



UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN UNMIS

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(By Public Information Office)

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HIGHLIGHTS:

UN/ Agencies

UN warns of dangers of UXOs in Darfur

(*AlAdhwa*) The UN, In coordination with partner agencies, launched yesterday a public information campaign on mine awareness to raise awareness among the Sudanese population on the danger of mines and explosive especially in areas most affected by war.

The campaign started with an Information Day held at the el-Salaam IDP camp in Jebel Auliya, south of Khartoum.

UNMIS Public Information Officer Jordan Dakamseh said that the conflict in Sudan has helped the spread of landmines and unexploded remnants of the war in the states of Eastern and Western Equatoria, Bahr-el-Jebel, Bahr-el-Ghazal, Lakes, Jonglei and Upper Nile in the south as well as S. Kordofan, Blue Nile and Kassala and the greater mobility of the population as a result of the CPA has brought greater exposure to the mine threat.

He also warned of similar dangers from UXOs in the Darfurs and along the Sudan's borders with Chad.

On figures, Mr. Dakamseh said that a total of 10, 202 710 square meters have been demined, 1,696 areas designated as danger areas and a total number of 318,281 unexploded remnants of war destroyed.

The UN official said that the UN is committed to assisting the Sudan in clearing its area of landmines and to protect its children through the mine awareness campaigns that have been taking place in all states. He added that the UN and its partners intend to hold 20 such information days during 2007.

On budgetary matters, Mr. Dakamseh said that there is no problem with regards to funding and pointed out that funding for mine action is being paid by governments, UN agencies and concerned civil society organisations.

** Please also refer to the separate attachment on the relevant UNMIS Press Release on the issue*

Central Equatoria State refuses to sign agreement with the IOM for the repatriation of displaced teachers from the north

(*Khartoum Monitor*) The Minister of Education and Guidance in Central Equatorial State has refused to sign an agreement for the transfer by the IOM of displaced teachers of Central Equatoria from Khartoum.

The Chairperson of displaced South Sudan teachers Union in Northern States (DSSTUNS), Ustaz Carlo Wani, said that the minister stated he will not sign any agreement with the IOM because money for paying teachers' salaries comes from the

Government of Southern Sudan Minister of Finance and delays cannot be ruled out, so he cant commit himself to say he will pay salaries of all teachers coming from the north.

The Minister also stated that he would not be able to fulfil the needs of those teachers coming from the North because he doesn't have resources to handle their cases.

H also added no agreement of any kind needed to be signed, and that they are not obliged to employ any body claiming to be a teacher.

The Transition Debate

UN chief fails to win Sudan over on Darfur troops

(Reuters/ST) U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon failed on Monday to secure commitments from Sudan to allow the deployment of U.N peacekeepers in Darfur, despite lengthy talks at an African summit.

After the talks on Monday, Sudanese presidential adviser Majzoub al-Khalifa said there was consensus on the first two stages of U.N. support for a 7,500-strong African Union mission in Darfur, but there was no agreement to deploy a hybrid force.

"We are in full agreement on the first and second stages. We began discussions on the third stage," Khalifa told Reuters after 1-1/2 hours of talks which made Bashir late for a meeting of African leaders to decide the chair of the pan-African body.

Khalifa said: "We have agreed on a hybrid operation not a hybrid force."

"We need a sizable presence," U.N. envoy for Darfur, Jan Eliasson said after the meeting with Bashir. "Even if we get...a (peace) agreement and effective ceasefire we need monitoring and with this size of country we'll need a sizeable number."

He said he would try to revive the peace process by going to Sudan in early February with AU mediator Salim Ahmed Salim to meet Darfur rebels who reject a peace deal reached in May 2006.

The rejection to a hybrid force was also reiterated by Presidential Advisor Nafei Ali Nafei.

Speaking at a mass rally in el-Fasher yesterday, the president's aide also warned the international community against trying to use the 3-phase UN assistance program to the AMIS as a foothold for such a deployment. Nafei also blasted neighbouring states he did not name for allowing to be used as tools for neo-colonialism, reports *AlRai AlAam*.

Click on the link below for the full text of the Reuters story sourced from SudanTribune.com
[UN chief fails to win Sudan over on Darfur troops](#)

GoNU

Sudan "relinquishes" AU chair "in favour of Ghana"

(*SUNA via BBC Monitoring, 29 Jan. AlAyaam et al*) Sudan has relinquished the chairmanship of the AU in favour of Ghana following closed door meetings between the AU leaders that were held after the opening session of the 8th AU summit which began today in Addis Ababa.

SUNA learnt from sources at the meeting that the African leaders welcomed Sudan's position and considered it important for the unity of African states and the AU.

The sources said that Sudan was not pressurized and its relinquishment came in respect to the position. The source went on to say that by Sudan stepping down a major obstacle which would have obstructed the issues to be discussed at the summit had been surpassed.

The JEM has hailed the development as a great victory for its policies.

AlRai AlAam reports that JEM spokesperson Idriss Ibrahim revealed that the JEM had sent to messages to the African Union to assure Sudan does not get the chair.

deployment of protection forces to Darfur civilians.

The *SudanTribune.com* also reports that SLM leader AbdulWahid Nur welcomed in a press statement the rejection of the Sudanese candidacy for the chairmanship of the African Union presidency. Al-Nur said this decision represents a strong condemnation of the daily killing of Darfurians committed by the regime and its militia.

Al-Nur urged the African leaders and the international community to put the protection of the civilians in Darfur among their top agenda items. "The priority must be given to stop the horrible collective massacres committed by the by the government army and the Khartoum backed militia" he said.

