



## UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN

### UNMIS

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(By Public Information Office)

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## **Highlights**

### **UN/ Agencies**

#### **UNMIS organizes training workshop for Al-Zaeem Al-Alazhari University on CPA**

*(Akhir Lahza)* Al-Zaeem Al- Alazhari University has organized, in collaboration with *UNMIS's* PIO, a ToTs workshop to the students of Al-Zaeem Al- Alazhari University with a view to enlightening them on the importance of disseminating the culture of peace among the Sudanese people.

The workshop was intended also to train the universities' students on the techniques of how to advocate for gaining the support of the influential groups of the society towards popularizing the understanding of the CPA among the various segments of the Sudanese people in a bid to empower the culture of peace aimed at bringing about security stability nation-wide.

#### **UN seeks \$2.3 billion aid for Sudan in 2008**

*(Sudan Tribune.com – 11 Dec. GENEVA)* The United Nations launched an appeal Tuesday for 2.29 billion dollars (1.55 billion euros) to fund its humanitarian and development work in Sudan in 2008.

Sudan is the largest of all the UN's humanitarian operations, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said in a statement, adding that some 20 percent of the Sudan appeal has already been secured from donors.

The UN runs 959 different projects across twelve sectors in the vast East African country, where nearly four million people have been affected by the conflict in the western region of Darfur.

"Overall in Sudan, an estimated 24 percent of the population is undernourished while 30 percent are without access to safe drinking water," OCHA said.

Sudan remains wracked by bitter conflict and the UN's resident and humanitarian coordinator for the country, Ameerah Haq, said it was important the money was spent in an honest and effective way. *Read the full document at:* <http://www.unsudanig.org/workplan/>

### **Sima Samar: Sudan human rights situation good**

(*AlRai AlAam*) The Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Sudan Darfur, Sima Samar, confirmed that the Sudan is cooperating. Violence against women in the IDP camps, she said, is now less than before.

Sima, who chairs the UN panel of human rights experts on Sudan, has presented her report at the UN Human Rights Council on Tuesday. The report says that Sudan is achieving progress in its human rights record. According to the report Sudan is also making progress in the area of legislation.

### **Security Council to discuss the hybrid today, Konare visits Khartoum Saturday**

(*AlRai AlAam*) The chairman of the AU Commission, Alpha Omer Konare, will visit Sudan on Saturday on a one-day visit. He will be accompanied by some officials from the Commission. Konare is expected to meet with al Bashir to continue discussions on the hybrid operation.

The UN Security Council will be briefed in a special session today by the UN Secretary General on the outcome of meetings between his envoys and Sudanese officials in Lisbon which discussed the hybrid operation.

### **UN envoy vows to make progress on Darfur peace process**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 12 Dec. KHARTOUM) The United Nations Special Envoy for Darfur pledged to speed up the momentum of the talks in the next few weeks so that direct negotiations can take place between the government and the war-wracked region's rebel movements.

Jan Eliasson said yesterday in Khartoum, at the end of his visit to Khartoum and Darfur that the recent round of meetings has given the mediators extra energy to push towards a successful conclusion.

But he warned that "the negotiations do not exist in a vacuum. We also have to take into account the reality on the ground – the political reality that is also complicating our work." the UN News service reported.

He noted that the improved climate in the Security Council and the growing cooperation of the regional countries means that the crucial issue has become whether the Government and the movements will head in the same directions on talks.

"We will do our very best to bring that about, but the environment in some regards is not conducive, and I hope that the Government of Sudan and the movements will take the responsibility to prepare for the talks to begin as soon as possible in the New Year."

## **Due to the clashes between Dinka and Almurli, UNHCR suspends voluntary return program for Jongli state**

(*SMC* – 12 Dec. KHARTOUM) The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) spokeswoman Helen Kuo, commented that the UNHCR voluntary return program to the state of Jonglei in southern Sudan is temporarily suspended.

She told reporters that the bloody clashes that took place between the Dinka tribes and Almurli led to widespread retaliatory attacks during the last two weeks.

Helen added that Goff Warodley, coordinator of the UNHCR Return Program, authorized suspension of all return operations to Jonglei until stability is resumed in the region.

It is worth mentioning that the city of Por in Jonglei state, had witnessed during the last weeks bloody clashes between groups of the Dinka tribes and Almurli, the clashes left so many victims. Consequently, humanitarian organizations stopped their work because of insecurity in the area.

