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UN/ Agencies

Annan expresses concern over the situation in Darfur

(AlHayat) The UN Secretary General Kofi Annan expressed concern over the deteriorating situation in Darfur and its impact on Chad and the CAR.

Annan added that the insecure situation in el-Fashir threatened access of aid operations for more than 1.3 million civilians.

He called the government of Sudan to secure areas under its control particularly in el-Fashir and el-Geneina.

In a news bulletin online, UNMIS said that the UN and the African Union are prepared to carry out a “hybrid mediation” and to cover the needs for the Darfur-Darfur Dialogue.

Human Rights council in differences over Darfur

(AlRai AlAam) The African and European groups submitted a draft to the general secretariat of the UNHRC for voting in its next session.

It is worthy to mention that all attempts to attain an agreed upon final draft had failed between the two groups till yesterday.

Sudan mission to Geneva will hold today un-official talks with the African group to unify stands before tomorrow’s session.

Confidential UN reports says that Israel is primarily responsible for supporting Darfur rebels

(AlHayat) A confidential UN report issued in it’s Damascus office says that Israel is primarily responsible for the genocide suffered by more than a million Africans through its fuelling of conflicts around the world and its arms supplies including to the armed factions in Darfur.

United Nations & the Transition Debate

Foreign minister hold talks with US Special Envoy

(AlAyam, AlRai AlAam)

Foreign minister Dr. Lam Akol and the US Special Envoy Andrew Natsios have discussed developments of Darfur situations and the possibility of accepting International troops and bringing the DPA non-signatory groups on board.
The US Special envoy and the Foreign Minister agreed to start planning for the second phase of discussions to be held over the appointing of a general commander for Darfur peacekeeping forces and the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General.

CPA

Southern militias still threaten Sudan peace deal; no room for armed militias in southern Sudan anymore, says Vraalsen.

(Sudan Tribune.co, AlAyaam) The continued existence of militias is the biggest single threat to Sudan’s north-south peace, said the chairman of the commission tasked with monitoring the deal signed two years ago.

"At this stage, two years after the signing of CPA (Comprehensive Peace Agreement), there is no room for militias in South Sudan," Norway’s Tom Vraalsen told reporters Sunday.

"We cannot accept this most serious violation of the CPA to continue," said Vraalsen, who heads the Assessment and Evaluation Commission (AEC).

Deadly clashes pitting former southern rebel forces against the regular northern army and an allied southern militia also erupted late last month in the city of Malakal in what was considered one of the most serious violations of the peace agreement.

Sudan’s oil wealth had been one of the main stumbling blocks in the negotiations that led to the peace agreement, and Vraalsen said it was also one of the main obstacles to its implementation.

"The reports talk about extensive environmental degradation... the concern and interests of the local communities is totally disregarded," he added.

Vraalsen’s commission, whose creation was stipulated in the peace agreement, includes foreign and Sudanese officials who were involved in the protracted peace negotiations.

Southern Sudan

6 SPLA killed and injured in Mangala

(Sudaneseonline.com) 8 unidentified men attacked a vehicle carrying a small group of SPLA soldiers near Mangala killing four of them and injuring two others before fleeing.

Sources say that the attack occurred on the Juba-Mangala road which had been safe until then. They ad that investigations are ongoing especially as the assailants had carried advanced weapons.
On the other hand, GoSS Vice-President Riek Machar was in Yambio recently to assess the security situation there following two separate incidents last week.

Speaking at a rally, Dr. Machar urged citizens to cooperate with the regional government and in the disarmament process and vowed that the security arrangements will be implemented to the letter.

**Darfur**

**Security in Darfur**

**El-Fasher and its environs:**

The Government of N. Darfur has given the federal government 72 hours to order the Border Intelligence Unit out of el-Fasher town or they resign, *AlAyaam* has learnt.

A delegation from the federal government that included Presidential Advisor Nafei Ali Nafei and the ministers of defence and interior had flown to el-Fasher to talk the Government of N. Darfur out of resignation following the recent incidents in the el-Fasher market. The delegation flew back to Khartoum the same day.

Meanwhile members of the Legislative Assembly of N. Darfur who held talks with the visiting delegation from the federal government fiercely criticised the government and accused government of backing such forces and leaving them free reign to act with impunity.

The regional legislative body echoed its support for the resignation en masse of the regional government in protest over the incident and one MP went as far as coming out public on his support to UNSCR 1706 and the deployment of an international force to protect the civilian populations in Darfur.

“If you do not halt these activities of the Border Intelligence Units and the Janjaweed, we will declare an armed rebellion in order to protect the civilians”, another MP told the visiting delegation.

