NOTE: Reproduction here does not mean that the UNMIS PIO can vouch for the accuracy or veracity of the contents, nor does this report reflect the views of the United Nations Mission in Sudan. Furthermore, international copyright exists on some materials and this summary should not be disseminated beyond the intended list of recipients.

IN THE NEWS TODAY:

- **UN/ Agencies**
  - UN Chief Says Darfur Remains his Highest Priority
  - Coverage on the UNMIS press briefing
  - Envoys conclude first stage of 3-pronged efforts to re-energize political process for Darfur
  - United Nations airlifts emergency relief to thousands of flood victims
  - Britain, France, Ghana circulate UN draft on hybrid force in Darfur

- **GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)**
  - Council of Ministers to hold regular visit in el-Fasher
  - Kiir travels to China on Monday
  - Pagan Amoum’s statements draws angry reactions
  - SLM admits problems exist within their ranks
  - Road to 2011 referendum is full of obstacles – South Sudan’s Kiir
  - No more ‘cat and mouse,’ Rice tells Sudan
  - SAF confirms that all factions have been disarmed or reintegrated
  - Arab Centre for independence of the judiciary calls upon Sudan government to hand Kosheib and Haroun over to the ICC

- **Darfur**
  - AMIS says not part in delay of Darfur peacekeepers salary
  - Military officers being sentenced for Darfur crimes - Sudan
  - SLM leader says Darfur mediators need clear vision
  - SLA-unity faction releases 4 prisoners
  - Confusion rules as Darfur rebel forces split up

- **Miscellaneous:**
  - Chad Arabs also victims in tit-for-tat violence
  - Sudan migrants make dangerous desert run for Israel
  - Chadian opposition forces confirm talks continue in Tripoli with the N'Djamena government
UN Chief Says Darfur Remains his Highest Priority

(VoA) United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon says stopping the killing and finding a political solution in the Darfur region of Sudan remain his highest priorities. VOA's Sonja Pace reports from London, the U.N. chief has been meeting with Middle East peace envoy Tony Blair.

Speaking at London's prestigious Chatham House research center, U.N. chief, Ban Ki-moon described the humanitarian crisis in Darfur as "devastating," and said the world can no longer accept further delays in the peace process.

"The tragic cycle of violence has been allowed to continue for too long," he said. "I think the people in Darfur have suffered too much. The international community has waited too long."

In London, Mr. Ban also met with the new Middle East peace envoy Tony Blair. Mr. Blair has been named the representative of the Middle East Quartet, which is made up of the United States, the European Union, the U.N. and Russia.

"However [much] military action may be effective, there is always a limitation unless they are accompanied by political dialogue and reconciliation amongst themselves," he said.

Mr. Ban cited a number of other global issues the U.N. is dealing with, including North Korea, Iran and terrorism. And he cited another problem that, he said, concerns all of mankind - climate change.

"I'm convinced that this challenge and what we do about it will define us, our era and ultimately our global legacy," said Ban.

Mr. Ban cautioned that the U.N. cannot be everywhere and cannot provide all the answers, but he said it can provide a forum for finding solutions.

Coverage on the UNMIS press briefing


No mention was made in the English prints and those Arabic language papers that did carry some coverage on the press conference, notably Akhbar Alyaum, Alwan, AlRai AlAam, AlIntibaha, amongst a few others, focused on summing up parts of the opening remarks in the briefing, mainly relative to the CPA-related activities, Returns, Reintegration and Recovery and the situation in Darfur.
**Envoys conclude first stage of 3-pronged efforts to re-energize political process for Darfur**

(*AlRai AlAam*) The United Nations and the African Union have completed the first phase of their plan to re-energize the political process for Darfur. Dr. Salim Ahmed Salim left the country yesterday after talks with joint Special Representative, Rodolphe Adada.

Sources meanwhile report that the envoys have reached the conviction that there is a need to expedite efforts to urgently launch practical arrangements to start talks between the warring parties instead of waiting for results of effort to unify the rebel factions. The sources say the envoys are now convinced it is difficult to re-unite these factions.

