



## UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN

## UNMIS

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(By Public Information Office)

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# Highlights

## UN/ Agencies

### **New chief of AU-UN mission to Darfur assumes his duties**

(*SudanTribune.com*) Rodolphe Adada, the newly appointed AU-UN Joint Special Representative for Darfur, arrived in Khartoum on Thursday, 5 July, and assumed his duties as AMIS Head of Mission, pending the deployment of the Hybrid Operation.

Since his arrival, Adada has paid courtesy calls on senior Government of Sudan officials. During his meeting with the Sudanese President Omer al-Bashir on Saturday, 7 July, Adada delivered a written message from Denis Sassou N’Guesso, President of Congo, in which Congolese Head of State thanked his Sudanese counterpart for approving the appointment of Mr. Rodolphe Adada as AU-UN Special Joint Representative for Darfur.

President Al-Bashir welcomed Adada to Sudan and promised to give him the necessary support for the success of his important mission.

During his meetings with the Sudanese government ministers, the GoS officials reiterated the support of the Government of Sudan for Adada’s mission. He and the GoS officials committed to cooperate in order to ensure the success of AMIS and later the AU-UN Hybrid Operation, in the interest of Africa and the people of Sudan.

The new AMIS Head of Mission also met today with Minni Minawi, Senior Assistant to the President and President of the Darfur Transitional Regional Authority (DTRA), who assured Adada of his full cooperation, adding that he looks forward to working in partnership with him to restore peace and stability in Darfur.

On Monday afternoon, 9 July, Adada briefed the African and AMIS partners Ambassadors on his new assignment and called on their countries to provide him with the necessary support for the success of his mission.

He told the press he looked forward to his mission with “enthusiasm and hope.” He further acknowledged that “This is a major mission and a challenge for Africa... a heavy operation” which can only be accomplished with the support of the Government of Sudan and AMIS’s international partners.

On the other hand, Adada had reviewed the current efforts to re-energize the Darfur peace process in a meeting on Saturday, 7 July, with the UN envoy for Darfur, Jan Eliasson, and met later on Monday evening with the AU envoy for Darfur, Salim Ahmed Salim, who has just returned from a working trip to this region. He also met earlier with the Acting Head of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS), Taye-Brook Zerihoum, with whom he discussed issues of common interest to AMIS and UNMIS.

On Tuesday, 10 July, Adada will travel to AMIS Forward Force Headquarters in El Fashir, Darfur for a one-day visit, after which he will go to New York for consultations at UN Headquarters followed by working visits to some European capitals, and return later for a more comprehensive tour of all AMIS sectors in Darfur. [See the press statement attached separately]

### **UN Human rights committee examines reports on Zambia, Sudan Society**

(KUNA) The UN Human Rights Committee on Monday examined the third periodic report on Zambia, it will continue to complete it on Tuesday.

It will examine the third periodic report of Sudan on Wednesday and Thursday, and the second periodic report of the Czech Republic next Monday and Tuesday, 17 July, in formal public meetings. The situation in Grenada will also be considered, in the absence of a report, on Wednesday, 18 July.

The Committee will present its final remarks on the situations in these countries at the end of its three-week session on 27 July. The countries presenting reports are among the 160 States parties to the Covenant, which was adopted in 1966 by the General Assembly. The Committee, as a monitoring body, periodically examines reports submitted by States parties on the promotion and protection of civil and political rights.

### **Russia completes rotation of peacekeepers in Sudan**

(ITAR-TASS) Russia's Air Force have completed rotation of its peacekeeping air group within the framework of the UN Mission in Sudan, an aide of the Air Force commander, Col Aleksandr Drobyshevskiy, told ITAR-TASS on Monday.

"Il-18 and Il-76 planes brought 120 servicemen and 13 tonnes of cargo to Sudan. These planes took back peacekeepers who had served their mission in Sudan for seven months. The flight time of each pilot makes up 300 hours," he said.

"The peacekeepers fulfilled all tasks. All personnel of the Russian air group, part of the UN Mission in Sudan, have been commended," he said.

The newly rotated group made four flights earlier on Monday.

The Russian air group was deployed in Sudan in April 2006. It includes 120 servicemen and four Mi-8 helicopters. Peacekeepers are rotated once in six months.

### **Humanitarian community comes in to help flood victims**

(KUNA additional reporting from ReliefWeb) Floods sweeping regions around the Sudanese capital have claimed lives of 10 people, authorities reported on Tuesday.