**Massar blames the NRF and SLM-MM:** Following the visit to el-Fasher, Presidential Advisor Abdalla Massar has blamed the NRF and the Minnawi faction of the SLM for blowing the incident out of proportion in order to justify a deployment of international troops to the region.

Speaking to *Allatibaha*, he said that these groups want to portray government as responsible for the insecurity and have branded government forces in the area as “Janjaweed” militia and not SAF.

He described the conflicts in the area as of a tribal nature and called upon SLM-Minnawi to regain control of territories that have fallen to the hands of the NRF.
**Nafei says the GND has not resigned:** Meanwhile, Presidential Advisor Nafei Ali Nafei who was also a member of the delegation from the federal government that travelled to el-Fasher and back yesterday said that the Government of N. Darfur has not tendered in its resignation as has been reported.

Speaking to the **SUNA**, the presidential aide also rebuffed reports carried by some agencies (**The Citizen** included) saying that the Governor of North Darfur has resigned.

**AbdulWahid condemns attacks:** On the other hand, **AlAyaam** reports that AbdulWahid Mohamed Nur has condemned the atrocities of the Janjaweed and has called for an immediate intervention by the international community and the federal government to help end the suffering of the civilian population.

He said his faction of the SLM will not sit down for talks with the government if such atrocities are left to continue.

**Vaccination campaign halted:** Meanwhile authorities say that a polio vaccination campaign that was supposed to kick off in el-Fasher yesterday has been postponed due to security reasons, reports **AlIntibaha**.

**West Darfur:**

22 civilians were killed in a weekend attack which the government blamed on Darfur rebels, reports the **AFP**.

African Union Spokesman Noureddin Mezni said 10 others were injured Saturday when gunmen ambushed a vehicle in Sirba, 40 kilometres (25 miles) north of Geneina, W. Darfur.

Mezni did not identify the attackers but said an investigation would be launched into the attack. 8 African Union observers sent to investigate the incident, and their helicopter crew were held for 24 hours by an angry crowd near Sirba and later freed unharmed, reports the African Union.

The governor blames the NRF for the attack and says the casualty toll was 15 dead and 14 wounded.

According to the **AP**, UNMIS Spokesperson Radhia Achouri said the exact number of civilians killed could not be confirmed but was estimated at around 30.

She says some of the passengers were shot by the attackers and others burnt to death during the attack.

An international aid worker speaking on condition of anonymity said that the assailants were government-backed Janjaweed and that they had used RPGs in the attack on the convoy and executed survivors. Sudanese police transported the bodies of the victims to a
refugee camp on the outskirts of el-Geneina and demonstrations erupted around the town, he adds.

**African Union Peace & Security Council keen on deploying observers along Sudan, Chad border**

*(Sudaneseonline.com)* In a statement issued in Addis Ababa yesterday, the African Union Peace & Security Council has resolved that the AMIS secure observation points that will be established within Sudanese territories as stipulated by the Tripoli Agreement.

The Council underlined the need to implement the agreement within the framework of available resources in terms of logistics, food, air transportation, communication and training in monitoring.

The Council also underlined the need for the AMIS to report to provide situation reports to the African Union Peace & Security Council to enable the African Union Peace & Security Council better make decisions on these issues.

**Eastern Sudan**

**Eastern Front decry continued human rights violations**

*(The Citizen)* International Human Rights Day was celebrated throughout the world yesterday.

In Sudan the day was celebrated with demonstrations decrying the violations of human rights in the country. The Eastern Front seized the occasion to send a petition to the International Criminal Court concerning atrocities committed by the government of Sudan on eastern Sudan.

Umma Party Secretary General Abdu-el-Nabi Ali Ahmed observed that the human rights situation in Sudan has deteriorated to the point where people are abused by the government. He called on the international community to put more pressures on the government to cease their inhumane practices against their own citizen.

**Editorials/ Commentaries**

**How did Pronk spend his four days in Sudan?**

*(AlAyaam editorial)* Pronk spent his last day in Sudan in Juba…where he met the leaders and staff of the United Nations Mission in Sudan. He then travelled to Khartoum en route to New York where he will present his last report to the United Nations Secretary General on his mandate in Khartoum which ended in a sad condition.

While here, Mr. Pronk never met with any senior government official but did meet with a number of ambassadors and diplomats and UNMIS staff.
Pronk aged 50 years, will return to his country to work in a higher institutions of learning while his replacement may arrive by the beginning of the new year 2007. his deputy will meanwhile act on his behalf until that time.