Sources also add that the government bitterly requested the envoys not to waste more efforts in consultations without starting efforts to re-energize talks. The government pointed out that Eritrea and Libya were on the path to bring the parties to talks but then had to halt their efforts as they waited for the outcome of the efforts of the two envoys. The government had also noted the slow pace of the efforts to re-energize the political process as opposed to the push for the hybrid operation.

**United Nations airlifts emergency relief to thousands of flood victims**

(*Sudan Tribune*) The United Nations’ Geneva office has announced that the United Nations provided tents, blankets, mosquito nets and other items to thousands of flood victims nationwide.

The emergency relief provided by the international organization reinforces local government efforts and assistance provided by aid organizations and NGOs, notably Care Foundation.

**Floods update**

*Coverage on the destruction caused by the recent rains and ensuing floods around the country continue to take centre stage in most local dailies. Oum Dhwanban has been much highlighted and today’s press reports also have it that Omdurman has been hard hit by the recent rains with reports of a man and a woman having lost their lives as a result of the rains.*

*North Kordofan has reported that at least 6,000 families have lost their houses and living in the wilderness. There are also reports of deaths by drowning. The local government has requested assistance from Khartoum.*

*River Nile State meanwhile says that lack of response from the federal government to their pleas for about one million tents and plastic sheeting for shelter those who lost their homes to the rain waters is embarrassing the regional government there.*

*In Khartoum, the Minister of Interior announced that the death toll as a result of the rains has risen to 30 and about 100 people have been injured as a result and 270 houses destroyed by the floods in the last three days in Khartoum State.*
Britain, France, Ghana circulate UN draft on hybrid force in Darfur

(Xinhua online; Ireland.com) Britain, France and Ghana Wednesday circulated a draft UN Security Council resolution, authorizing the deployment of a joint African Union (AU)-UN peacekeeping force of up to 26,000 troops in Sudan's Darfur region.

The draft said the proposed force, known as the United Nations-African Union mission in Darfur, or UNAMID, would consist of up to 19,555 military personnel and a civilian component of up to 3,772 police personnel and 19 formed police units.

It said the troops will have a "unity of command and control" and "command and control structures ... will be provided by the United Nations."

The draft stated that the contingent would be deployed for "an initial period of 12 months" in order to support the implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement, signed in May last year by the largest rebel group, the Sudan Liberation Movement, and the Sudanese government with the aim of ending the fighting in Darfur.

The text urged all parties in the region to immediately end hostilities and attacks and called on the Sudanese government and the rebel groups to hold talks in search of a political solution.

It warned that the council "will take further measures," if "the parties to the conflict in Darfur fail to fulfill their commitments or cooperate fully with this resolution." It does not give details of what these measures will be.

The draft resolution requested UN chief Ban Ki-moon to report immediately to the council on any failure by the parties to comply with this resolution.

It is still not known when the draft will be put to a vote in the 15-member Security Council.

The resolution is under Chapter Seven of the UN Charter, which makes it mandatory. It would allow the mission "to use all necessary means," a euphemism for a use of force, "in the areas of deployment of its forces and as it deems within its capabilities."

Force could be used to protect the mission's personnel, facilities, installations and equipment, to ensure the security and freedom of movement of its own personnel and humanitarian workers and "to protect civilians under threat of physical violence" as well as to seize or collect arms. Specifically, the text would authorize up to 19,555 military personnel and 6,400 civilian police.

It calls on member states to "finalize" their contributions within 90 days of adoption. Sudan has agreed to the troop numbers.

The UN-AU proposals have two options for troops, one with 19,500, composed of 18 infantry battalions and another with 17,605, with 15 infantry battalions. The cost for the first year has been estimated at €1.5 billion.
The resolution also calls on countries and regional organizations to respond to requests by the African Union, which is rapidly running out of money. The full UN force is not expected to be on the ground until next year.

The resolution also notes with "strong concern" ongoing attacks by rebels, the government and pro-government Janjaweed militia on the civilian population and humanitarian workers.

