

**UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN****UNMIS**Media Monitoring Report, 11 December 07

(By Public Information Office)

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Highlights

UN/ Agencies

UN envoy aggravates tribal divisions in Darfur – rebel leader

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 9 Dec. PARIS) The UN envoy is undertaking a dangerous enterprise to broaden tribal divisions in the war-torn region of Darfur, a rebel leader said.

In a statement to Sudan Tribune related to the visit of the UN envoy to Darfur, the Sudan Liberation Movement leader, Abdelwahid al-Nur, said that Jan Eliasson after the failure of Sirte talks is now attempting to encourage tribal divisions among Darfurians.

Jan Eliasson is on a trip to Darfur to press key rebel leaders to join the talks. He also met with different tribal leaders to take part in the peace process. He also visited the Fur and Al-Hutiya tribes to encourage them to be represented in the peace process.

Al-Nur said the UN envoy during his current visit to Darfur visited different tribes promising to associate them in the peace process.

"He tried to divide Darfur movements and bring them to the table of negotiations in Sirtes, but this policy has failed. So now after this failure he goes to Darfur addressing the tribal leadership promising them direct participation in the talks." Al-Nur said.

The rebel leader regretted that the UN envoy is playing now in the camp of Sudanese government. "Eliasson is simply implementing the policy of divide and conquer exactly like Khartoum government." He added.

"If he wants to realize peace in Darfur he should play a positive role in the peace process.

"He has to respect the live of Darfur people who just want security on the ground, and this can be realised the deployment of Darfur troops, and the disarmament of the militias." Al-Nur said. *Read more* <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25107>

UN urges international community to extend aid for reconstruction in south Sudan

(*BBC Mon Sudan Radio Service*) The United Nations Mission in Sudan [UNMIS] is appealing to the international community to provide 300m US dollars for the reconstruction and development of southern Sudan.

Addressing a press conference in Juba on Thursday [6 December], the head of UNMIS, [United Nations Coordinator for Humanitarian Affairs in Sudan] David Gressly, said that donors are expected to pay more than 780m US dollars as part of the Southern Sudan Development Fund for 2008.

Mr Gressly said that in the last two years, the UN has not done much development work in the region due to lack of funds.

However, he said the mission will construct highways to connect Wau, Malakal and Juba next year.

In other news, the head of UNMIS said that they will work together with the Government of Southern Sudan and UNHCR to repatriate refugees from Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia by January next year. He further said that they will assist returnees with shelter, clean water and education.

Minister of Social Welfare, Women and Child Affairs accuses UN agencies of complicity in abduction of Darfur children

(*AlSudani*) The Minister of Social Welfare and Woman and Child Affairs, Samia Ahmed Mohamed, has accused some of the UN agencies of complicity in the issue of the Darfur and Chad children who have been abducted by a French NGO. She said in a press conference yesterday that the Ministerial Committee has sent memos to UNHCR and the Red Cross asking them to reunify the children with their families. The Minister explained that they have done this despite the fact that these agencies have contributed more or less to the problem.

GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)

Sudan president appoints new advisor and six state ministers

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 10 Dec. KHARTOUM) Sudanese president Omer al-Bashir has reshuffled the government of the national unity appointing one presidential advisor and six new state ministers.

The reshuffle was limited to the ministers of the governing National Congress Party. The decrees included appointment of al-Sadiq al-Hadi Abdelrahman al-Mahdi as presidential advisor besides another decree appointing the following states ministers:

- 1- Kamal Mohamed Obeid as State Minister at the Ministry of Information and Communications, to replace Farah Ibrahim Aggar.
- 2- Al-Sadik Mohamed Ali Hasaballah as State Minister at the Ministry of Finance & National Economy, to replace Ahmed al-Majzoub.
- 3- Al-Fatih Mohamed Saeed as State Minister at the Ministry of Transport, Road & Bridges.
- 4- Salah Ali Adam as State Minister at the Ministry of Health, to replace Al-Fatih Mohamed Saeed.
- 5- Amin Hassan Omer as State Minister at the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports to replace Abdelgadir Mohamed Zain

6- Eissa Bushra Mohamed as State Minister at the Ministry of Science and Technology, to replace Salah Ali Adam .

This is the first important reshuffle in the ministers of the National Congress Party since the formation of the government of the national unity on September 20, 2005. The SPLM is expected to reshuffle its ministers the next weeks after the resolution of the current political crisis between the two peace partners.

Read more <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25117>

Journalist jailed and injured as ex-soldiers' riot enters day 3

(The Citizen) A journalist was arrested last evening as he covered the riots by ex-soldiers and students at a university of Khartoum.