Many residents of the regions of Umm Dawa-Ban, Al-Osailat and Al-Dabibah Al-Olaifoun have been evacuated as the raging water caused by torrential rain swamped houses, properties, roads

and cultivated fields A resident, Othman Omar, told KUNA that he struggled hard along with his family members to flee the region "after the water surrounded us from all sides." He accused the authorities for being slack in coping with disaster and failing to reopen sewage pipes in the swamped locations.

Residents of the flooded areas said the raging water destroyed more than 1, 600 houses and ravaged wide swaths of cultivated fields.

The Interior Ministry said the heavy rain showering the country since start of this month has caused death of 15 people and destroyed 4,683 houses.

Authorities expected more destruction and losses as a result of the continuing torrential rain.

Meanwhile, a multi-agency emergency response from the humanitarian community has ensured that thousands of affected families are already receiving vital assistance.

Using the Common Pipeline system – a joint supply operation managed by the UN Joint Logistics Centre with support from UNICEF and the NGO CARE International – government efforts to respond to flooding have been boosted by the provision of essential supplies including plastic sheeting, blankets, cooking sets, jerry cans, sleeping mats and mosquito nets. These items have already been distributed to 1,000 families in Kosti in White Nile State, and to a further 85 households in Geissan in Blue Nile State with assistance from local authorities and UNMIS. In Kassala, UNICEF has provided the NGO GOAL with plastic sheeting for 1,000 families in immediate need, with the Common Pipeline providing 3,000 jerry cans.

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***More reads:***

- *AlRai AlAam* daily of 10 July 2007 carries an article by Dr. Mustapha Osman Ismail, Presidential Advisor, titled, ***Evaluating the Darfur Peace Agreement one year down the line***. The article delineates the differences between UNSCR 1706 and the Hybrid Operations. He points out that UNSCR 1706 was proclaimed without due consultations with the Government of Sudan as opposed to the Hybrid Operation to which the Sudan did give its consent resulting from prior consultations and agreement. The long article concludes with the citation of a number of points which he sees as challenges the government must address as it embarks on the peace process for Darfur. Details are in separate attachment.
- *Mission Untenable is an article by Steve Bloomfield posted on the SundayHerald (Scotland) website on 10 July. The writer asks why the UN is “turning a blind eye to genocide.” The full text of the article could be accessed through the following link [Mission UNtenable](#).*

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

**President Bashir to open second Bashair refinery tomorrow**

(*AlSudani*) President Bashir will inaugurate tomorrow the Bashair II Refinery for oil experts.

The Minister of Energy and Mining says all preparations are complete for the inauguration of the 30,000 000 capacity refinery constructed by the Minister and the PetroDar oil company

## **Armed Forces, SPLA withdraw from Malakal**

The Joint Military Commission yesterday took over Malakal military garrison following the withdrawal of the armed forces and the SPLA to the north and south, respectively, of the boundaries of 1/1/1956 in implementation of the security arrangements provision stipulated under the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.

The official spokesman of the Joint Defence Council, Maj. Gen. Bior Ajang, informed Sudan Vision that the withdrawal to the north and to the south has been performed faultlessly, stressing that the two parties had abided by the deadline fixed for the withdrawal of the armed forces to the north and the SPLA to the south.

Ajang described the step as indicative of the two parties adherence to the implementation of the agreement and revealed that the SPLA had moved from the southern part of the Blue Nile State to the north of the Upper Nile State and from the Nuba Mountains region to the Unity State while the armed forces have also started the process of withdrawing to the north.

He added that the Joint Defence Council will convene during the period from 10-20 July for assessing progress of the implementation of the withdrawal process and probing the extent of the two parties' commitment to the implementation of the security arrangements. He said that the deployment process has already started after the armed forces and the SPLA have withdrawn to their assigned locations.

## **Sudan misses withdrawal deadline**

*(BBC News)* The Sudanese government has missed a key deadline under the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) to withdraw its troops from the south of the country.

Only two-thirds of the northern Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) have been redeployed, officials have said.

Many fear their continued presence will lead to renewed tensions as the South takes over its own security on Tuesday.

The redeployment of soldiers by 9 July was one of the deals made under the CPA.

Both sides have been slow to move their troops.

A UN statement signed by the SAF and SPLA on Monday said that only 66.5% - just over 30,000 soldiers from the North - had been redeployed.

The status of another 9,000 troops is contested by the South.

The head of the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS), Peter Schumann, told Reuters news agency that most of the remaining northern forces were in oil production areas.

Under the peace agreement, the protection of Sudan's oil fields should fall to special, integrated units made up of both armies.

But Mr Schumann said it was unclear how long it would take for these special units to take up the role.