It also speaks for the first time of the "use of United Nations markings on aircraft used in such attacks" a reference to a confidential UN report by outside experts in April. That survey said the Khartoum government was using planes painted white to make them look like UN aircraft to bomb and carry out surveillance of villages.

GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)

Council of Ministers to hold regular visit in el-Fasher

(AlSahafa) The Council of Ministers travels to el-Fasher to hold its regular meeting there on 22nd July.

Sources say that the el-Fasher meeting of the Cabinet will discuss the performance of the governments of the three states of Darfur in the presence of the governors and top regional government officials.

Kiir travels to China on Monday

(AlSahafa) Vice-President Salva Kiir Mayardit travels to China next Monday at the head of high-level delegations of the GoNU and the GoSS.

The one-week meeting will see the Sudanese delegation hold talks with Chinese counterparts on means to bolster bilateral relations in the economic and political domains and explore areas of cooperation in development in southern Sudan.

Pagan Amoum’s statements draws angry reactions

(Alwan; Alwattan) Recent statements by the SPLM Secretary-General that the Abyei issue may be referred to the US for arbitration and administration of Abyei has drawn angry remarks from some quarters.

AbdelRasoul el-Nour, a prominent member of the opposition Umma Party and himself from Abyei said Amoum was not serious in his remarks and that the remarks were only meant for local consumption.

On the referral of the issue to the US, he said that no force on earth could impose on them solutions on the issue.
The National Congress Party has also expressed criticism over the SPLM Secretary-General’s remarks and point out that such a trusteeship status is outdated. Both agree that the people of Sudan are capable themselves of solving its problems.

**SLM admits problems exist within their ranks**

(Rai AlShaab) El-Tayeb Khamis, the Spokesperson for the SLM-MM, has admitted the movement is facing problems within its ranks as a result of different points of views amongst their leaders.

He revealed that there are “fifth columnists” within the ranks of the movement who seek to work against the movement and its goals. He called upon the movement’s Revolutionary Council to come up with decisive decisions on these elements in its next meeting.

**Road to 2011 referendum is full of obstacles – South Sudan’s Kiir**

(SudanTribune.com) First Vice President and President of the government of southern Sudan, Salva Kiir Mayardit, said yesterday that the road to the 2011 referendum would not be as smooth as expected by many and reiterated that the SPLM must ensure that the referendum period ends peacefully.

"The lost of our leader and commander in chief of SPLA and chairman of SPLM, Dr. John Garang de Mabior, was a great blow to the whole nation and the marginalized Sudanese in particular; nevertheless, his vision will always continue to guide us until it’s realized through the referendum," Mayardit declared.

He reitered that for the first time, southern Sudan has its own government of southern Sudan (GoSS) with a constitution, legislative, legislative and judicial bodies, ten regional state governments and a central bank and pointed out that these are clear indications that southerners can governance themselves without Khartoum.

Speaking at the opening session of the first SPLM Chapters Leaders International Conference, the chairman of the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement in Juba Salva Kiir Mayardit said that the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) has not yet withdrawn from Upper Nile and Unity states of southern Sudan despite deadline of July 9th 2007, contrary to the security arrangement agreement of the CPA.

A U.N. statement issued on July 8, said 66.5 percent of the original 46,403 northern troops in south Sudan had moved north. The agreement called for a full redeployment by July 9.

Mayardit further said that implementation of the CPA has not gone smoothly as expected, some protocols on Abyei and the north-south border as it stood of January 1 1956 has not been implemented since signing of the CPA.

The GoSS President also said that Khartoum is still recruiting militia in Kordofan.
However, president Mayardit declared that there were progress on the side of the SPLM/A regarding CPA implementation, citing the Juba Declaration signed on 8 January 2006 and the integration of the forces of Clement Wani and Ismail Kony, among others, into the SPLA.