The Citizen Intern Moses Deng Ngong was arrested by the security forces.

Deng called the newspaper last night to say that he was at a military base in Khartoum. He said that he was beaten and kicked by boot on his body and slashed on his back. He said there were no other journalists with him. He said some of the rioting students were also held at the military base.

Former members of Sudanese Armies Forces in Khartoum started rioting in Khartoum on Saturday, according to an earlier story filed by deng.

The soldiers closed off roads in the state for nearly tow hours. About tow thousand soldiers took the streets in Khartoum State. The soldiers said the government had not paid them. The soldiers were retired from the military because of overage and disability.

Kiir promises a country free of aids, corruption

(The Citizen) First vice President Salva Kiir has asked law makers to expedite laws that would empower the anti-corruption commission to nip the vice in the bud.

“Mr. Corruption is a very strong animal” Kiir said, adding that the semi-autonomous government needed to develop possible measures now, if it was to emerge victorious in the fight against the virus” Kiir’s statement Sunday followed a request by the Chairperson of Southern Sudan Anti-Corruption law as a provisional measure.

Complete agreement between two CPA partners, Kiir leaves for Addis tomorrow

(AIRai AIAam) the NCP-SPLM six-member committee has yesterday completed its mission with full agreement on disputed issues. The committee will submit its report and recommendations today to the presidency. According to the NCP co-spokesperson of the committee al Dirdeeri Mohamed Ahmed, the committee has prepared draft resolutions for the Presidency.

The committee has also reached an understanding on Abyei based on a proposal presented by the SPLM.

Meanwhile, the FVP and GoSS President Salva Kiir is expected to leave tomorrow Addis Ababa on a three-day official visit to Ethiopia.

Population census mid April, not 2 February

(*AlAyam*) The National Population Census Council announced yesterday that the census will begin mid April, not 2 February as planned earlier. The Chairman of the National Statistics Bureau, Prof. Awad Haj Ali, said the population census will cover all parts of Sudan, including the IDP camps in Darfur. He said the Council will cooperate with the UNHCR to collect information on the Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries.

Kiir appeals to al Bashir to pardon northern political detainees

(*Sudan Tribune*) President of the Government of South Sudan Salva Kiir, has today appeal to President Omar el Bashir to pardon and release all political detainees in Sudan's as a gesture of good will and Sudan's commitments towards promoting human rights.

It is unfortunate that as we celebrate the 59th Anniversary of Universal Human Rights for the second time in southern Sudan, there are innocent people languishing in unlawful detention in Sudan prisons, remarked Kiir. Addressing huge crowd at Juba Football stadium, President Kiir called on southern Sudan law enforcing agencies and the courts to take lead in prompting human rights by administering fairness to people awaiting trial. He added that GoSS has the obligation to respect and promote human rights to its citizens.

Ministry of Federalism Holds Peace & Development Conference in Red Sea

(*SMC*) Peace and development conference kick off yesterday in Port-Sudan the capital of Red Sea State. The conference was organized by federalism ministry in collaboration with Red Sea State. Ministers of physical planning in the states beside some concern federal ministries are participating in the conference. The fathering however was organized mainly for exchanging experiences on development and service projects between the states and Red Sea.

Asmara and Khartoum accused of deporting Eritrean from Sudan

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 10 Dec. NAIROBI) An Eritrean human rights group has accused the governments of Sudan and Eritrea of working together to round up and deport Eritreans who have sought refuge from Eritrea's authoritarian government, the VOA reported.

The Netherlands-based Eritrean Research and Documentation Center says Eritrean security forces are illegally monitoring Eritrean refugees, many of whom it says defected from the Eritrean Air Defense forces.

In a letter to the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, Antonio Guterres, the group says Sudan has allowed Eritrean intelligence agents to kidnap some of the refugees

and return them to Eritrea. It listed 22 people with refugee status who it said were in imminent danger, and one may have already been deported.

Spokesmen for the Eritrean and Sudanese governments did not return phone calls seeking comment about the case. But if the allegation is true, it would not be the first time that Sudan has been accused of forcibly returning refugees back to their home countries in violation of international law.

Read more <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25120>

INTERVIEW: Sudan opposition leader says ruling party under pressure

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 9 Dec. KHARTOUM) A Sudanese opposition recently released after four months of detention, said that the government is under intense pressure domestically and internationally.

Mubarak al-Fadil, leader of the Umma Reform and Renewal told Sudan Tribune that Sudanese authorities knew that there was no evidence against him but wanted to extend his detention time for political reasons.

The former presidential assistant was arrested along with a number of retired army generals, including retired general Mohamed Ali Hamid, who worked as deputy director of security in the late eighties, as well as former minister of tourism, Abdel-Jalil al-Basha.

