

**UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN
UNMIS**

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(By Public Information Office)

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HIGHLIGHTS :

UN/ Agencies

Coordination between UNMIS and Khartoum Police

(*Khartoum Monitor*) UNMIS Police Commissioner and the Deputy Director-General for Police in Khartoum State met yesterday to discuss the means of joint coordination and cooperation between the two forces in the fields of training, community policing and ways to activate cooperation between Police Commission at UNMIS.

The Assistant DG of Police in Khartoum State pointed out that the police have formed a department on protection of women and children and another on human rights in order to consolidate policy of community policing.

The two sides also agreed to cooperate in training of the local police.

New UN rights body faces crucial test in Darfur

(*via SudanTribune.com*) The United Nations' new human rights watchdog faces a crucial test on Tuesday with European Union states and others demanding dispatch of an urgent mission to Sudan's Darfur to probe widespread allegations of violations.

Click on the link below for the full story
[New UN rights body faces crucial test in Darfur](#)

United Nations & the Transition Debate

UN and US envoys discuss Darfur crisis

(*via SudanTribune.com*) The United Nations and United States envoys for Sudan have held talks in Khartoum last Sunday on the deteriorating situation inside the war-torn region of Darfur as reports are emerging of an attack on Saturday near the Chadian border in which armed men killed at least 31 people.

Meeting in Khartoum Sunday, Tayé-Brook Zerihoun, the Secretary-General's Principal Deputy Special Representative, and Andrew Natsios, the Envoy of the US President, discussed the recent political and security developments in Darfur, including plans for the eventual deployment of a hybrid UN-African Union (AU) peacekeeping force.

Click on the link below for the full story
[UN and US envoys discuss Darfur crisis](#)

UN bows to pressure on Darfur but little hope of progress

(*via SudanTribune.com* – 11th Dec. **Geneva**) The UN Human Rights Council will hold a special session on violations in Sudan's strife-torn western region of Darfur on Tuesday, after a

rebuke from Kofi Annan that it has not paid enough attention to rights violations in the province, diplomats said though they did not expect major progress owing to the council's politicised nature and internal divisions.

The council has been heavily criticised by many parties, not least the outgoing UN secretary general, for its reticence on the conflict which the UN estimates has claimed over 200,000 lives to date.

Click on the link below for the full AP story
[UN bows to pressure on Darfur but little hope of progress](#)

Minnawi demands international intervention in Darfur

(*Sudan Tribune*) As the gap widens between the partners in the government of National Unity because of the Darfur crisis, the Minnawi faction of the SLM has called for urgent international intervention in the tumultuous region and summons those accused of war crimes before the international criminal court.

This comes amidst reports that some SLA commanders have declared a u-turn back to a war footing under the NRF umbrella.

One rebel leader even went as far as calling for an overthrow of the government and that all options, including the military, be used unless the government stops the killing of civilians and engages in peaceful negotiations under international supervision.

Episcopal Church urges Sudan to accept UN force for Darfur

(*via SudanTribune.com* – 11th December – **Khrt.**) As violence has escalated in Darfur in recent days, the Episcopal Church of Sudan has questioned the government's continued refusal to allow the intervention of United Nations peacekeepers.

The church deplored "a new deterioration in the situation in Darfur," warning that "the present situation puts innumerable lives at risk. We call on all the Sudanese people and the international community to act to rescue the situation."

At the same time the church expressed concern that recent episodes of violence in South Sudan raised doubts over the government's commitment to implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) that ended the 21-year war.

Click on the link below for the full AP story
[Episcopal Church urges Sudan to accept UN force for Darfur](#)

GoNU

Court sentences 7 to death by hanging over Soba incidents

(*AlRai AlAam*) Al-Azhari Criminal Court sentenced yesterday seven people to death by hanging over the Soba incidents of last May in which 14 policemen were killed.

The indicted vehemently protested the court ruling and described it as unjust.

Heavy security was noticed on the roads leading to the courts.

The SPLM calls for specifying Defence and Security spending in budget

(*AlSahafa*) The National Assembly assigned yesterday five sub-committees to study the state budget for next year that was tabled before parliament by the finance minister.

Head of the SPLM Parliamentary caucus Yassir Arman stressed however that the new budget must comply with a provision in the constitution that stipulates that the budget be drafted with the knowledge of the Wealth-Sharing Commission so that all revenue comes straight into the state coffers.

He pointed out that there are some ministries such as the Ministry of Interior that interfere in issues pertaining to higher education and has resources not specified in the constitution. He said that defence spending must also be clearly slotted in the budget.

The SPLM accuses defence ministry of preparing for a new war in the south

(*AlRai AlAam*) The SPLA heatedly accused the defence ministry of preparing to wage a new war in southern Sudan.

Atim Goldwin, the deputy head of the parliamentary committee on defence and security, pointed out that the defence minister's briefing before parliament yesterday was a façade. He said the defence minister had earlier been summoned before parliament to explain the recent incidents of insecurity in the south and elsewhere but failed to turn up on the grounds that he had come other business. The deputy head of the defence and security committee said that they were therefore surprised to see the defence minister turning up yesterday to brief parliament on these issues "off the top of his head" and without any written statement.

He urged the minister to respect the sanctity of the August house and its regulations.

The minister had earlier briefed MPs on the security situation and reported that calm has been restored in Malakal. He however underlined the need to expedite solutions to the issue of the militia groups.

The minister said that 371 soldiers and civilians were killed in the Malakal incident and said he expected the findings of the joint investigation carried out by the SAF, the SPLA and the UN on the Malakal incident will soon be out.

Southern Sudan

GOS regional cooperation ministry to establish offices on 3 continents

(The Citizen) GoSS Regional Cooperation Minister Marial Benjamin, announced to the press in Juba yesterday that his ministry would be opening offices in Asia, Europe and Africa.

