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(By Public Information Office)

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UN/ Agencies

McKinley discusses with Kiir development needs of Southern Sudan (Sudan Vision)

(*Sudan Vision*)-- IOM President, Brunson McKinley, discussed with President of GoSS Salva Kiir the development needs of Southern Sudan, separation of forces, disarmament, reintegration and the assistance that his organization can provide for elections bearing in mind its long experience in this field.

In a press statement McKinley said that he visited Western Equatoria and saw the construction work there. He pointed out that his organization has prepared voters lists according to the same methods they followed in other countries.

McKinley said that on the onset of next July, air operations will be commenced to return some 1500 displaced people. He asserted that his organization assisted the return of 800 displaced people during this year from South Darfur to Bahr Al Ghazal, 10,000 from Warap State, 3000

from Blue Nile State, 21,000 from Khartoum State to Bahr Al Ghazal and South Kordofan States.

IOM President disclosed that the insecurity in North Darfur prevented him from travelling there to attend the inauguration of standard villages in Kalamindo locality. He also said that he met the Minister of Foreign Affairs and they discussed developments of the situation in Darfur.

UN: Success of hybrid operation depends on support of international community

AlWihda-- The UN official for peacekeeping operations in Africa, Dimitry Titov, said he expects the deployment of a hybrid operation to be a long process with many risks. He said the success of this operation will depend on the support of the international community.

<u>GoNU</u>

CPA:

Sudanese army still controls Upper Nile and Unity States- Kiir

Sudantribune.com, Monday 25 June 2007-- June 24, 2007 (JUBA) — Southern Sudan President said Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) have not yet fully withdrawn from territory of southern Sudan which they occupied prior to signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) on January 9th 2005.

When greetings Christian congregation, after Sunday service, today, at St. Teresa Cathedral Kator, President of the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS), Salva Kiir Mayardit, said the states of Upper Nile and Unity are still being occupied by SAF and was pessimistic that dateline set for SAF final withdrawal from south would not be met as scheduled.

According to CPA, the dateline for SAF to complete their pulling out from southern Sudan territories is July 9th this year.

The Goss president went on saying that militia are also still active in states of Upper Nile, Unity and to some extend in Eastern Equatoria state. Adding that GoSS is fighting with the ruling National Congress Party (NCP), partner to SPLM in signing CPA in Kenyan capital Nairobi, to ensure that all these militias either disarmed or they get integrated into northern sector of SAF so that they don't disturb peace and tranquility of the people of southern Sudan.

As I speak to you today, we also have not yet resolve the problem of Abyei and we are still fighting to establish the administration in Abyei to be managed by Abyei people themselves, president remarks.

Adding that GoSS also have problems of development programs implementation which is a very heavy battle in the administration but appeal to all people to remain patience and to keenly follow every steps of his government that are designed to ensure and restore people's expectation after 21 years of destructive war that have even destroyed the meager infrastructure in the major towns of Juba, Wau and Malakal of south Sudan.

He noted that since government of southern Sudan was established in 2005, nothing big has been achieved in a period of almost two years but his government was at least able to maintain the stability of the people of south and security is no longer a major problem unlike LRA previously killing and looting in Eastern Equatoria state.

President Mayardit say his government has managed to handle LRA situation that let them to return on the negotiating table and he was hopeful that the warring Ugandan parties will soon reach an agreement to end almost twenty years of terror in northern Uganda with spillover to southern Sudan states of Equatorian.

"If we achieved that, we would have achieved a peace in southern Sudan which could facilitate the return of southern Sudanese refugees and IDPs who are afraid to return back to their homeland because of insecurity.

Nevertheless, President Mayardit says there is need to seek spiritual intervention through prayer so that Almighty God gives strength and wisdom for them to handle the situation up to peaceful conclusion.

President Mayardit advice all southern Sudanese to participate effectively by registering for the coming national population census scheduled for November this year. We do not want our population in southern Sudan to again be estimated approximated tin such a claimed that south is only one third of whole Sudan population. We want all our people to be counted so that we get our right share from the government of national unity in Khartoum, declared Mayardit.

He further reminded the congregation that coming general election maybe held next year or in 2009 as such it, demands for also full participation of every body in the south so that they cheated in creation of constituencies. Adding that the coming referendum is equally the responsibility of the people of south Sudan who should ensure that they get what they had been yearning for even before Sudan became independence.