## **Prosecutor announces new investigation against Sudan for Darfur atrocities**

(*The Associated Press*) UNITED NATIONS - The prosecutor of the International Criminal Court announced Wednesday he was opening an investigation against Sudanese government officials for what he called systematic attacks on refugee camps in Darfur.

Luis Moreno Ocampo said his office would also investigate violence against humanitarian workers and peacekeepers in Darfur, including an Oct. 29 attack on the Haskanita military base that left 10 African Union soldiers dead and one missing. Rebels were blamed for that attack.

Ocampo urged the UN Security Council to demand that Sudan hand over acting humanitarian minister Ahmed Muhammed Harun, who was formerly in charge of security in Darfur and has been indicted for crimes against humanity.

## **GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)**

### **Sudanese president, communist party leader discuss national unity**

(*BBC Mon, Suna website*) President of the Republic and Chairman of the National Congress, Field Marshal Omar Al-Bashir, met Wednesday [12 Dec] at the headquarters of the National Congress with the Secretary of the Communist Party, Muhammad Ibrahim Nugud, and discussed the current political situation and ways to reach national accord and consensus on the national issues.

In a communiqué issued by the end of the meeting, the National Congress and the Communist Party affirmed the importance [of] reactivating the political arena to reach consensus on the national issues which were discussed at the meeting, including the peace agreements, the situation in Darfur, the democratic transformation, elections and other national issues.

The leading figure of the Communist Party, Al-Shafi Khidr, said that the meeting between President Al-Bashir and Nugud came in the context of the meeting between leaders of the political parties and aimed to reaching a national mechanism or framework among all the political parties.

### **Bona Malwal criticizes SPLM maladroitness over Abyei row**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 12 Dec. KHARTOUM) The presidential advisor and prominent southern politician, Bona Malwal, has criticised the SPLM for its exaggerated reaction over Abyei Protocol implementation. He blamed the influence of Abyei native within the SPLM leadership.

In a symposium organized by the South Sudan Democratic Forum on the future of The CPA under the current political crisis, held in Khartoum on 12 December, Bona Malwal said "that Abyei alone must not return the country to war. We should seek a peaceful way of implementing the terms of the Abyei protocol, without the threat of war." He also criticized the report of experts saying it is "clearly favors one side and is not comprehensive enough."

*To read the full text of Bona Malwal paper on the CPA implementation, please go at*

<http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25145>

### **Presidency issues decree ratifying two partners' pact, NCP, SPLM agree on conference for boosting reconciliation, unity and democracy**

(*Sudan Vision*) Institution of the presidency has declared the end of the two partners' crises following the issuance of a Presidential Decree ratifying the draft document containing the items agreed upon by the President and vice President of the Republic. The agreement reached between the two partners further proposed an initiative for national reconciliation and boosting democracy and voluntary unity.

Co-spokesman of the joint Six-member Committee, Al Derdeeri Mohamed Ahmed, said national reconciliation is one of the objectives of the peace agreement, indicating that a provisional committee will be formed for proposing the initiative to all the political forces.

### **40,000 agricultural schemes' workers go on strike**

(*Alwan*) More than 40,000 workers in agricultural schemes went yesterday on a one-day strike because the Ministry of Finance failed to pay the wages of the workers of irrigated schemes.

### **On NCP, SPLM six-member committee press conference** (*Akhbar Alyaum*)

Al Dirdeeri Mohamed Ahmed, NCP:

- The two partners agreed to implement the agreed calendar of pending issues, except Abyei, by the 31<sup>st</sup> of December.
- Agreed that the 9<sup>th</sup> of January is a national day of peace.

- The GoNU institutions including the Presidency to move every three months to Juba. Juba considered second national capital.
- Agreed on guidelines for appointing and relieving holders of constitutional portfolios.
- Agreed to establish a committee to investigate on the issue of all detainees in the north and the south. The committee will be chaired by the Minister of Justice.
- Complete deployment of troops by end of December.
- Instructions have been issued to remove obstacles hindering the work of the Blue Nile and South Kordofan governments. A committee chaired by Nafie Ali Nafie will be established for this purpose.
- Abyei has not been mentioned in the agreed calendar as it has been left for the Presidency.
- Assured that funding will be provided to the Borders Commission and the population census.

