



UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN UNMIS

Media Monitoring Report, 15 March 2007
(By Public Information Office)

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**
 - Bashir invites United Nations Secretary-General to visit
 - Darfur people still fleeing Janjaweed militia - UN
 - Human rights report widely criticised
 - African Union backs Salim-Eliasson initiative on Darfur
 - Jan Egeland appointed Special Advisor to the United Nations Secretary-General
- **The Transition Debate**
 - China urges deployment of Darfur peacekeeping forces
 - US wants new UN resolution over Darfur crisis
- **CPA**
 - Donors, Sudan to review CPA implementation next week
 - SAF refuses to redeploy from southern Sudan, says Kiir
- **GoNU**
 - Opposition figures gear up for meeting with Kiir
- **Southern Sudan/ GoSS/SPLM**
 - Over 600 cases of cholera in Juba
 - SPLA mistreatment of civilians must stop, says Wani Igga
 - The LRA question
 - Returns update
 - New prison buildings opened for juveniles
 - World Bank dismisses GoSS' accusations over bureaucracy
 - South Sudan not to secede after interim period - official
 - Eastern Equatorians flee villages as Ugandan rebels resurface
- **Darfur/ Darfur Peace Agreement**
 - Sudanese rebels call for focus on Darfur peace, not court trials
 - Rwanda may withdraw troops from Darfur
 - SLM-Minnawi condemns killing of AU peacekeepers
 - 53 killed in clashes between SLA-Minawi, Darfur tribal forces
 - EU gives additional 60 mln Euros for Darfur victims
 - Jewish organization says Darfur Jews are subjected to a new Holocaust

HIGHLIGHTS :

UN/ Agencies

Bashir invites United Nations Secretary-General to visit

(*AlHayat; AlSudani*) President Bashir, in a telephone conversation, has invited United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to visit Sudan.

A spokesperson for the United Nations Secretary-General confirmed the invitation and said that the United Nations Secretary-General has in principal accepted.

The spokesperson said that the Secretary-General also reminded President Bashir of the options proposed on a joint African Union/United Nations special representation in Darfur and on a joint Force Commander.

Darfur people still fleeing Janjaweed militia - UN

(*SudanTribune.com*) More than 78,500 Darfurians fled their homes in January and February, most to escape attacks from government forces and the Janjaweed militias, a U.N. report Wednesday said. But increasing fighting among tribes has also fuelled the exodus.

The U.N. has said some 2.2 million people have been displaced by the violence in the region of western Sudan, where rebel forces have been battling government troops and the pro-government Janjaweed for more than three years. More than 200,000 people have been killed.

Attacks from government forces or Arab Janjaweed militiamen caused more than 34,000 people to flee in the first two months of the year, according to the U.N's Sudan Humanitarian Overview report, posted on the Internet.

Mike McDonagh of the U.N.'s office for coordination of humanitarian affairs in Darfur, said that while the intertribal fighting has "nothing to do with the conflict in Darfur," its surge has perplexed observers.

"Tribes have always fought each other," but it is unclear why it seems to have increased now, he said, adding, "Numbers have always been a big mystery in Darfur."

Please click on the link below for the full text of the above
[Darfur people still fleeing Janjaweed militia - UN](#)

Human rights report widely criticised

(*Sudan Vision*) The group of OIC countries, the Arab Group and some African states have criticised the report of the Human Rights Council mission on Sudan.

Sudan's ambassador to Geneva says these groups shade doubts on the credibility of the report on the grounds that the mission based its information on Darfur from visits to Addis and Chad and information derived from refugees.

Meanwhile, Sudan's justice minister has described the goings-on in the UNHRC as a conspiracy against Sudan.

Meanwhile, the *AFP* reports that Nobel laureate Jody Williams on Tuesday rejected Sudan's claims that the UN mission she led to Darfur was biased, saying she did not lend any credence to Sudanese statements on its credibility.

"It's hard to take what the Sudanese say seriously from my perspective," Williams said in a telephone interview, stressing that she was speaking in a personal capacity and no longer as the head of a high-level UN mission.

"I stand totally by what we wrote."

Williams also said the international community should "hang their heads in shame" over their response to the violence in the strife-torn western region of Sudan.