"This time round, we south Sudanese should not allow somebody to dictated on us rather let us bear in mind that we have two choices either to remain in united Sudan were we are subjected to being second class citizen or we remains an independent state of our own," declared Mayardit.

President Mayardit caution about division among southern Sudanese over either south to break away or remain in a united Sudan, he said such division should not be an issue of quarrel because everything is in front of individuals south Sudanese to decide.

"If you are a separatist, don't quarrel with those who want unity of Sudan rather you only wait for that D day of referendum then you go to the ballot boxes and vote for separation," advice Mayardit.

"If the unionists become the majority, then they would forge the unity of the country but should they become the minority, they will have to follow the separatist and I believe separatists in southern Sudan are more than those seeking to unite Sudan," observed the president.

Southern Sudan President Salva Kiir Mayardit told the congregation that he has been the Acting President of the republic of Sudan for three weeks when President Omar Hassan al Bashir was outside the country. It was the first time in the history of Sudan that a south Sudanese was left to cat as president of the country.

(ST)

Security experts warn of tribal war in South Kordofan

(*AlIntibaha*)-- A number of security experts and MPs expressed their concerns in relation to the tense situation in South Kordofan State. They warned that this situation may lead to tribal war in the State. They described the present native administration as politicized and called for adopting the old system of native administration.

Wali of Blue Nile State calls for withdrawing SPLA troops from South of Kurmuk

(*Alkhartoum*)-- The Wali of Blue Nile State, Abdulrahman Abu Midian, called for the urgent need for speeding up the administrative procedures required for withdrawing the SPLA troops in the area South of Kurmuk to the south of the 1956 north-south border.

The Wali refuted reports saying that the government of national unity in the State has plans for moving the UN staff and peacekeeping force outside Ed-Damazin town. He emphasized that his government has very good relations with the international organization. Since they came first to Ed-Damazin we noted that the individuals belonging to the peacekeeping forces are well disciplined and behave well.

Sudan: Army, SPLA to absorb over 54,000 men from armed groups in south

BBC Monitoring Service, Text of report in English by Sudanese news agency Suna website on 23 June-- Khartoum: The committee for settlement of the other armed groups' file, which is affiliated to the Joint Political Commission of the Cease-Fire, has announced absorption of 54,374 men of the other armed groups in South Sudan in the armed forces and Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) besides demobilization of 2,132 elements of these groups.

The co-chairman of the Joint Political Commission for the Armed Forces, Maj- Gen Siddiq Amer, said in a press conference Saturday at the Armed Forces Officers' Club that the armed forces have absorbed 680 of the officers, non-commissioned officers and men in the armed forces after providing them with qualification and training in the Infantry Training Institute in Jebait, besides absorption of 574 of the other armed groups in the police forces, and demobilization of 2132 men. He said that a considerable number of the other armed groups were absorbed in the civil service.

Meanwhile, the representative of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) in the joint commission, Brig Marshal Steven, said that the movement has absorbed 47,000 men of the other armed groups in the its army. The two parties affirmed their commitment settle the issue of the men of the other armed groups that they have absorbed. The co-chairman of the joint committee for the armed forces, Maj-Gen Siddiq Amer, affirmed implementation of the plan which was approved by the presidency of the Republic for absorption of 54,000 elements of the other armed groups in the Armed Forces and Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLA).

Representative of the United Nations at the joint committee's secretariat has appreciated the cooperation between the two parties and their seriousness in implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and realization of security and stability in the country. Responding to a question, Maj-Gen Amer said that the armed force has withdrawn till now by 85 per cent from the border of 1 January 1956, adding that the SPLM has withdrawn from east Sudan.

SPLM opposes NA Speaker al Tahir's statement, insists on membership of Arman in Parliament

AlAyam-- In reaction to a move by the National Assembly Speaker, Ahmed Ibrahim al Tahir, to terminate the membership of the SPLM leader, Yasir Arman, in the Parliament, the SPLM insisted the Arman's membership should not be terminated. The Assembly's Deputy Speaker, Ateem Garang, said the SPLM will resist all efforts aiming at terminating Arman's membership. However, he said in case of termination of his membership, the SPLM will bring Arman back to the Parliament whose members are not elected but chosen by their political organizations.

