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(By Public Information Office)

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Highlights

UN/ Agencies

Delhi cop honored in Sudan

(*Hindu.com*, NEW DELHI) Delhi Police Inspector Mohan Singh has been awarded a commendation certificate by the Police Commissioner of United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) for his role in securing the release of six members of the Kawaleeb tribe in Sudan.

Inspector Mohan Singh as patrol leader of a team negotiated with members of the Sudan People Liberation Movement and the Sudan People Liberation Army besides political and tribal leaders to secure the release of the detained villagers in May.

Recognizing the exemplary courage and professionalism shown by the Inspector in resolving the issue, the UNMIS Police Commissioner Kai Vittrup awarded him the commendation certificate.

Ban Ki-Moon says encouraged by hybrid operation in Darfur Politics

(*KUNA* - GENEVA) UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon said Monday he is encouraged by the recent agreement reached by the Sudanese Government, the African Union, and the UN on the future deployment of the hybrid operation in Darfur.

"On Friday, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations started to meet with potential troop and police contributing countries. In the meantime, it is vital that the African troops, AMIS, now deployed on the ground until December this year, receive the financial resources so badly needed to protect and assist people in Darfur," he said.

In a news conference in Geneva, Ban added that he has publicly stated on many occasions that Darfur is the highest priority agenda for his administration and that he thinks that during the last six months progress has been done slow but credible and considerable progress in helping resolve this Darfur situation.

He said that agreement was reached to have another meeting during the month of September in New York under the leadership of the Secretary-General of the UN and the African Union

Commission Chairman.[*Follow the link to the full text [Ban Ki-Moon says encouraged by hybrid operation in Darfur](#)*].

Military commander of AU-UN force arrive to Sudan

(*SudanTribune.com* - KHARTOUM) The newly appointed Force Commander of the African Union Mission in the Sudan, Gen Martin Luther Agwai, arrived in Khartoum from Addis Ababa today, the AMIS said today.

Gen. Agwai who will command AU peacekeepers in Darfur and later on the UN-AU Hybrid Force when deployed, said after his arrival that he was pleased and honored to be in Sudan and looked forward to working with AMIS staff to accomplish his mission.

He was received at the Khartoum international airport by AMIS senior officials. He later met with the Acting Head of Mission, Mrs. Monique Mukaruliza and other officials at AMIS headquarters in Khartoum to review the current state of the Mission.

The new Force Commander will meet with senior GoS officials in Khartoum before travelling to Darfur, to take up his functions.

GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)

President Bashir, Minnawi in talks over who takes over from Khalifa

(*AlSudani*) President Bashir and Senior Aide Minnawi held consultations yesterday over the proposals presented for a nominee to replace Dr. Majzoub el-Khalifa over the Darfur file and follow on the implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement against the backdrop of the forthcoming hybrid operations.

Informed sources meanwhile intimate that the committee monitoring implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement might convene before 9th July to discuss the peace process for Darfur.

Ghana's hard-line positions to blame for Bashir's absence in Accra, says official

(*AlSahafa*) GoS sources say President Bashir chose not to participate in this year's African Union summit meeting held in Accra in protest over the hard-line position Ghana has been taking on Sudan and in protest over African Union's support to deny Sudan of the chair of the African Union last year.

The source says Bashir's no-show was a practical retort to Ghana for having adopted of late a draft UN resolution calling for sanctions on Sudan and also for President John Kuffour's support for the deployment of an international force to Darfur and his efforts to revisit the issue in the current summit meeting.

But the Sudan's foreign ministry points out that Commissioner Alpha Oumar Konare was referring to the hybrid forces when he recently underlined the need to deploy international forces to Darfur.

France reiterates respect for Sudanese sovereignty

(*AlAyaam*) In answer to recent statements by the President of Sudan warning the West against the “Iraqization” of Sudan, a spokesperson for France’s foreign ministry said that his country’s interest in seeking solutions to the Darfur crisis also stems from its respect for Sudan's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The spokesperson said that France’s hosting of the conference on Darfur was in a bid to guarantee continuation of the Addis Ababa agreement. She pointed out that the Sudanese government had welcomed the outcome of the conference and said it would implement the recommendations of the conference.

The spokesperson for the French foreign ministry further pointed out that all players on the issue should send out a strong message of convergence.

China’s CNPC to explore for more oil in Sudan

(*AFP - BEIJING*) China National Petroleum Corp, the nation’s largest oil producer, will take up to a 40-percent stake in an oil exploration project in shallow waters off the Sudanese coasts on the Red Sea, a Chinese official in Khartoum said Monday.