Another key issue still to be resolved is that of the militia backed by the northern government.

Under the CPA, they were supposed to be absorbed into the Sudanese Armed Forces, the southern army or demobilized. The North claims they have been integrated, but this is contested by the SPLA.

Mr Schumann said the militia were still being funded by the northern army.

There are concerns that if the militia problem is not resolved, it could lead to fighting.

Last November, there were hundreds of deaths in clashes between the two in the southern town of Malakal.

### **NCP denies support of southern militias**

*(Khartoum Monitor)* The Spokesperson for the NCP Southern Sector Khamis Haggar has denied NCP support of southern Sudanese militia groups.

The official was responding to recent accusations by the SPLM Secretary-General that the NCP was supporting these militias.

Haggar pointed out that there are currently no militia groups in southern Sudan that have not joined the SAF or the SPLA. Some, he said, have been distributed into the JIUs and what few remain do not constitute a danger in the south.

### **Abyei people angry at compromise deal**

*(The Citizen)* An MP yesterday criticized the deal reached between the Government of National Unity and the GoSS on Abyei saying it violated the CPA and was not in line with the wishes of the people.

A GoSS delegation led by VP Riek Machar has been negotiating with the NCP but failed to reach agreement over Abyei forcing it to strike a compromise under which the people of Abyei would decide for themselves their representative in the Southern Sudan legislative body.

MP Arop Madut said on Monday that the NCP team drew the SPLM team into re-opening negotiations over Abyei and this he cites as a violation of the agreement. He also said that documents agreed upon last month by the NCP-SPLM meeting on establishing an interim administration in Abyei should be scrutinized.

## **First air operations to return Southern Sudan IDPs start Monday**

*(SudanTribune.com)* Air operations to return IDPs to their home areas will commence for the first time since the return operations began. The first flight carrying IDPs to Yambio via Juba will depart Khartoum on 10 July, a joint UNMIS and IOM statement said today.

The IDPs flying to Yambio will first overnight in Juba at a way station managed by UNHCR/German Governmental Organization GTZ before flying to Yambio on two rotational flights on Wednesday, 11 July. On arrival in Yambio, they will be received by a reception committee comprised of local government officials and the local community.

Government vehicles will take them to a Way Station in Yambio where they will receive packages of basic household items to help start their new life. These packages are being provided for organized returns by the United Nations Joint Logistics Centre (UNJLC), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and Non- Governmental Organization CARE. [*Follow the link to the full text [First air operations to return South Sudan IDPs start Monday](#)*].

## **US envoy starts visit in Sudan**

*(Xinhua; AlAyaam)* Andrew Natsios, the special envoy of U.S. President George W. Bush, arrived in Khartoum on Monday on a seven-day visit in Sudan, Sudanese official news agency SUNA reported.

Shortly after his arrival, the U.S. envoy left Sudanese capital for Darfur where he held meetings with local government officials and leaders of the rebel movements to get acquainted with the situation there, said the report.

Andrew Natsios was in Kalma Camp in South Darfur yesterday where he held talks with officials there and later held talks with members of the Darfur Peoples' Forum, an umbrella group that includes political forces, civil society and women's groups in Darfur.

Representatives of the Darfur Peoples' Forum told the US envoy that the basic tenets for solutions to the problems of Darfur are guarantee for security and that Darfur be granted a unified region status as is the case with southern Sudan.

They also told Natsios that the Darfur-Darfur conference will only be possible after peace is realized in Darfur. the visiting envoy also asked them on how they look at the issue of the deployment of international forces to Darfur and they pointed out that the failure of the AMIS in realizing security and stability in the region only makes such a deployment necessary.

They also gave the envoy a copy of the recommendations of a recent workshop in Nyala on unifying views of the people of Darfur.

After his visit in Darfur, the U.S. envoy will then head for Southern Sudan for meetings with officials there, including Sudanese First Vice-President and President of the southern Sudanese government Salva Kiir Mayardit.

Back in Khartoum, Natsios is to have meetings with Sudanese Vice President Ali Osman Mohamed Taha, Senior Assistant to the Sudanese President and Chairman of the Darfur Transitional Regional Authority Mini Arkou Minawi and Foreign Minister Lam Akol.

The visit of the U.S. diplomat coincides with a tour of UN Special Envoy Jan Eliasson and African Union Special Envoy Salim Ahmed Salim in this country.

### **Kassala governor blames political elements for clashes between police and civilians**

(*AlHayat*) The Governor of Kassala State blames some political elements of being behind recent clashes between the police and citizens in Kassala State in which citizens burnt public property and machinery brought in to protect the state.

