cooperate with ICC

Sudan Tribune website, 4/12/08 Khartoum — Sudan's senior presidential assistant Minni Arcua Minnawi urged the government to cooperate with the ICC. In an interview with independent Darfur Radio Dabanga to be broadcast next week, Minnawi said: "Sudan as member of the UN should respect the ICC and defend its case at the ICC". "The law is above everyone. Anyone not respecting the law has to be punished" he added. (ST)

Sudanese businessmen send aid to Darfur

SUNA website, 6/12/08, Khartoum -- The Sudanese Businessmen Federation sent a humanitarian aid convoy to Northern Darfur State on Saturday, part of national efforts for the voluntary return programme. Minister of Finance and National Economy and chairman of the higher committee for supporting Darfur, Dr Awad Ahmad al-Jaz, pointed out that this is the second support convoy staged by the federation. The first went to western Darfur; the next will be to southern Darfur. Humanitarian Aid Commissioner Hasabu Muhammaad Abd-al-Rahman pointed out that the Federation has pledged to build three model villages for returnees, one in each Darfur state. .

New administrator of Abyei says security situation in area 'fifty-fifty'

Nairobi-based **Sudan Radio Service**, 4/12/08 (Khartoum) -- New Abyei Administrator Brig-Gen Arop Beyar Mayar [Arop Monyyak] says the security situation in Abyei is gradually improving. Speaking to journalists in Khartoum on Thursday at a forum organized by the **Ra'y Al-Sha'b** daily newspaper, Arop noted that his administration had presented a 285 million SDG (\$142.5m) budget for 2009 to the Presidency this week. Referring to the problems of the emergency budget for the August-December 2008 period, he noted that the Presidency had promised seven Toyota Land Cruisers and 2 million SDG (\$1m) so that the Abyei Interim Administration could start work, yet neither had materialized. He described the security situation in the area as "fifty-fifty", saying that people come to town in the morning but depart again by evening. He cited the fact that some like the Missiriyyah, continue to carry weapons when grazing their animals in the area, as contributing to insecurity.

Ugandan government rejects new demands by rebel leader

New Vision website, Kampala, 4/12/08 -- The [Ugandan] government has rejected LRA leader Joseph Kony's new demands and urged him to sign the final peace agreement before anything else can be addressed. A source said Kony's demands were "out of this world". "Either he is deliberately doing that to remain in the bush or he is not mentally upright."

According to the report, Kony asked UN envoy former Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano to condemn what he called consistent attacks by the SPLA, the Congolese army and

MONUC, the UN peacekeepers there, on his forces in the national park. He also wanted the peace process restarted "because the initial talks are dead" and he was unwilling to sign the peace deal before ICC warrants are withdrawn.

Kony indicated he wants Prime Minister, Prof Apolo Nsibambi, on the government peace team.

HIV/AIDS counselling, testing centre opens in south Sudan capital

Radio Miraya FM, 4/12/08, Juba -- A health centre for voluntary counselling and testing of HIV/AIDS and other STDs was opened in Juba yesterday. It was set up with funding from ADRA, UNDP and the central Equatoria state Ministry of Health.

Sudan: Gunmen attack aid workers in Darfur

Darfur, 5/12/08 (**AKI**) - Two gunmen equipped with assault rifles and a hand grenade stopped a humanitarian convoy in the Darfur region, beat up the aid workers and stole money in the latest of a long series of such assaults that are impeding relief operations, the United Nations reported.

The non-governmental organisation convoy of three vehicles with six local staff was stopped in South Darfur on its way from Nyala, the provincial capital, to the Kalma camp, UNAMID said in a statement.

“Although the workers complied without resistance to demands for money, the attackers assaulted them up before leaving the scene,” it added “Three out of the six workers were reportedly severely beaten and taken to the local hospital, where their condition is listed as stable and non life-threatening.”

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.unmis.org

United Nations Mission In Sudan - Public Information Office

Address: UNMIS Headquarters, P.O. Box 69, Ibeid Khatim St, Khartoum 11111, SUDAN

Phone: (+249-1) 8708 6000 - Fax: (+249-1) 8708 6200