"China National Petroleum Corp will take a stake of 35 percent to 40 percent in the project," Hao Hongshe, an official with the Economic and Commercial Counsellor’s Office of the Chinese embassy in Sudan, told AFP by phone.

He said the project, signed last week between the company and the Sudanese government, was still at the initial stages and the size of the investment would be decided later.

The company, parent of Hong Kong-listed PetroChina, will conduct exploration jointly with Indonesia state oil and gas company Pertamina, which has taken a 15-percent stake, Sudan’s state-run Sudapet, and three other companies. [*Follow the link to the full text [China’s CNPC to explore for more oil in Sudan](#)*].

Israel to return Sudanese to Egypt, absorbs only Darfur refugees

(*AP – JERUSALEM*) Israel is clamping down on a soaring number of infiltrators from Sudan and other lands by reaching an understanding with Egypt to keep Darfur refugees and send others back there, a decision that has drawn fire from critics who say people’s lives will be put at risk.

Prime Minister Ehud Olmert told parliament’s Foreign Affairs and Defense on Monday that about 2,800 people, including 1,160 Sudanese, have crossed illegally from Egypt through its porous Sinai desert border with Israel, in recent years, a participant in the meeting said

Olmert said Israel would absorb Sudanese the U.N. designates as refugees from the western region of Darfur but illegal immigrants who entered Israel looking for work will be returned to Egypt. He did not estimate how many Sudanese in Israel might qualify as asylum seekers.

Israeli soldiers will quickly return infiltrators to Egypt at the border crossings, and in cases where immediate return is impossible, infiltrators will be handed over to Israel's immigration police until they can be returned to their country of origin, the government said.

The government together with the UNHCR will compile a list of infiltrators already in Israel with a view to returning them to Egypt, the statement said. [*Follow the link to the full text [Israel to return Sudanese to Egypt, absorbs only Darfur refugees](#)*].

Sudan launches alternative family care for abandoned and orphaned children

(*Xinhua - KHARTOUM*)The Ministry of Social Affairs for Khartoum State and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) announced on Monday the launch of an alternative family care for abandoned and orphaned children in northern Sudan.

The campaign is aimed at preventing the abandonment of infants, changing public attitudes towards the issue, and increasing "*kaffala*", the Islamic system of community care for vulnerable children, according to a statement issued by the UNICEF.

An assessment undertaken by a joint government and UNICEF task force has found that an estimated 100 new born babies were being abandoned on the streets of the capital Khartoum every month.

Half of the abandoned babies were dying on the streets, while the others left with no alternative but institutional care.

These alarming statistics led the Ministry of Social Affairs for Khartoum State, UNICEF and other agencies to develop a pilot program of alternative family care. [*Follow the link to the full text [Sudan launches alternative family care for abandoned and orphaned children](#)*].

China must be pressurized to stop supporting Khartoum

(*BlackBritain.co.uk - ACCRA*) Leading members of Darfur-based civil society groups have stormed the African Union summit in Accra demanding that African leaders apply stronger measures against Sudan to stop the carnage in Darfur.

Among their demands is the immediate and indefinite suspension of President Omar el-Bashir of Sudan from the African Union. Similar strong civil society pressure earlier in the year led to a unanimous decision to deny el-Bashir the leadership of the AU which he was due to assume.

Abdelbagi Jibril, a Darfurian and Executive Director of Darfur Relief and Documentation Centre (DRDC), who spoke to Black Britain in Accra, said he believes that the AU has all it takes to restore peace to Darfur but pointed out that what is needed is the political will on the part of its

leaders. [Follow the link to the full text [Darfur protestors storm the AU summit in Accra and demand suspension of Sudan](#)].

Mohamed Osman el-Mirghani expected home this month

(The Citizen) A reliable source at the Democratic Unionist Party intimates that party leader Mohamed Osman el-Mirghani would be returning from Cairo probably within this month.

The DUP is dogged by internal conflicts and it is hoped that the return of party kingpin and opposition figure el-Mirghani will help sort house.

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly says elections will be internationally monitored

(The Citizen; AlSahafa) The Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly has revealed that the parties to the CPA have decided to adopt a system that combines between the direct, free and relative representational systems in the forthcoming elections.

Speaking at a press conference before parliament yesterday, Deputy Speaker Mohamed AlHassan AlAmin said that the National Congress Party will be presenting to the National Constitution Review Commission its final views on the elections bill within the next two days or so.