Yasir Arman, SPLM:

- A Presidential decree will be issued to officially endorse the agreed calendar.
- Politically speaking the SPLM Ministers are no longer suspending their work in the GoNU. Their return to the GoNU is pending some administrative and procedural arrangements.
- The SPLM will submit a new list of nominees for ministerial portfolios to the Presidency.
- A conference on national reconciliation and democracy will be organized.
- A mechanism for the development of the South and construction of roads between the north and the south will be established.
- A conference on peaceful coexistence between the people living in areas of ethnic interaction will be organized.
- A committee for bringing all laws in line with the constitution will be established.

**North-South bonding mechanism formed**

*(Sudan Tribune)* The two Comprehensive Peace Agreement partners, the National Congress Party and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, yesterday co-launched a mechanism to tie the country north and south, regardless of the results of self-determination referendum. They fixed the New Year Night as the final date for solving all pending issues, except the Abyei issue, which the six-man committee refers to the Presidency to find a suitable solution for it.

The two partners agreed on periodical rotation, between Khartoum and Juba, of state institutions including the cabinet of Ministers presidency, saying they are both ready to solve all crises and face offs that might arise in the future with the same spirit with which they have resolved the current standoff

**NCP, Communist Party agree on six-member committee for national reconciliation**

(*AlRai AlAam*) The NCP and the Sudan Communist Party (SCP) agreed yesterday to establish a six-member committee from the two parties to discuss opportunities for a national reconciliation. The agreement was reached in a meeting yesterday chaired by al Bashir (NCP) and Mohamed Ibrahim Nugud the Secretary General of the SCP.

### **(AdZ): kidnapping of Darfur children was done with the knowledge and permission of Chadian and French authorities**

(*SMC* – 12 Dec. KHARTOUM) The issue of Arche de Zoe, which was accused of abducting (103) Sudanese children from Chad, entered another course as members of the French organization detained in the Chadian capital N'Djamena, demanding from Paris to prosecute all those involved, including officials of the Chadian government, some humanitarian organizations of the United Nations and French officials who the organization said: they were aware of the operation since the phase of planning and preparation.

The accused French group, in a letter sent to Paris, said that the organization received permission from the Ministry of Interior and the Governor of Chadian town Adri, regarding the transfer of children abroad, in addition to some Chadian officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry Justice and some parliament members who were familiar with all the details of the operation.

The letter stressed that the plane which is going to transport the children, has obtained the necessary permissions from the Ministry of Transport which informed the airport authorities' about the operation.

French detainees claimed innocence, as the operation can not be considered forced deportation or even secret operation, because it was planed to be done via official plane already landed at the airport near the centers of the Chadian army and with the knowledge of government authorities in eastern Chad.

### **Sudan moves federal parliament south to heal rift**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 12 Dec. KHARTOUM) The Sudanese federal parliament will convene in the southern Sudan capital, Juba, four times a year to try to rebuild relations in the shattered coalition government, two senior officials said on Wednesday.

The move was one of a list of confidence-building measures announced to help heal a rift between the government in Khartoum and former southern rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM).

The NCP's co-chair on the committee, Al-Dirdiri Mohamed Ahmed, told reporters on Wednesday the parties had now agreed to move Sudan's National Assembly to Juba every quarter, along with the whole coalition cabinet and the leadership of Sudan's major political parties.

"This is a new idea," said Al-Dirdiri. "At the beginning it might be a symbolic act as the facilities in Juba are still run down. But we are going to have a flurry of activities in Juba."

The SPLM's co-chair on the same committee, Yasir Arman, said the move would send an "important signal" about the new political landscape in Sudan.

*Read more* <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25147>

### **Minister of National Defence on Armed Forces Act, 2007**

(*SMC, SUNA* – 12 Dec. KHARTOUM) Minister of National Defence Gen. Abdel-Rahim Mohamed Hussein has pointed out that the Armed Forces Act, 2007 has entrusted to the Minister of Defence provision of funds, equipment and supplies to the Armed Forces, responsibility before the Council of Ministers and the legislative authority besides the international relations and the defence strategy. Briefing leaders of the media at the ministry Tuesday, the Minister of Defence said the new act has clearly determined responsibilities and duties as it has specified the powers of the supreme commander, the general commander and the chief of staff. He reviewed the preparatory work for the act including the experiences of the friendly countries. The Minister pointed out that Article (36) of the act stipulated establishment of a department for military inspection under the command of the inspector general to ensure quality control.