The opposition leader said that the crisis in Sudan are stemming from the unwillingness of the National Congress Party (NCP) of honoring the agreements they sign. He further said that the crisis between the NCP and SPLM is a result of this strategy.

Al-Fadil said that the deadlock between the SPLM and NCP is primarily over the control over oil fields in the Abyei region. He said that the NCP is not willing to give up control over the region as it would weaken them financially and politically.

Read the full text of the interview <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25114>

Fiji premier leaves to visit troops in Sudan, Sinai, Iraq

(*BBC Mon Fijilive website*) Fiji's interim Prime Minister Commodore Voreqe Bainimarama left the country today for an official visit to the Middle East. The trip is Bainimarama's first official visit to the region as prime minister.

According to a statement from the PM's Office, there are more than 600 Fiji soldiers serving in Sinai and Iraq. Bainimarama will obtain first-hand briefing and encourage them with moral support and gratitude for their unrelenting efforts in peacekeeping duties, said the PM's secretary Parmesh Chand.

Only two Fiji prime ministers - the late Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara and Maj-Gen Sitiveni Rabuka - have previously taken an official tour of duty to visit Fiji soldiers in the Middle East.

Bainimarama will make his first stopover in Sudan, where he will visit Fiji soldiers serving under the UN banner as observers and peacekeepers. He will then visit the 2nd Fiji Infantry Regiment serving with the Multinational Forces and Observers in Sinai.

GoSS

SPLM confirms new head of US Nebraska chapter

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 10 Dec. WASHINGTON) The head of Government of Southern Sudan Mission (GoSS) in Washington Mr. Ezekiel Gatkuoth visited the state of Nebraska to confirm the new chairperson of the Sudan People Liberation Movement (SPLM) chapter. Elizabeth Ajongo assumed the chairpersonship duties and had been the acting chairperson for more than a year since the chairman left for Sudan.

Read more <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25126>

Kuol Manyang condemns mobs for killing Murle in Bor town

(*Sudan Tribune*) “It is totally wrong to kill your brothers whom you stay together with here in Bor” said Kuol Manyang Juuc, Minister of roads and Transport in the Government of national Unity, as part of a speech calling for an end to spiraling violence in the capital of Jonglei.

Seven Murle were killed last week in the town when a mob, angered by a recent cattle raid-one of many this year-that killed tens of people, attacked them.

The government of Southern Sudan has formed a fact- finding committee to investigate Murles claims that they face the real fear of genocide, Juuc said.

Rumbek citizens celebrate Human Rights Day

(*Sudan Tribune*) The government of Lakes celebrated yesterday the human rights day with the United Nation Mission in Sudan in Rumbek Freedom square. The rally was attended by Lakes State top government officials including members of Lakes State legislative assembly plus members of UN/NGOs within the state.

The celebration was very fruitful and enjoyable in the way of traditional dances. There were also some poems conducted by children that focused on children’s rights and women rights in the state.

South Sudan launches microfinance development facility

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 10 Dec. JUBA) The availability of business funding in Southern Sudan have been boosted with the launch of the Microfinance Development Facility by the Bank of Southern Sudan (BoSS) on Monday December 10, 2007 in Juba. It plans to award a total of US\$1,000,000 to microfinance providers in the first quarter of 2008.

The facility is supported by the World Bank administered Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) within the framework of the Private Sector Development Project (PSD).

The applicants will be evaluated on the basis of among other factors good governance, well defined quality strategy, good business plans and the ability to build the capacity of the microfinance clientele.

In selecting the awardees, the BoSS will also take into account the outreach to underserved population particularly the youth, women ex-combatants and underserved States. *Read more* <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25121>

Darfur

Darfur rebel leader denies his expulsion by French authorities

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 10 Dec. PARIS) The founder leader of the Sudan Liberation Movement denied statements by Sudanese officials that France would expel him because of his refusal to joint peace process in Libya.

Sudan's official news agency SUNA reported that French President Nicolas Sarkozy had given al-Nur a deadline to attend peace talks by the end of December or leave France. An unidentified French diplomat told Reuters that France will probably force to leave the country by the end of the year.

Abdelwahid al-Nur told the Sudan Tribune that he didn't receive any notification from the French government requesting him to leave Paris. He added that despite the divergence over his participation in Sirte talks the French officials showed respect to his point of view over the peace process.

Al-Nur urged Khartoum government, instead of requesting France to expel him, to provide the necessary commodities for the deployment of the international troops and to respect human rights and citizenship rights in the country.