He did not specify the countries but noted that they were seven in number and said that these offices would serve the needs of investors interested in either Sudan generally or particularly southern Sudan.

Minister Marial refuted allegations that northern businessmen were being expelled from southern Sudan, saying that quite to contrary GoSS welcomes business people from all over Sudan as well as from the rest of the world.

UPDF agrees pull-back

(Sudan Tribune) The UPDF and the Lord's Resistance Army have agreed to pull their forces apart, after talks between the president and the deputy rebel leader, a local official said.

The reported deal seems to be intended to restore confidence in faltering peace talks in southern Sudan.

This is the first time President Museveni has spoken to the Lord's Resistance Army leadership.

Mr. Oatti complained that a previous agreement for LRA fighters to leave the bush had failed because the soldiers were too close to the assembly zones.

The leader of the Uganda government delegation at the peace talks, Ruhukana Rugunda, could not confirm the reported deal and talks but told the daily Monitor newspaper that what Col. Ochara said was "authentic".

Last week, Mozambique's former president Joaquim Chissano was named as the United Nations envoy to help resolve the conflict. Outgoing UN Secretary General Koffai Annan said Mr Chissano would also liaise with the International Criminal Court (ICC), where LRA leader Joseph Kony and four other senior figures have been indicted for war crimes.

Lakes State Assembly celebrates new governor welcoming

(SudanTribune.com – 11th Dec. Khrt.) The government of Lakes State yesterday celebrated officially welcoming ceremony of their new Governor Daniel Awet Akot.

A Lakes State Legislative Assembly member told Sudan Tribune correspondent in Khartoum over the phone that the welcoming ceremony was not done since the new governor Daniel Awet Akot took over the position in last September 2006.

The deputy speaker of Lakes State Legislative Assembly Marik Nanga Marik said that they are committed to bring justice and freedom to Rumbek community and Rule of Laws in Lakes State has become so much lawlessness now and indeed that needs every Rumbek citizens to work hard for getting into justice awareness' by now before 2008.

He added that Rumbek was been running under insecurity because of clan to clan clashes people that have exposed the government of Lakes State not to get active into government

Darfur

African peacekeepers kill three rioting refugees in Darfur

(via *SudanTribune.com*) African Union peacekeepers killed three Darfur rioters when a crowd of angry refugees threatened to break into their base in the town of El Geneina, a U.N. official said Monday.

It was the first time peacekeepers have killed Darfur civilians, marking new deterioration in the war-torn region of western Sudan. In a separate incident, the AU reported Monday that two of its peacekeepers had been kidnapped by gunmen the night before.

After the riot and shooting on Sunday, Sudanese police deployed around the African Union base to protect the peacekeepers, aid workers in El Geneina said.

Click on the link below for the full AP story
[African peacekeepers kill three rioting refugees in Darfur](#)

Meeting expected between Abdul Wahid and Bush in Washington

AlSudani reports that the SLM- Abdul Wahid Humanitarian affairs Coordinator Mohamed Abdul Karim, has revealed of an impending meeting between Abdul Wahid Mohamed Nur and the US president Bush in Washington within coming days to discuss the Darfur crises.

He said that Abdul Wahid had received an official invitation to meet Bush by the US envoy in Sudan.

JEM threatens to withdraw from secession of hostilities agreement

AlRai AlAam reports that the AU Joint Security Committee will discuss next Friday the situation in Darfur and the violations that took place recently.

The JEM has meanwhile given the AU only one week to secure the release of 33 field commanders or else it will withdraw from the cessation of hostilities agreement.

SLA command denounces Bassey's move to hold conference

(via SudanTribune.com) A statement by the SLM field command denounced the move of Commander Ahmed Abdelshafi Bassey to hold a conference for the SLM commanders while the Sudanese government troops and militia are waging a fierce daily war against the field commanders.

A statement signed by the The General Commander of the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A) Abdulgadir Abderrahman Ibrahim (Gadora) said that the field commanders are united “under the leadership of the undisputed, veteran and the perfect choice of his people Abdulwahid Mohamed Ahmed Elnour”.

Click on the link below for the full story and the text of the statement
[SLA command denounces Bassey's move to hold conference](#)

Egypt invites SLM faction leader for talks on Darfur

(via SudanTribune.com) In the context of consultations with the Darfur rebel leaders, the Egyptian authorities invited Ahmed Abdelshafi Bassey, a leader of SLM/A faction, to hear his point of view on Darfur crisis.

Bassey, who met the Egyptian officials Monday, told Sudan Tribune from Cairo that they welcomed the Egyptian move because it pours in the context of the merger of all the current initiatives by regional and international actors.

He also informed the Egyptian authorities that all the SLM/A factions prepare for the holding of a general conference to reunite the movement and this remains the priority of his group.

He further told the Egyptian officials that Abuja deal didn't bring peace in the region and called for a lasting solution for the roots of the crisis.

According to Bassey, Egypt would undertake a comprehensive initiative to end Darfur crisis.

Last month, Egypt invited the leaders of the National Redemption Front (NRF) to visit Cairo for consultation on Darfur crisis. The NRF delegation held talks with the Egypt's intelligence chief Omar Suleiman who is in charge of the Sudanese dossier.

Since the end of September, Sudan accepted an Egyptian proposal to convene a meeting for Darfur rebels groups opposed to the Darfur Peace Agreement to discuss their demands and integrate it in an interpretive annex.

The proposal was formulated by President Hosni Mubarak to Sudanese al-Bashir who made a stopover in Cairo on his way back to Sudan after attending the 61st UN General Assembly session in New York on Thursday 21 September.