Mayardit said CPA provides the people of Nuba Mountains and Blue Nile the right of popular consultation and grants the people of Abyei the right to enjoy equal status during the interim period and later to choose either to join their brothers and sisters in southern Sudan or remain with northern Sudan. The CPA further avail opportunity for southern Sudanese to determine their political future through a referendum scheduled for year 2011

The conference organized by SPLM secretariat Headquarters in Juba is attended by more that 500 delegates. The seven days meeting will assess challenges facing reconstruction and development efforts, as well as finding mechanisms for strengthening the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. [Follow the link to the full text of the story Road to 2011 referendum is full of obstacles – South Sudan’s Kiir]

No more 'cat and mouse,' Rice tells Sudan

(Reuters) The Sudanese government must not be allowed to keep playing "cat and mouse" with the international community over ending the violence in Darfur, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said on Wednesday.

Speaking in Washington at a conference on democracy in Latin America and Africa, Rice said the hybrid peacekeeping force was essential to increasing security and she urged African governments to "hold Sudan accountable."

"We must not let the government of Sudan continue this game of cat and mouse diplomacy, making promises then going back on them," Rice said.

The United Nations said last month the joint force was not expected to be in place for six months. In the meantime, an African Union peacekeeping force does not have the funds to meet expenses and is struggling to make a difference.

U.S. Special Envoy to Sudan Andrew Natsios is in Sudan this week speaking to government officials and trying to convince Khartoum to agree fully to the force.

SAF confirms that all factions have been disarmed or reintegrated

(Rai AlShaab) The SAF has announced it is not supporting any armed faction or militia operating south of the 1.1.’56 line.

The SAF said the insecurity incidents that happen in the south from time to time might have been due to tribal disputes.
The Office of the Spokesperson of the SAF said all pro-SAF factions in the south have either have been reintegrated or demobilized and described as baseless those allegations that the SAF is supporting southern Sudanese militias.

In a separate story, Rai AlShaab also reports that Mjr. Gen. El-Toum el-Nour daldoum has denied the existence of militia groups aligned to the Peace Forces in Bahr-el-Ghazal and points out that all those forces have been demobilized since 13th May this year.

Daldoum said that such armed groups, should they exist, may be aligned to the SPLA. He revealed that a 2,000 strong force of the SPLA on its way to be redeployed south of the 1.1.’56 line around Kafia-Kingi had to camp at Biseila in West Bahr-el-Ghazal due to the rains. He said that these forces have caused much anxiety among the populace in the area due to their bad practices and the government had done nothing on the issue despite complaints by the people. He said that the presence there of these forces is a violation of the CPA as the soldiers are corrupt and go around with impunity.

**Arab Centre for independence of the judiciary calls upon Sudan government to hand Kosheib and Haroun over to the ICC**

*(AlAyaam)* The Cairo-based Arab Centre for the Independence of the Judiciary and the legal process has urged the government in Sudan to cooperate with the ICC as an international and independent judicial mechanism.

The centre has called on the government to hand Kosheib and Ahmed Haroun to the ICC.

In a statement issued yesterday, the centre says it sees Sudan's cooperation with the ICC as the best and fairest way out of the crisis in Darfur.

**Darfur**

**AMIS says not part in delay of Darfur peacekeepers salary**

*(SudanTribune.com; AFP)* The AMIS Spokesman, Noureddine Mezni, in response to recent press reports regarding EU funding, announced that financial support did not go directly and in full into AMIS coffers, adding that such support was provided in tranches and that a report has to be submitted to the donors before the release of the next tranche.

Mezni furthermore added that AMIS worked in close collaboration and full transparency with representatives from the EU, who provided service as consultants to the AU in both Addis Ababa and Khartoum and are reporting on weekly basis to the donors.

The soldiers have not been paid their salaries for the past four months, he added, appealing to the EU and other donors to simplify the paperwork so that the AMIS soldiers in Darfur could receive their pay faster than has been the case to date.
It seems that the money is stuck in Addis Ababa, where the AU headquarters is based. Also the EU’s executive Commission believes the delays are due to lack of experience and administrative capacity and there has been no indication of fraud, a spokesman for EU aid Commissioner Louis Michel said.