The Deputy Speaker further confirmed that the elections would be held on schedule as stipulated by the CPA and will be internationally monitored.

Executive committee of the parties to the CPA forms tripartite committee to study differences over Abyei

(AlAyaam; AlIntibaha; Akhbar Alyaam) The Parties to the CPA meeting at the level of the High Joint Executive Committee yesterday agreed on the formation of a sub-committee to study and set up an appropriate mechanism to resolve the issue of Abyei and come up with a comprehensive view on the issue in a bid to resolve the Abyei issue.

SPLM figure Luka Biong says the two sides managed to proceed ahead in reaching an agreement on the issue of the demarcation of the north-south border and on reintegration into the JIUs. He said that the two sides have also agreed to improve performance in the implementation of the CPA.

The two sides also reached agreement on the issue of the oil concessions.

Trial starts of 5 SLM-MM elements over the Muhandiseen incident

(AlAyaam) Amidst tight security measures, the trial started yesterday of 5 SLM-MM elements suspected of involvement in the el-Muhandiseen incidents in Omdurman in which 8 people, among them police, lost their lives.

Eastern Sudan ex-rebels enter government camps

(AFP - ASMARA) Former rebels in eastern Sudan have completed their relocation to government-run camps in line with a peace deal signed with Khartoum last year, an ex-rebel leader turned government advisor said Monday.

An estimated 5,200 ex-fighters have moved from rebel-controlled areas and western Eritrea to three camps in eastern Sudan, said Amna Dirar, deputy chairperson of the former rebel Eastern Front.

Says Amna, "The first batch has been given questionnaires as to who will go into the army, the police or to get back to civilian life. This will continue on to the other camps." [*Follow the link to the full text [Eastern Sudan ex-rebels enter government camps](#)*].

Committee calls for release of detainees held in connection to Kajbar incident

(AlSudani) The parliamentary commission of inquiry tasked with investigating the recent violence around the Kajbar Dam site agreed at a meeting yesterday that members of the commission travel to the site for discussions with the citizens and authorities over the causes of the violence.

Members of the commission agreed however that the release of the people detained in connection to the incident was important in order to bring about a conducive climate for possible solutions to the tensions.

Federation of Workers' Unions calls for tough laws on child labour

(AlKhartoum) The head of the Sudan National Federation of Workers' Unions stresses the need to put in place tougher laws prohibiting child labour.

Addressing the opening of a workshop on child labour, Professor Ibrahim Gandour underlined the need to put in place relevant legislature and underlined the need to activate the agreements concerning child labour. Of reasons for child labour, the head of the Federation said poverty, limited opportunities for education, weak awareness on the part of the families and the need for money is largely to blame for the increase in child labour rates.

Kordofan University Students Union calls for disbanding of NCP "Jihadist units"

(Rai AlShaab) Representatives of the Kordofan University Students' Union have called upon authorities to remove outside the campus all units and offices with no links to the university such as the "Jihadist Units" of the National Congress Party. The students' body describes the "Jihadist Units" as a major cause for insecurity in the campus.

The union has dispatched a delegation with a memorandum to the Minister of higher Education to that end.

Flood alert

(*AlWihda; AlKhabar; Rai AlShaab; Akhbar Alyaum; AlAyaam*) Hundred of citizens took to the flooded streets of Rabak yesterday in protest over the tough conditions they face as a result of the recent heavy rains and resultant floods. Police used teargas to disperse the riots.

The floods razed down a number of houses and the health situation in the area is on a decline and local authorities have distributed tents and plastic sheeting to help shelter those left homeless by the waters.

The protestors called on civil society organisations to step in to help them drain the floodwaters. Eyewitness reports say so far 7 people have lost their lives because of the floods.

Meanwhile, parts of the highway linking el-Obeid with South Kordofan State has been swept away by floodwaters that also swept more than 150 villages in Shoshai municipality in North Kordofan.

The regional government has sent out an SOS to international, regional and local organisation and describe the situation as “catastrophic”.

Further north, the Governor of River Nile State has declared high alert following the destruction by floodwaters of over 200 homesteads in el-Karbakan, 20 kilometers from Shendi, River Nile State.

The floods set in in the early hours of yesterday morning spelling destruction and authorities say at least one person has been killed as a result of flooding of the River Atbara.