Speaking at a press conference yesterday, the governor said that nine police officers were injured. He refuted reports that some citizens were killed.

### **Sudan puzzled by exodus to Israel**

(*UPI* – 9 July, JERUSALEM) Sudan's interior minister has launched an investigation into why more than 3,000 refugees have entered Israel by way of Egypt.

At a Khartoum news conference Sunday, Interior Minister Zubair Bashir Taha said it was an "embarrassing matter," Ynetnews reported Monday.

"Has Egypt become the gateway to Israel or to Europe? We don't know where these people are headed ... they know nothing about Israel," he said.

Taha said Egyptian authorities were assisting the investigation, as many of the refugees were spending prolonged periods in Egypt before going to Israel.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's office issued a statement saying refugees who weren't from the war-torn Darfur region would be returned to Egypt, the report said.

The interior minister accused Israeli authorities of encouraging Sudanese refugees to come in their country. He further said that Tel Aviv is marketing this issue through the media to defame Sudan.

Interior Minister Zubair Bashir Taha estimated the number of the Sudanese who infiltrated into Israel via Egypt at some 3,000 persons. He said that the infiltrators come from South Sudan (40%), the Darfur region (35%), and Nuba Mountains (25%).

Taha, who pledged to prosecute the refugees when they returned, described this phenomenon as very confusing to his ministry, but he justified their refuge in Israel by saying that they consider it a crossing point to Europe and the United States.

While an unidentified Sudanese refugee in Israel expressed satisfaction from his presence there. He told AlJazeera Satellite TV "We were surprised when we came here. We met good people, who welcomed us and gave us food. We feel that we are extremely happy. We hope that the Israeli government would find a solution for us and our children. We came here to look for a better place."

## **GoSS**

### **US Congressmen urge Bush to support Ugandan peace talks**

(*SudanTribune.com*) US Congressmen have publicly urged President Bush to provide diplomatic support to the ongoing peace talks between the Ugandan government and the rebel LRA to end the 21-year war in northern Uganda, Resolve Uganda, a US based a U.S. based campaign to change American policy toward the crisis, announced today.

17 members of the Senate and 27 members of the House of Representatives signed and sent a letter to the White House, requesting that the President dispatch a senior diplomat to Juba to act in direct support of the negotiations.[*Follow the link to the full text [US Congressmen urge Bush to support Ugandan peace talks](#)*].

### **SPLA mobilizes to attack militias in Bahr-el-Ghazal and Equatoria**

(*AllIntibaha*) Under the heading, *Seeds of a Rebellion Within the SPLA*, *Alintibaha* daily says that informed sources report that the SPLA is mobilizing its forces to attack armed factions in the Bahr-el-Ghazal and Equatoria areas and has indeed sent about 2,000 fighters to Wau and Raja in Bahr-el-Ghazal under the guise of disarmament.

Citizens have meanwhile expressed concerns of possible clashes should the SPLA insist to carrying out the disarmament exercise forcefully. Citizens argue that this is in violation of the CPA that states that the JIU's – not the SPLA – would be responsible for disarmament.

Sources add that the SPLA is using the rainy season as an opportunity to redeploy its forces presumably for disarmament of the other armed groups despite the fact that there are no more armed factions in the area.

On the other hand, sources confirm that infighting within the SPLA in the Jebel Nuba area has climaxed following a recent conference of the movement in the Nuba areas. A number of SPLM member was killed at the hands of a rival group led by Telefon Kuku.

## **Darfur**

### ***Humanitarian:***

### **Hunger stalks Darfur**

*Residents of conflict-ridden Darfur are struggling to survive. But for refugees from Darfur who have fled to the Central African Republic, conditions are worse than the ones they left behind.*

*Al Jazeera's Andrew Simmons travelled to the Sam Oundja refugee camp and came face to face with human misery. Read the full report [Hunger stalks Darfur](#).*

### ***Political:***

#### **AU Salim, JEM Ibrahim hold talks on Darfur peace process**

(*SudanTribune.com*) Salim Ahmed Salim, AU envoy for Darfur met Sunday with Khalil Ibrahim Mohamed, leader of the rebel Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) as part of ongoing efforts to energize the Darfur peace process, the AUMIS said Monday.

Khalil Ibrahim welcomed the AU delegation and expressed his optimism that a fair and comprehensive peace could be achieved through the forthcoming round of negotiations, now that Salim and the mediation team have developed a clear understanding of the complexities of the conflict and the needs and demands of Darfurians.