DPA:

Parliament to summon Minawi on Gireida incident

AlWattan-- The issue of Gireida mass grave may be brought to an end through the efforts of a good offices committee from the area and SLM Minawi legal committee. General Awad Shagaf, the representative of Gireida in the National Assembly, said it is important that Minawi briefs the MPs and answers the key question of where has the POWs disppeared after they had been taken from Gireida. Shagaf expects Minawi to provide the briefing when the Assembly begins its next sessiuon.

ESA:

Presidential decree appointing Eastern Front MPs to be issued soon

(*AlIntibaha*)—It is anticipated that President al Bashir will issue within the coming two days a presidential decree appointing eight members representing the Eastern Front in the Parliament, National Assembly. Al Bashir has instructed the Wali of Khartoum State to appoint an adviser for his government headquarters from the Eastern Front.

Former east Sudan rebels enter main towns under deal

Sudantribune.com, Monday 25 June 2007-- June 24, 2007 (KHARTOUM) — Former east Sudan rebel fighters have entered the main towns for the first time under a fledgling peace deal, but opposition divisions have halted political progress, an eastern politician said on Sunday.

The east Sudan strife, overshadowed by bloodier conflicts in Sudan's western Darfur region and the south, dragged on for a decade before a peace deal last year.

It was the third regional peace deal Sudan signed in less than two years, and was negotiated with mediation from neighbouring Eritrea, which had hosted Sudanese opposition groups for many years.

"On the security and military file, all is going very well," said Abdallah Moussa Abdallah, secretary-general of the eastern Beja Congress party in the main regional town Port Sudan.

The Beja Congress is the largest party within the opposition Eastern Front, which negotiated the peace deal with Khartoum in October last year.

He said the first former east rebel troops arrived in Kassala town (near the Eritrean border) two days ago and two other groups were due soon.

"Some 1,300 officers and soldiers arrived and have set up camp," Abdallah told Reuters from Port Sudan. The next batch of 1,500 soldiers should arrive in the coming days, he added.

This was the first time the troops had moved out of rebel camps along the Sudan-Eritrea border into main towns in the east.

(Reuters)

Hadandawa demand support for East Sudan Agreement (ESA)

Khartoum Monitor-- General Administrator of all Hadandawa, Mohamed Amin Tilip, called on the GoNU to consolidate the East Sudan Agreement (ESA) and implement it as soon as possible.

GoSS

South Sudanese going home deterred by weak services

(*BBC Monitoring Service*), Monday 25 June 2007-- June 24, 2007 (KHARTOUM) — A lack of infrastructure in south Sudan, which is emerging from two decades of war, is hindering the return of some 2 million southerners taking refuge in Khartoum, the International Organisation for Migration said.

Landmines and other unexploded ordnance are delaying a return to farm lands, grass-thatched homes have long disappeared and armed groups, like the Ugandan Lord's Resistance Army, continue to terrorise civilians.

"I think that when you look at Juba (capital of South Sudan) and I guess the country beyond Juba which is even poorer, you see that there's a lot of work that needs to be done," IOM chief Brunson McKinley said after a six-day visit to Sudan.

"Of course when you play that back into the experience of the displaced persons or the refugees, you have to say that it is really the ones who are the most courageous who are going back now and you can understand why others are waiting until things get a little bit better," McKinley told Reuters late on Saturday.

IOM has helped thousands of southerners return home from slums around Khartoum and McKinley saw some 500 southerners returning by barge to the south.

The organisation hopes to help more than 60,000 displaced southerners return this year, but the majority find the prospect of starting from scratch daunting.

"People have to be able to support themselves and their families and if they know that there is very little awaiting them on the other end, I think that has to be a disincentive, especially if they have managed to establish themselves in a satisfactory fashion in the place in which they are temporarily residing," McKinley said.

"I think that as the south develops., gradually people will say alright, now it's good enough, I'll go back and help to build it better," the IOM director general said.

(Reuters)

Residents request south Sudan president to sack governor

(Sudantribune.com, AlIntibaha), Sunday 24 June 2007-- June 22, 2007 (JUBA) — A group of citizens from the Northern Bahr El-Gazal State in southern Sudan demanded in a letter sent to head of the semi autonomous government the removal of their governor, saying he did nothing for the development of the state.