On the Red Sea coast, the town of Port Sudan reports average rains but with heavy windstorms that destroyed a number of houses and blew the roofs off others. Electric poles were also brought down by the strong winds causing a power blackout, sources say. The commissioner reports that one person was killed when the wall of his house fell on him as a result of the winds.

The Directorate-General for Civil Defence has meanwhile warned that rainfall levels are bound to rise beyond last year’s levels. Citizens have been warned to move away from the banks of the river.

GoSS

South Sudan president reshuffles cabinet ministers

(*SudanTribune.com* - JUBA) The President of the Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS), Salva Kiir Mayardit, issued yesterday evening Presidential decrees reshuffling the GoSS cabinet and other institutions as follows:

The following have been relieved of their positions:

1. Mrs. Awut Deng Acuil Presidential Advisor in the Office of the President of the GoSS
2. Dr. Riek Machar Minister of Housing, Public Land and Public Utilities
3. Dr. Justin Yac Minister of Cabinet Affairs

4. Mr. Arthur Akuien Minister of Finance and Economic Planning
5. Dr. Theophilus Ochang Minister of Health
6. Mr. David Deng Minister of Labor, Public Service and Human Resource Development
7. Mdme. Rebecca Garang Minister of Transport and Roads.

The following have been appointed:

1. Dr. Luka tombe Monoja Minister of Cabinet Affairs
2. Mr. Dominic Dim Deng Minister of SPLA Affairs
3. Mr. Kuol Athian Mawein Minister of Finance and Economic Planning
4. Dr. Joseph Monytueil Minister of Health
5. Mrs. Awut Deng Acuil Minister of Labor, Public Service and Human Resource Development
6. Dr. David Deng Athorbei Minister of Transport and Roads
7. Mr. Martin Ohuro Okkerruk Minister of Housing, Lands and Public Utilities

Also appointed were the following Advisors in the Office of the President of the GoSS:

1. Mr. John Kong Nyoun Security Affairs
2. Dr. Theophilus Ochang Lotti Social Services
3. Dr. Justin Yac Arop Decentralization
4. Mdme. Rebecca Garang de Mabior Gender and Human Rights
5. Ismail Kony Peace and Reconciliation

The GoSS leader also issued another decree relieving Justice Ambrose Riny Thiik from the Presidency of the Supreme Court of Southern Sudan and appointing Justice John Wol MAKEC to replace him and Justice Chan Reec Madut to the Vice-Presidency of the Supreme Court of Southern Sudan.

Kiir meets with AU, UN, Eritrean and SPLM Darfur Task Force representatives

(Sudan Tribune) The Office of the President of Southern Sudan issued a Press Release yesterday outlining the outcome of a 2-hour meeting with representatives of the African Union, the UN, the SPLM Darfur Task Force and an Envoy for the Eritrean Government on Darfur.

The Press Release said that the purpose of the meeting was to “iron out areas of concern and confusion among various key bodies involved in the multi-stranded initiatives to secure a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Darfur.”

Sam Ibok of the African Union pointed out that this was the first time that representatives of these groups sat down together to discuss how to move the Darfur peace process forward. He said it was a very valuable meeting that provided opportunity for the SPLM position to be clearly articulated and resulted in agreement over the need to work in a more coordinated and complementary manner and that the African Union-UN road map for the overall process would continue to be followed.

Pekka Haavisto, representing the UN, stressed the importance of the timeline and noted that the international community, the people on the ground, the IDPs and civil society were also impatient to see result in Darfur this summer.

Speaking on behalf of the regional actors (Libya, Eritrea and Chad), Eritrean Envoy for Darfur Yemane Ghebrab said that the regional interests had been working in close coordination with the international actors and the SPLM, support the SPLM initiative and consider southern Sudan as the best venue for the collective element of the peace process.

On behalf of the SPLM Task Force on Darfur, Dr. Achier Deng confirmed that the postponed conference is being re-scheduled in light of the African Union-UN road map and will begin as soon as is practicable.

GoSS instructs southern state governors to expedite compensations for northern traders

(Rai AlShaab) The GoSS says northern Sudanese traders demanding compensation for loss of land as a result of urban planning would be compensated on condition that they provide documented proof of the title deeds.

The Spokesperson for the Northern Sector of the SPLM told the *SMC* yesterday that traders demanding compensation for the war years would not be compensated as everybody was affected by the fighting.

He said that the GoSS has instructed all southern state governors to expedite procedures for the compensations.