The rebel leader emphasized, “JEM is committed to peace as its ultimate goal,” adding “It is vital that the international community and the mediators are better aware of the demands of Darfurians including their rights to power and wealth-sharing”.

The meeting, which took place in North of Darfur close to the boarder with Chad, was attended by AU Deputy Head of Mission, Ambassador Hassan Gibril, Head of the Darfur Peace Agreement Implementation Team, Ambassador Sam Ibok, as well as other AU and UN officials.

The AU envoy acknowledged that “In Abuja we agreed on some issues and disagreed on others. But we all agree that a just and sustainable peace in Darfur is our ultimate and collective goal”.

“We are aware of the aspirations and disappointments of the people of Darfur but it is difficult to sustain a healthy political process amidst a state of insecurity,” he added.

Salim explained that the fragmentation of some of the Darfurian armed Movements is still complicating the peace efforts. “It is in the best interest of all the Parties that a credible, coherent and unified rebel movement contribute positively to the peace talks. But we cannot wait indefinitely for all Movements to be united. We are looking into the possibility of helping the Movements to adopt a common negotiating framework. If we cannot achieve what is perfect, we will work with what is possible,” he said.

He explained that the roadmap for the political process consists of three phases: Convergence of Initiatives and Consultations; Pre-Negotiations; and Negotiations.

He said it is of special importance that the different initiatives that aim at achieving peace in Darfur converge because “if everyone is doing the negotiation, then no one is doing the negotiation. There is a need for all negotiations to converge under the AU-UN leadership”.

As a point of departure for the implementation of the road-map, the AU and UN expect all parties to declare their serious commitment to achieve a political solution to the Darfur crisis; create a security environment in Darfur conducive to negotiations; participate in and commit to the outcome of the negotiation effort; and to cease all hostilities.

Salim pleaded that it was necessary to quicken the pace of negotiations. He said the danger in the present situation lies not only in the sad humanitarian condition and lack of security that plague Darfur, but in the looming loss of hope among Darfurians. He said, “Despair only aggravates problems and solves none”.

Following the meeting, Salim and Khalil held private talks that covered details of the peace process and the roadmap.

JEM spokesperson, Ahmed Hussein Adam said that Salim invited Khalil Ibrahim to attend the Tripoli meeting next week under the joint AU-UN chairmanship. The AU envoy also invited the rebel JEM leader to participate in a meeting for the leaders of the rebel groups to be held in the coming days.

### **Foreign minister Akol to head government delegation to the Tripoli talks**

*(Rai AlShaab)* Foreign Minister Dr. Lam Akol will head the Sudan government delegation to the forthcoming talks in Tripoli scheduled to take place mid this month.

Ministry spokesperson, Ambassador Ali el-Sadiq, said that the forthcoming Tripoli meet comes within the context of efforts exerted by envoys Salim and Eliasson to resolve the problem of Darfur. He underlined the need to energize the understandings reached between Sudan, the African Union and the United Nations over the hybrid operations that calls for punitive measures against all those who refuse the invitations to participate at the meeting in Tripoli.

Ambassador el-Sadiq expect discussions in Tripoli to focus on the time, venue and date of talks between the government and the non-signatory factions.

### ***Security:***

#### **SAF denies bombardment**

*(AlSudani)* The SAF has denied reports it carried out aerial bombardments of some areas in North Darfur. It accuses some parties of propagating such false allegations.

A statement by the Office of the Spokesperson of the SAF said that the army says what is happening is nothing other than tribal clashes in the area. The SAF also said that there are ongoing political processes to reintegrate combatants of the signatory factions to the Darfur Peace Agreement into the SAF as per the security arrangements of the agreement.

On the other hand, informed sources report that renegade elements of the Minnawi faction of the SLA clashed with the NRF in the Abu-Khaiem, AlAtroun, AlNikheila and a number of other

villages close to the borders with Libya. The information secretary for the SLM-MM denies knowledge of such an incident.

### **One killed, three injured in renewed clashes between Turjum and Abbala**

*(Rai AlShaab)* One person was killed, three injured and four others reported as missing following renewed fighting yesterday between the Turjum and Abbala tribesmen of South Darfur.

Informed sources report that the fighting took place at Intifadha Village near Sabei Dileiba in el-Salaam locality west of Nyala. Eye-witnesses say the fighting was an act of revenge by the Abbala for a Turjum attack on them last week when they also lost some cattle and camels. Mediation from the Bani Halba tribal leaders had then helped calm the situation last week before this latest attack.

Sources accuse the regional government of inaction and silence over the increasing clashes between the two tribes.