Read more <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25116>

War Block RWC Workers Salaries in N. Darfur

(*SMC*) War led by Darfur rebel movements block Rural Water Corporation (RWC) resources. As consequence RWC workers in northern Darfur have not received salaries for one year time.

Head of RWC workers Union in the state Al Tigani Ishak told (smc) that 157 workers have arrears of 3.6 m Sudanese pounds not yet paid. He said rebels have controlled water stations blocking RWC resources. Ihsak said, workers have complained the case to the government of the state to pay them their financial rights. In the same development water Resources and Development Company manager Mohammed Ibrahim Nur told (smc) that 50 out of 60 company's workers have left the job because of war and not received salaries for three years. However the manager urges federal and state governments to interfere in resolving the problem.

Former Darfur rebel leader calls for speed-up of peace talks

(Sudan Tribune.com — 10 Dec. KHARTOUM) A former rebel leader in the conflict-torn western Sudanese region of Darfur called on Monday for a speed-up of peace negotiations between the government and rebel movements, which were resumed in Libya's coastal city of Sirte on Oct. 27.

Minni Arkou Minawi, leader of the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) Minawi faction, made the remarks following a meeting with visiting Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General for Darfur Jan Eliasson.

Minawi was appointed as a senior assistant to the Sudanese president after signing the Darfur Peace Process (DPA) in 2005 to become the first rebel leader reaching a peace deal with the Sudanese government.

He told reporters that he had discussed with Eliasson the humanitarian and security situations in Darfur, adding that the situations there had impacted and overcastted some neighboring countries.

Eliasson described his meeting with Minawi as "frank and positive", disclosing that he briefed the latter outcomes of his visits in Darfur during the past several days and his consultations with a number of leaders and field commanders of rebel movements.

Water shortage facing Darfur

(UPI) Relief workers in Sudan's Darfur region said they were worried a lack of rain could cause water shortages at many of the camps for displaced people.

A recent report warned that 21 camps that are home to some 800,000 people are vulnerable to a severe water shortage in the event of a drought, the U.N. Office for Humanitarian Affairs reported Monday.

A report issued by the NGO Tearfund stated that some locations are already facing a water shortage.

"We have seen examples of tap stands being closed on a particular day and huge queues and struggles, as we see fights breaking out at water points," said John Day, an Oxfam water engineer who works at the Abou Shouk camp.

Another problem, the report showed, is that people in the camps were using more water than they did when living in their villages.

"Darfur characteristically has poor rainy seasons every few years," says hydro geologist Geoff Wright. "But in these circumstances it is going to be very hard to cope with a poor rainy season in the major camps."

Sudanese opposition alliance calls for deployment of hybrid forces in Darfur

(*BBC Mon Al Ayaam*) The Alliance of National Forces for the resolution of the Darfur crisis has called on the [ruling] National Congress Party [NCP] to implement international resolutions and facilitate the deployment of the hybrid operation.

The alliance said the force should be deployed as was previously agreed upon, without resorting to weak pretexts claiming the troops come from states hostile to Sudan, are unaware of Sudanese customs and traditions or do not know the geography of the area.

In a statement issued yesterday, the alliance called on the NCP to cease its attempts to remove citizens from camps on the pretext of searching for weapons until security and protection is provided and services, livelihood projects and villages, the NCP promised to establish are available.

The alliance, that includes the most prominent opposition parties of the Ummah, Communist and Popular Congress, called on the NCP to adhere to the just demands of the people of Darfur including a vice-president of the republic, a unified region and the trial of those accused of committing war crimes. It said these demands further include individual and group compensation for those affected and for a date and venue for the next round of talks to be determined with the concerned sides including political, social, native and civil forces. It further called on the mediators to be characterized with impartiality and not to side with the regime.

Togolese leader, French army official discuss Sudan peacekeeping mission

Text of unattributed report entitled "Togolese soldiers in Darfur?" published on Togolese government Republicoftogo web site

(*BBC Mon*) Is there going to be a Togolese contingent among the AU/UN hybrid force which is expected to be deployed soon in the Sudanese Province of Darfur? It is a serious assumption if we are to believe the statements made on Friday [7 December] by Gen Emmanuel Beth, the director of the French military cooperation, who is currently on a mission in Togo.

"There is the desire by President Faure Gnassingbe to send his soldiers to Darfur because he wishes that Togo must be involved in the peacekeeping missions, particularly, in Darfur," the senior French official explained at the end of his meeting with the head of state.

It will be recalled that Togo has a long tradition of being involved in the peacekeeping missions. Since the beginning of the crisis in Cote d'Ivoire, a Togolese contingent was deployed on the ground among the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] peace keeping force.

A paratrooper in the Foreign Legion, Gen Beth has been the head of military cooperation and defence at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since June 2006.