According to the Juba Post, a group of concerned citizens of Northern Bahr El-Ghazal State have written a petition to the president of the Government of South Sudan (GOSS), Salva Kiir Mayardit, seeking to throw out their state governor, Col Madut Biar Yel.

The petitioners allege that they see no efforts by the governor and his ministers geared towards development. They lack interest in the state and development particularly in areas of health, roads and education.

They further claim that innocent returnees, especially women, children, orphans and widows of our fallen heroes are dying for lack of basic health care.

The governor also accused to have advised the minister of health to issue an order requiring patients to pay their treatment. Furthermore the governor is blamed for neglecting the rural clinics and not supplying it with drugs.

(ST)

Kiir believes cessationists are more than unionists in the south

(*Sudan Tribune*)--"Should the unionists become majority, then they would forge the unity of the country, but should they become the minority, they will have to follow the separatists and I believe separatists in southern Sudan are more than those seeking to unite the sedan", stated President of the GoSS Salva Kiir Mayardit to the faithful following Sunday service, at St Teresa Cathedral Kator.

<u>Darfur</u>

Political:

Paris conference on DARFUR BEGINS today, Khartoum looking forward to outcome

(*AlSudani*)-- The Darfur contact group conference on Darfur will begin today at the ministerial level. The GoS, rebel groups and the AU will not attend the two-day conference. The conference wilkl discuss security and humanitarian situations, reconstruction and a peaceful political solution for Darfur crisis. The MFA Spokesperson Ali Alsadig said they would not comment on the conference before they see its outcome.

Diraij, Abdelshafi agree on joint work

(*AlSudani*)-- The Federal Alliance of Ahmed Ibrahim Diraij (also president of NRF) and SLM Ahmed Abdelshafi have agreed on the need for coordination and joint work. They also agreed to unify their positions on a political solution for the Darfur issue.

Bashir, Debi to meet in Khartoum Wednesday

AlSudani-- The Chadian President Idris Debi is expected to arrive in Khartoum on Wednesday in a three-day visit to Sudan. During the visit he will discuss with Bashir bilateral relations and ways and means for implementing the Tripoli and Riadh agreements.

In preparations for the visit, a high level Chadian ministerial delegation will arrive in Khartoum on Monday.

Rebel JEM urges Paris conference concrete steps for Darfur peace

(*Sudantribune.com*), Monday 25 June 2007-- June 24, 2007 (LONDON) — A Darfur rebel group has urged Paris conference on Darfur to undertake concrete steps to resolve the four year conflict, the rebel said the root causes of the conflict must be highly considered.

Welcoming the Paris conference on Darfur, the spokesperson of the rebel Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), Ahmed Hussein Adam, has urged the international key players in Darfur crisis to focus efforts on peace process un the region.

He also said that this meeting of the international contact group should adopt concrete measures in order to help for the resolution of the conflict. He added that the resolution of the meeting should take into account the political and economic root causes of the crisis.

"One of the most important conclusions of this meeting that we expect should be that international community would speak with one voice with Khartoum."

"Also we do hope that Khartoum's protector, China, will commit its self with the outcome of the meeting and stop its blind support of the Sudanese regime." Adam said.

The rebel spokesperson said that this meeting should mull plans for the reconstruction and development of Darfur in the post conflict period.

(ST)

US's Rice warns Sudan against imposing new Darfur conditions

Monday 25 June 2007.

June 24, 2007 (PARIS) — The world has fallen down on the job of ending killings and other violence in Sudan's Darfur region, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Sunday as she welcomed the fresh energy that France's new conservative-led government has put to the Darfur cause.

She called the four-year-old conflict "one of the true humanitarian disasters that we face in international politics, and one the international community has simply got to act more quickly and more responsibly to stop."

Rice also welcomed a summit Monday between the Israeli and Palestinian leaders in Egypt, calling Arab support for embattled Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas more important than his western backing. She acknowledged the difficulties Abbas has faced since his Islamic rivals Hamas won Palestinian elections last year.

"Democracy is hard," she told reporters at a news conference with French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner.