### **Dr. Nafie, Eliasson discuss arrangements for coming talks between government and Darfur armed movements**

(*SMC, SUNA*— 12 Dec. KHARTOUM) Assistant of the President of the Republic Dr. Nafie Ali Nafie has discussed with United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Darfur Jan Eliasson arrangements for the coming round of talks between the government and the armed movements in Darfur and ways to unify them.

Following his meeting with Eliasson at the Republican Palace Tuesday, Dr. Nafie affirmed in a statement to SUNA readiness of the government for the negotiations at any time set by the mediation, describing the meeting as fruitful.

Dr. Nafie praised the French stance represented in the statement of President Nicolas Sarkozy that he would exercise pressure on Abdul-Wahid Mohamed Nur to join the coming talks. Meanwhile, Eliasson underlined importance of the participation of all the armed movements in Darfur in the coming negotiations to reach a political resolution for Darfur problem

## **GoSS**

### **Red Cross, SPLA to promote respect of humanitarian law**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 12 Dec. JUBA/KHARTOUM) The Red Cross and the southern Sudan army agreed to cooperate together to integrate International Humanitarian Law into its training programs.

On Tuesday, 4 December 2007, Lt General Oyai Deng Ajak, Chief of General Staff of the Sudan People Liberation Army (SPLA), and Gianni Volpin, Head of Mission of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), signed a Memorandum of Understanding setting the framework for three-year cooperation.



According to the signed deal, the ICRC will further support the SPLA in integrating International Humanitarian Law into its training programs, as well as in its rules and regulations, with the final aim of sustaining respect for humanitarian law and humanitarian principles by the SPLA troops.

### **SPLA speaks out on Bor crisis**

*(Juba Post)* SPLA Major General Koul Diem has expressed in strong terms that SPLA general headquarters has not yet been directed by the political leadership to proceed with the disarmament of civil populations in Southern Sudan.

Diem admitted that they only learn of such an eventuality from media reports or the speeches of vice president Dr. Riak Machar while addressing the public in Bor and Fashala as well as from the Human Rights Day celebration speech of the President of the Government of Southern Sudan.

On the issue of cattle raids in Bor and Pibor particularly the cattle raids in the village of Bayedid east of Bor town, Major General Diem explained that the raids were reported to have been started by suspected Murle militia men who according to eyewitness accounts have radio communication equipment in addition to donning military uniformed and carrying arms.

### **Southern Sudan peace adviser says government ready to solve tribal conflicts**

*(BBC Mon, Radio Miraya FM)* The advisor on peace and reconciliation in the Government of Southern Sudan [GoSS], Isma'il Konyi, says the government is ready to find a permanent and stable solution to the conflict between Murle and Dinka Bor to avoid any future tribal clashes.

Konyi said this following his visit to Jonglei State [southern Sudan], accompanying the vice-president of the GoSS, Dr Riek Machar. Speaking to Miraya FM, Konyi appealed to the government to take better care of the 20 people from the Murle tribe, who are living in a very difficult situation in Bor town [Jonglei State] after being displaced during the conflict early this month.

Konyi said that the situation in Bor town is now calm, and asked the GoSS to collect weapons from all civilians in the town. He said a conference will be conducted for the local community chiefs in all southern states to address such issues.

### **Parliament summons general auditor of southern government**

*(BBC Mon, Radio Miraya FM website)* The Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly [SSLA] has summoned the auditor general of the Government of Southern Sudan [GoSS], Barnabas Majok, for unlawful dismissal of a senior staff appointed by the president and alleged financial malpractice.

The chairman of information in SSLA, Bashir Bandi, says Barnabas is expected to appear in the Parliament to defend himself tomorrow. "He was supposed to appear before the Parliament today but he said the notice was short and he has some crucial documents which he wants to use for his defence against those allegations. So he

wanted the time today to produce those documents and photocopy them so that the members are serving with it and based on that the Assembly decides to give him that chance to present his defence and probably tomorrow [today 12 December] he will appear before the Legislative Assembly."

Bandi says Barnabas is accused of financial malpractice in a report by the Parliamentary committee on economy development.

Meanwhile, the minister of Finance and Economic Planning in the GoSS is expected to appear in the SSLA today to present the 2007/2008 budgets for discussion in the Parliament.