Ugandan rebels mull over way forward

(ReliefWeb) Uganda's Lord's Resistance Army rebels (LRA) and the government signed a peace agreement over the weekend in the Southern Sudanese capital, Juba. The agreement, which was the third agenda item, focused on accountability and reconciliation.

The rebels have proposed an alternative justice mechanism to address their alleged atrocities against the people of Northern Uganda. The LRA has also asked the Ugandan government to seek the withdrawal of the International Criminals Court's (ICC) indictments against the LRA'S top leadership but the government says it will only consider withdrawing the indictments after the rebels have signed the comprehensive peace agreement.

Vincent Otti is the second in command of the LRA rebels. He tells VOA English to Africa reporter Peter Clotey the rebels would be meeting their supporters in Diaspora to look at the way forward. [Follow the link to the full text [Ugandan rebels mull over way forward](#)].

Darfur

Humanitarian:

Gov. of W. Darfur calls on EU to resume support for Jebel Marra Development project

(Sudan Vision) The Governor of West Darfur State has called on the EU to resume support for the Jebel Marra Development Project considered a pillar of developmental projects in the states.

The Governor received at his offices in el-Geneina yesterday a delegation from the EU and the European Parliament besides those of UN organisations in el-Geneina.

He asserted his government's commitments to spread the culture of peace in the state and called on the visiting delegation to provide support for the development project and services for the people and particularly the returning IDPs.

Security:

General Commander of rebel JEM forces relieved of his post

(*SudanTribune.com* - LONDON) The chairman of the Darfur rebel Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) Khalil Ibrahim, has relieved the general commander of the movement's troops, Abdalla Banda Abbaker, of his post.

A decree distributed July 1, didn't appoint his successor but just mentioned "name of new commander general to follow".

Informed sources explained to Sudan Tribune that JEM forces have simply outgrown the former general commander and the job at hand now requires somebody with more breadth. Banda's level of education also makes it difficult for him operate outside war zones, the sources said.

French autopsy shows son of Chad's president died of asphyxiation outside Paris

(*AP via NewsEdge* - PARIS) Chadian President Idriss Deby's son was found dead Monday in the basement of his apartment building in a Paris suburb, and officials were treating the case as a murder investigation, authorities said.

A preliminary autopsy showed that Brahim Deby, 27, died of asphyxiation from chemicals released by a fire extinguisher, which lay near his body found by the building's caretaker in Courbevoie, west of the capital, a prosecutor's office said.

Authorities were ruling out the possibility that Deby, who had a criminal record, may have died accidentally, but said a head wound on Deby's body may not have been related to his death.

Toxicology tests were planned, said an official from the prosecutor's office in Nanterre, west of the capital, on condition of anonymity because the case was continuing.

Deby's body was found in a corridor between an underground parking lot and a flight of stairs in the apartment building. The prosecutor's office said he had apparently died violently.

The Chadian leader was told of his son's death in Accra, Ghana, where he was attending the African Union summit, his communications office said, saying the news came as a "great shock" to him. He was not expected to make an announcement until further details were available from investigators.

The spokesman said the president would not cut short his trip to Ghana, but stay through the end of the summit Tuesday.

Brahim Deby was the president's oldest son and had no official government post, according to the Chadian president's office.

He was convicted on drugs and weapons charges in June 2006. A Paris court handed him a suspended six-month jail sentence for possession of drugs and illegally carrying a weapon.

The trial stemmed from Brahim Deby's involvement in a fight outside a nightclub in western Paris, during which a semiautomatic pistol fell from his pocket, judicial officials said. He had no authorization to carry a weapon, and the prosecution accused him of using a diplomatic suitcase to have the weapon delivered. During a search of his apartment, police discovered 375 grams of marijuana and 2 grams of cocaine, officials said.

A poor central African nation, Chad shares a border with the violence-wracked Darfur region of Sudan. Conflict from the Darfur crisis has spilled over into eastern Chad.

Chadian rebels also have challenged Idriss Deby, who first came to power himself at the head of rebel columns. Competition for power in Chad has intensified since it began exporting oil several year ago.

In 2006, Deby was re-elected to a third term as president. Critics contested the fairness of the elections, as well as those in 1996 and 2001.

He faced only token opposition in last year's vote, which came just weeks after rebels, who include Deby's relatives, failed in a bid to capture the capital. The insurgents staged the attack from bases in the volatile region where Chad meets Darfur.

Power has never changed hands at the ballot box in Chad. A 1990 takeover by Deby brought a semblance of peace after three decades of civil war and an invasion by Libya, but the president has become increasingly isolated in recent years.