ICC fact-finding mission arrives to Sudan

(*SudanTribune.com*) A team of investigators from the International Criminal Court (ICC) has arrived in Khartoum on a fact finding mission on national proceedings relating to Darfur crimes.

The Sudanese daily *AlRai AlAam* newspaper reported that the ICC team conducted meetings with officials in the foreign ministry and the Ministry of Justice.

The ICC team will remain in the country for an indefinite period of time during which they will conduct a comprehensive assessment of the special criminal courts on Darfur and investigations by the government into the crimes committed. The team will try to

ascertain the extent and seriousness Khartoum to try the perpetrators of the crimes in Darfur.

The Sudanese ambassador to the Netherlands Abu Al-Kasim Abdelwahid told al-Ray al-Aam that the visit of the ICC team comes as mentioned in the chief prosecutor's latest report to the Security Council in December.

He pointed out that the same team has previously visited Sudan several times and that they will submit a report to the ICC prosecutor outlining all the developments in the national courts investigating Darfur war crimes.

Despite Sudan's opposition to the court, it allowed ICC investigators to visit Khartoum last year and interview two senior government officials.

Southern Sudan/ GoSS

GoSS finance minister speaks of the controversy surrounding the \$60 million

(*Akhbar Alyaum*) GoSS finance minister Arthur Kuein concedes that President Bashir was indeed right when he said that the GoS had given the SPLM the amount of \$60 million. He said that the SPLM did indeed receive this amount on 5th May 2005 and deposited it in an account with the central bank.

He pointed out however that \$48 million of that amount was given to Pagan Amum who, alongside the SPLM leadership, should know full well where the money has gone and not blame the finance minister. He said that this transaction has been documented.

The GoSS finance minister who was speaking over phone to the *Akhbar Alyaum* daily confirms that the GoSS has indeed formed a commission of inquiry into the issue but pointed out that he is in possession of all those documents that support the financial transactions of the period in question and that SPLM leader Salva Kiir is aware of this.

Legislative Assembly of Southern Sudan endorses 2007 budget

(*AlSahafa*) The Legislative Assembly of Southern Sudan has endorsed the GoSS budget for 2007.

40% [\$55 mln.] of the budget will go to the SPLA, roads and bridges will use up \$164 million while \$108.7 million will go to education.

The legislative body also demanded that the regional finance minister set up clear-cut financial policies and an efficient system of collecting revenue such as through customs and taxes in order to augment the budget of the regional government. The finance ministry has also been asked to prepare quarterly reports on GoSS' finances.

The legislative also requested the GoSS not to use the financial reserves without due consent of the Legislative Assembly.

13,000 Nuba people in SPLA training camps in E. Equatoria

(*AlIntibaha*) Sources say about 13,000 people from the Nuba Mountains are engaged in military training at SPLA camps in Eastern Equatoria.

This group, the sources add, are seeking to derail the protocol on the Nuba Mountains and are bent on linking the fate of the Nuba Mountains area with that of southern Sudan should the latter opt for unity or secession.

Darfur/ DPA

Minnawi to visit Nyala

(*AlRai AlAam*) Senior Presidential Aide and SLM leader Minni Minnawi travels today to Nyala, S. Darfur, on a 3-day visit during which he will assess the situation following recent trival clashes.

Minnawi who also heads the Darfur Interim Authority also intends to get acquainted to the legal proceedings surrounding the issue of the mass graves recently uncovered in the area.

DPA non-signatories soon to hold unity conference

(*AlAyaam*) The African Union says it has received assurances from the government over the security of the proposed venue of a conference for the unification of Darfur Peace Agreement non-signatory groups.

African Union Spokesperson Noureldeen Mezni said that efforts led by the UN, African Union and the EU have culminated in pledges by the government to secure the venue for the conference.

He said that the African Union will on its part provide logistics support to the field commanders participating in the conference in a bid to unify the non-signatory movements and towards a political solution to the crisis in Darfur.

A field commander of one of the non-signatory factions denied having contacts with the government but said that the conference will take place in rebel held territories he declined to name citing “security concerns”.

French medical aid body suspends work in Darfur indefinitely

(AFP via BBC Monitoring) The humanitarian organization Medecins du Monde-France "has decided to suspend its work in Darfur [Sudan] for an indefinite period of time", we learnt from the NGO's head of international operations, Eric Chevallier, today, Monday.

Questioned by AFP, Mr Chevallier, who is currently in Sudan, noted that "the security conditions are such that Medecins du Monde [MDM] can no longer be where it is most needed" and that "there is an imbalance between the service provided and the risks run" by MDM.

Mr Chevallier said that MDM "is keeping a team in Khartoum, because the organization is still present in southern Sudan and so that it can redeploy rapidly in Darfur as soon as possible".

Seven dead following internal clashes in Darfur rebel group

(SMC via BBC Monitoring, 29 Jan.) Seven fighters were killed and others seriously wounded in internal clashes between the rebel Darfur [National] Redemption Front [NRF] troops in the late hours of last night.

In a statement to SMC [Sudanese Media Centre], a field commander for the NRF in Karmah locality, Northern Darfur State, Abkar Azraq, said that armed clashes which occurred in the late hours of last night at Karmah camp left seven soldiers dead and more than another 12 were wounded. He described their injuries as serious.

He pointed out that the reason behind clashes was a misunderstanding between a soldier and a commander, and thereafter a number of other soldiers intervened but the misunderstanding got out of hand.

Editorials and commentaries

Click on the links below to the commentaries sourced from the SudanTribune.com

- [Sudan's CPA, another born-dead peace](#)
- [What next for Salva Kiir and South Sudan at Large?](#)