The chief U.S. diplomat was in Paris for two days of get-to-know-you meetings with the new conservative-led French government and a strategy session on Darfur.

"I have seen firsthand the devastation and the difficult circumstances in which people live in Darfur, and I will be very frank," Rice said. "I do not think that the international community has really lived up to its responsibilities there."

Before arriving Sunday, Rice warned Sudan's government not to renege on its recent agreement to allow a larger peacekeeping force into Darfur. The peacekeepers would come from the African Union and the United Nations.

"If in fact the Sudanese are prepared to accept the hybrid force, they need to accept it once and for all and stop the process of trying to scale it back," Rice said in a news conference aboard her plane. "It seems one step forward, two steps back with the Sudanese government."

(AP)

Darfur rebel leader in London to seek political alliance

(*sudantribune.com*), Monday 25 June 2007-- June 24, 2007 (LONDON) — Ahmed Abdelshafi, the leader of a faction of the rebel Sudan Liberation Movement has arrived to London to discuss ways of political joint action with the leader of Sudan Federal Democratic Alliance (SFDA); Ahmed Ibrahim Diraig.

Abdelshafi told Sudan Tribune that this meeting comes in the framework of efforts undertaken since last year to gather concerned people in Darfur around a joint political platform not only for the peace talks but also for the future of Darfur.

Ahmed Diraig is one of the founding members of the National Redemption Front (NRF) created on June 30, 2006 in Asmara, with the Justice and Equality Movement of Khalil Ibrahim and another faction of the SLM. However, it seems that the NRF partners have failed to work together. Last week the rebel JEM expressed readiness to hold talks with Khartoum, without mentioning its allies.

Abdelshafi further said that a meeting would be organized in Mombassa, in Tanzania to reunite the movement in the coming days and invitations have been extended to all the SLA commanders to participate in the meeting.

Asked whither he invited Abdelwahid al-Nur also to the meeting, Abdelshafi retorted that invitations are extended to all the SLM/A leading members.

The partisans of Abdelshafi announced from Asmara on July 28, 2006, the removal of Abdelwahid al-Nur from the chairmanship of the movement and designed him at the head of the group. Since, Abdelshafi says he wants to reunite the group. However, still there are important efforts to be exerted to achieve this goal because al-Nur also has engaged a reunification process among the rebel commanders.

Speaking about Paris conference on Darfur, he expressed hopes that this meeting would focus on the political solution of Darfur crisis. "But the political solution doesn't mean Abuja deal" he further addded.

According to Abdelshafi the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA) signed in May 2006 between the Sudanese government and a faction of the SLM led by Minni Minawi is not a valid choice for Darfur people.

"Insisting on the DPA, as a base for the settlement of Darfur crisis, would lead to the failure of the ongoing efforts to end the conflict" he said.

He also said the hybrid operation agreed earlier this month does not provide sufficient number of troops to protect Darfur civilians. He described the AU command of the operation a bad sign for the future of the AU-Un peacekeeping mission.

"The African Union troops have already failed to complete their mission during the past two years. So, we expected that European forces would take part in this operation because they have the necessary experience and means to secure the efficiency of the peacekeeping mission."

(ST)

France hosts meeting to provide help for Darfur

Sudantribune.com, Monday 25 June 2007-- June 24, 2007 (PARIS) — France hosts a meeting of senior officials from more than a dozen countries on Monday aimed at providing funds and other support for international efforts to stabilize Sudan's violent Darfur region.

Delegations from the world's top aid donors, members of the Group of Eight industrialized nations and powerful Sudan ally China are due to discuss the situation in the western province before moving on to 'international support for the reconstruction of Darfur', according to the meeting's agenda.

"It is not a peacemaking meeting. It is, on the contrary, a meeting to support the international efforts that have been deployed," French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner told reporters at a news conference on Sunday.

He said the meeting was aimed at backing the U.N.-AU effort, offering political support to those trying to bring together rebel groups, and providing funds for the planned hybrid force, which will take over from a beleaguered AU contingent of 7,000.

"If there are 20,000 soldiers coming in the hybrid force, whoever they are, they will have to be paid. And the 7,000 who are there now are not being paid, and they are doing nothing because they haven't received their salaries since January. So if we continue like this, obviously it won't work," he said.