### **No Ebola in southern Sudan - health official**

*(BBC Mon, Sudan Radio Service)* The Government of Southern Sudan is well prepared for any outbreak of Ebola hemorrhagic fever such as the one that has claimed over twenty lives in Western Uganda.

That is from the Director General for Communicable Diseases in the Ministry of Health, Dr. John Rumunu, speaking to Sudan Radio Service by phone from Juba on Tuesday [11 December].

Mr Rumunu said that they are preparing health workers to be able to identify Ebola hemorrhagic fever cases and treat them. He said that if anyone notices any signs of fever or bleeding in a person, he or she should report to the nearest health facility immediately for assistance.

Dr Rumunu further said that the Ministry of Health in the Government of Southern Sudan is preparing infection control materials to be sent to all the facilities which are close to Uganda.

### **Southern Sudan to launch radio programs on HIV/AIDS education**

*(BBC Mon, Radio Miraya FM website)* The Southern Sudan Local Languages Association has discussed in Juba the production of a specialized Radio programs to be broadcast in at least eight local languages on the South Sudan Radio. The coordinator of the Community Radio Project in South Sudan, Santino Kenyi Lewa, said that information regarding the HIV/AIDS would be translated into local languages and broadcast on the South Sudan Radio.

He said that this is to enlighten people in remote areas about the danger of the HIV/AIDS. He added that training for the participants in this Radio Project, as well as translation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement into the local languages, will start soon.

## **Darfur**

### **Minawi is a dictator who must be overthrown: SLM spokesperson**

(*Khartoum Monitor*) A number of Sudan Liberation Movement SLM/A members of the faction of Mini Arkoi rejected the decision taken by the SPLM chairman World Health Organization has recently declared dismissal of some prominent leaders of the political bureau. That came in a press conference held yesterday.

The SLM Spokesperson Tayeb Khamis, has released some of criticism on Mr. Minnawi describing him as director who wants to use the SLM/A for his own position. Khamis refused the dismissals and explained that he is still holding his position and is doing his best as spokesperson in SLM/A. he added that the recent decision do not represent the SLM as a whole but represent the vision Mr. Mini-of the Dictatorial Secretary of political bureau.

Khamis has called for Mr. Minnawi either to review his mistake or he will be removed from the SLM leadership. Khamis continued that SLM has been formed for the sake of marginalized people of the Sudan in general and the people of Darfur in particular.

### **Darfur rebel leader lashes out at US special envoy for Sudan**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 12 Dec. PARIS) The leader of a Darfur rebel group expressed “deep disappointment” over statements made by Andrew Natsios, Special Envoy for Sudan last week. “Natsios seems to be in a state of denial about the party who has been and still is obstructing peace in Darfur, so he is now putting the blame on us” Abdel-Wahid Al-Nur, leader of Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) told Sudan Tribune by phone from Paris France.

“Over the last four years, the Sudanese government routinely snubbed a handful of UN Security Council resolutions on Darfur ranging from arms embargo to flight ban to extraditing war criminals” Al-Nur said.

“Today and four months after resolution 1769 was adopted, Khartoum is putting one obstacle after another to prevent the peacekeeping force from being deployed in Darfur to protect my people. Yet Natsios is faulting us the victims for the instability” he added.

Natsios, speaking at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington last Friday, said that Al-Nur is “in discussion and maybe in alliance” with Mohamed Ali Hamiditi who is the leader of a Janjaweed group.

The US envoy said that Hamiditi despite being funded by Khartoum felt betrayed by the central government. Natsios also accused Al-Nur’s forces of making physical threats against IDP’s who participate in the election process to choose their advisory council.

However the SLM leader categorically denied Natsios allegations.

Al-Nur called on Natsios to join hands with him to end the misery and tragedy of the Darfurian people. **Read more** <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article25158>

### **Sudan: Crime rates in decline in Darfur state**

(*BBC Mon, SMC website*)11 December Khartoum: Murder and robbery crimes have declined during the past two months in the state of South Darfur in relation to the same period last year.

The head of the attorney office in South Darfur, Abd-al-Mu'nim Uthman said that the tribal disputes that erupted in the state during the past month are under control and that the situation in the state is calm, particularly in Nyala, following the implementation of the security plans and efforts to contain the situation.