The *AFP* meanwhile reports that the chief of the hybrid UN-African Union (AU) peacekeeping force in Sudan, Rodolphe Adada, will travel to Brussels soon to ask for continued European funding for the current African force, his spokesman said Wednesday.

"Mr. Adada, who has completed his first visit to Sudan, will go first to the UN headquarters and then to Brussels and Lisbon to plead the cause of the AMIS," said Nourreddine Mezni to *AFP*, using the acronym for the African Mission in Sudan.

Portugal currently holds the rotating presidency of the European Union.

Amid rising European frustration with the ongoing conflict in Sudan's western region of Darfur, AMIS fears that its mostly EU financing will dry up ahead of the December 31 end to the mission's mandate.

Mezni emphasised that European financing is essential for the survival of the underfunded force and attributed the delay in paying the 7,000 soldiers' salaries to controls on the spending of this assistance.

At an international meeting on Darfur in Paris last month, participants wondered about the ongoing difficulties of funding the mission, which has been unable to stem the violence in the region.

On Tuesday, a delegation of Euro MPs who had visited Darfur said it was urgent to ensure funding for AMIS ahead of the planned inauguration of the more robust hybrid force.

The EU has already spent close to 450 million euros (620 million dollars) to fund AMIS, of which 300 million has been through the European Commission which is now short of funds.

**Military officers being sentenced for Darfur crimes - Sudan**

*AFP* Sudan on Wednesday told a key UN human rights panel that it was handling cases against military and police officers accused of crimes in Darfur, and insisted that the International Criminal Court had no jurisdiction over them.

In a hearing before the UN Human Rights Committee, Sudanese officials reiterated that their country had not signed up to the International Criminal Court.

They insisted that the country’s own judicial system was coming to grips with cases of murder, torture and rape in Darfur, while new draft police and army laws, and other measures overseen by the international community were expected to have a deeper impact.
"There is no complicity on the part of the state. Some state representatives were implicated and the government has refused to grant any impunity," Sudanese government official Mustafa Matar told the 18-member UN legal panel.

"Our courts are doing quite well," he said. [Follow the link to the full text Military officers being sentenced for Darfur crimes - Sudan].

**Political:**

**SLM leader says Darfur mediators need clear vision**

(SudanTribune.com) The Sudan Liberation Movement leader has called on Darfur mediators to carefully examine the ongoing preparations for the forthcoming peace talks to end the four year conflict in western Sudan.

Abdelwahid al-Nur underscored that the undertaken steps by the AU-UN mediation team encompass some contradictions and this could hinder the realization of peace in Darfur. He further said mediators should determine whether they want to pursue Abuja talks or to start a new process regardless of what achieved in Abuja.

If they want to resume negotiations from Abuja deal and upgrade it, they have to negotiate with the same parties involved in this process, he said. Adding "but if they want us to restart from zero at least there would be some coherence when they speak about the need to the so called rebels reunification”.

Al-Nur said our proposition in this regard is to resume the peace talks with the two parties that have rejected Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA). The mediators can invite the newly created factions to join one of the two rebel forces in order to enable them to bring their contribution to the negotiations. [Follow the link to the full text SLM leader says Darfur mediators need clear vision].

**SLA-unity faction releases 4 prisoners**

(AIAYaam) The Unity faction of the SLM/A announced yesterday their release and handover of four SAF members to the ICRC.

AbuBakar Kadua, field commander for the movement, said that the four are in good health and were taken prisoner during the battles that took place in October of last year in North Darfur. he said that their release comes as a goodwill gesture and evidence that the movement abides by international conventions governing PoWs.

**Security:**

Features
- Confusion rules as Darfur rebel forces split up (www.sacbee.com)
- Chad Arabs also victims in tit-for-tat violence (Reuters)
**Miscellaneous:**

Sudan migrants make dangerous desert run for Israel *(Reuters)*

Chadian opposition forces confirm talks continue in Tripoli with the N'Djamena government *(Rai AlShaab)* The Chadian opposition has confirmed that talks with the government are still on track in Libya.