(Reuters)

SLM Minawi suspends work in Northern Darfur government

(*AlIntibaha*)-- SLM Minawi criticized the government of Northern Darfur State and linked continuing its participation in the government with giving the SLM Deputy Wali real powers, appointing SLM the commissioners and passing the Constitution of the State. The SLM threatened to suspend work in the State government by the 5th of July.

Brokered and broken: Darfur's failed peace deals

Sudantribune.com, Monday 25 June 2007-- June 24, 2007 (KHARTOUM) — The world has devised numerous well-intentioned but ultimately doomed initiatives aimed at ending the bloodshed in Darfur since rebels rose up against Khartoum in February 2003.

Barely six months after fighting started, the Sudanese government and ethnic minority rebels from the Sudan Liberation Movement signed a ceasefire deal in neighbouring Chad in September 2003, but the bloodshed continued.

The rebels want more autonomy and economic development for the region which they see as marginalized by Khartoum, and are seeking a more equitable distribution of the nation's resources, especially oil.

A new round of peace talks in N'Djamena in December 2003 also failed, followed by an upsurge in fighting in the region which takes its name from one of the main tribes, the Fur people, and the Arabic word "Dar," meaning home.

Yet another ceasefire and disarmament deal was inked in April 2004 by the SLM and fellow rebels from the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), brokered by Chad and the international community, but was never applied in earnest.

Nigeria subsequently hosted a series of African Union-brokered peace talks, leading to the SLM faction, led by Mini Minawi, signing a May 2006 peace deal in Abuja.

But SLM dissidents, led by Abdul Wahid al-Nur, and the JEM both refused to sign the agreement that promised a share of political power and resource wealth as well as laying down a timetable for disarmament.

In 2004, the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) started work in Darfur. The force currently has 7,000 under-equipped and under-financed troops patrolling an area the size of France.

Finally bowing to international pressure, Khartoum agreed this month to the eventual deployment of a hybrid AU-UN force of 20,000.

Libya and Eritrea have also sought to play a role in bringing peace to Darfur, with Libyan leader Moamer Kadhafi organising several summits that have led to improved Sudan-Chad relations but no Darfur deal. Meanwhile, in 2005, the United Nations moved to allow those responsible for atrocities in Darfur to be tried by the International Criminal Court.

Despite ICC summons, no suspects have been handed over. Khartoum insists its courts can try those suspected of crimes including genocide that have killed an estimated 200,000 and forced two million from their homes.

Last month, US President George W. Bush announced fresh sanctions on Sudan over the Darfur conflict, which Sudanese President Omar al-Beshir scoffed at, saying previous sanctions have "been only positive for Sudan."

This month, France announced an international conference on Darfur, which is to take place in Paris on Monday. Khartoum swiftly rejected it as a distraction to other peace efforts and expressed anger at not being consulted first.

(AFP)

Sudan urges USA to exert pressure on non-signatories of Darfur peace pact

(*BBC Monitoring*), Excerpt from report by Sudanese TV on 23 June, [Presenter] The senior presidential assistant who is also the president of the Darfur Interim Authority, Mani Arkoi Minawi, has called on the USA to exert pressure on the [Darfur rebel] movements which are none-signatories of the Abuja peace accord to join the peace process.

On the other hand, the US charge d'Affaires in Khartoum affirmed that his country would work with the international community to achieve a political solution to the Darfur crisis.

[Reporter] The USA has confirmed that it would support the efforts being made the UN and the AU to achieve a peaceful solution to the Darfur crisis. During his meeting with the senior presidential assistant, Mani Arkoi Minawi, the US charge d'Affaires, Alberto Fernandez, said that efforts must be redoubled to complete the steps being taken for the peaceful solution to the Darfur crisis.

The US charge d'Affaires further said that his country would work with the international community in a bid to achieve a peaceful political solution to the Darfur crisis.

[US Charge d'Affaires in Arabic] We would work as part of the international community to achieve a peaceful political solution. We encourage the efforts being made the Sudanese government and also efforts being made by all sides which include the armed movements [in Darfur]. There is also a fundamental role which should be played by the civil organizations in Darfur in resolving problems there by supporting the UN and the AU which has a leading role in this issue and also to support all these sides and the USA. We think that we must conclude this problem and we must put emphasis on the solution which will bring a better future for the Darfur people and all the people of Sudan.

For his side, the senior presidential assistant called on the USA to exert pressure on the factions which did not sign the Abuja peace accord to join the peace process.

[Senior presidential assistant] He [US charge d'Affaires] discussed the initiative of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement [SPLM] and we told him that we support this position. Depending on our resources we will support it at any time to make this initiative successful. [Passage omitted].

Sudanese presidential aide, US envoy discuss Darfur, ties

BBC Monitoring-- Excerpt from report by Sudanese news agency Suna website, Presidential Adviser Dr Majdhub al-Khalifah Ahmad has said his meeting with the US charge d'affaires, Alberto Fernandez, agreed that the relation of the two countries was an important issue that need to be addressed. [Passage omitted]

Dr Majdhub said their meeting agreed that misinformation, media [propaganda] and stances created mutual mistrust between the two countries. He said there was a chance [for the two countries to improve relations], after Sudan's agreement with UN and AU, improvement on relations with Chad, formation of Darfur interim government, implementation of peace and improvement on Darfur's security and humanitarian situation which he said will support dialogue, bolster mutual confidence, realize peace and expose facts. He added "The US charge d'affaires admitted in a clear way that there was misinformation on so many facts through the media by some sides, and it was important that we now cooperate fully to move forward". [Passage omitted

He said the meeting also discussed the negative role played by US in [disseminating] wrong information and they admitted it in limited areas that wont help.

He said dialogue is the only way, saying the US wasted [chances] of playing a positive role. He said they played positive role in signing of agreements but do not play the needed role in its implementation.

He urged the US to move forward despite the internal political problems where Darfur issue is used immorally, and this, he says was not of Darfur issue's benefit but as a result of complex US internal [wrangles] which is known to them. [Passage omitted] World failing Darfur, says Rice

BBC World News 24 June 2007

US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has said the world has failed the people of Darfur, ahead of a Paris summit on the troubled Sudanese region.

"I will be very frank. I do not think that the international community has really lived up to its responsibilities here," Ms Rice said.

Some 200,000 people have died and 2.4m fled the violence in Darfur since 2003.

The US, France, China and Egypt will attend the meeting, but not Sudan nor representatives from rebel factions.<!-- E SF -->

Much of the violence has been linked to clashes between government-sponsored Janjaweed militias and Darfur's rebel groups.

'Accept it'

Having described the killing in Darfur as genocide, the Bush administration wants to be seen taking a lead in solving the crisis in Monday's summit, says the BBC's Jonathan Beale in Washington.

He says the US government is still worried the Sudanese leadership will not honour an earlier promise to allow 19,000 United Nations troops to join a group of 7,000 African Union (AU) soldiers currently trying to keep the peace in Darfur.

Ms Rice will be joined at the summit by French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner - a recent appointee by new president Nicolas Sarkozy.

The pair held a news conference on Sunday ahead of the official meeting.

"If in fact the Sudanese are prepared to accept the hybrid force, they need to accept it once and for all and stop the process of trying to scale it back," Ms Rice was quoted as saying by the Associated Press news agency.

Mr Kouchner said there was still time to end the killing.

"I know that it has been going on for years. So what? Is that a reason to not be interested and let the massacres go on forever? Even if the massacres were bigger, they must be stopped," Mr Kouchner was quoted by Reuters news agency as saying.

China, a close ally of Khartoum, sees the conference as an opportunity to turn attention on those rebels groups that have not signed up to a peace agreement, our correspondent says.

But, he adds, there are concerns the conference can do little without the involvement of the Sudanese government or leaders from the rebel groups it is in conflict with.

Security Developments:

Four suspects arrested in relation to killing of SLM Peace Wing Commander

AlWattan-- SLM Peace Wing said that four suspects have been arrested in relation to the killing of SLM Peace Wing Field Commander, Bakheet Abdulrahman (Wad Farouj). The Commander was killed in Diraij IDP camp in South Darfur.

Other Developments:

Sudan on top of HIV/AIDS affected Arab countries

(*AlIntibaha*)--The Minister of State at the Federal Ministry of Social Welfare, Sami Abdeldaiem, regretted that Sudan is on the top of the Arab countries affected by HIV/AIDS.