Click on the link below for the full AFP story
[Investigator rejects Sudan's claims of bias in UN mission](#)

African Union backs Salim-Eliasson initiative on Darfur

(*AlWihda*) The African Union Peace & Security Council welcomed in its meeting in Addis Ababa yesterday the joint Salim-Eliasson initiative to strengthen the peace process for Darfur.

A statement issued by the African Union Peace & Security Council urged the parties to the conflict, regional representatives and international partners to give their support to this initiative.

On its part, the Sudan government has reiterated full commitment to the implementation of the 3rd phase of the United Nations support package to the African Union as cited in the DPA. Presidential Advisor Mustafa Osman Ismail said the government encourages all parties that seek the truth on the situation in Darfur.

On latest UK and US threats of sanctions on Sudan, the presidential advisor pointed out that sanctions will not help solve these problems and will instead further complicate them.

Jan Egeland appointed Special Advisor to the United Nations Secretary-General

(AlSudani) United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has appointed former United Nations Undersecretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Relief Coordinator Jan Egeland as his Special Assistant.

A spokesperson for the Secretary-General said that Egeland's appointment that taps on his 25 years of experience in conflict zones worldwide is in line with efforts currently exerted to consolidate the organization's peace building capacities and shore up the talks led by the United Nations' political affairs department.

The Transition Debate

China urges deployment of Darfur peacekeeping forces

(Xinhua/SudanTribune.com) China hopes the Sudanese government will reach a consensus with the United Nations (UN) and the African Union (AU) as soon as possible on deploying peacekeeping forces in Darfur, said Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang here Tuesday.

Qin told a routine press conference that the Sudanese government and the international society have reached consensus in principle on deploying UN and AU peace-keeping forces in Darfur.

US wants new UN resolution over Darfur crisis

(AFP/SudanTribune.com) US State Department deputy spokesman Tom Casey said Washington was in consultations with Britain and would contact other allies about a new UN Security Council resolution against Sudan after Khartoum backed down on a deal to end atrocities in Darfur.

Casey would not elaborate, but other officials have said Washington has drawn up a "Plan B" that would impose broad financial, trade and other sanctions on Sudan if it persists in barring the deployment of thousands of UN peacekeepers to Darfur.

Britain's UN Ambassador, Emyr Jones Parry, already spoke out in favor of a sanction resolution on Tuesday, though such a measure could be expected to run into opposition from other Security Council members, notably China which is a major consumer of Sudanese oil.

The sanctions may also include a no-fly zone over Darfur.

Please click on the link below for the full text of this AFP story

[US wants new UN resolution over Darfur crisis](#)

CPA

Donors, Sudan to review CPA implementation next week

(Reuters/SudanTribune.com) Western donors and the Sudanese government, including former southern rebels, will meet in the capital Khartoum next week to review progress under a 2005 peace accord between the north and south, the World Bank said on Wednesday.

But the meeting of the so-called Sudan Consortium on March 20 in Khartoum and March 21 in southern Juba is being overshadowed by tensions between donors and Khartoum over the crisis in the western Darfur region.

At the insistence of donors, a separate meeting on Darfur will take place on March 19 in Khartoum, which comes as the United States considers further sanctions against Sudan's government, which would restrict international transactions in dollars.

SudanTribune.com reports in a separate story that President Omar al-Bashir, will hold talks with his two deputies, First Vice-President Salva Kiir Mayardit and Vice-President Ali Osman Taha, on 23 March to review several issues including border, forthcoming national census and the issue of the disputed Abyei area as well as security arrangements and the issue of donors fulfilling their commitments.

The chairman of the Assessment and Evaluation Commission of the CPA has said the donors would hold a meeting in Khartoum 19-20 March, adding that donors have forgotten their commitments after the signing of the CPA.

He said the CPA does not aim at only ceasefire but also creating development and providing services as well as making unity as attractive option. He said the commission of monitoring and evaluation aims at urging all parties to work for the sake of unity in Sudan.

He said the commission was committed to CPA being far from any interference.

He said the agreement needs longer time for its full implementation, adding that there are many clauses which were already implemented while some issues are still being discussed such as the issue of Abyei and security arrangements.

Please click on the link below for the full text of the story

[Donors, Sudan to review CPA implementation next week](#)

[Sudanese presidency to discuss peace process implementation](#)

SAF refuses to redeploy from southern Sudan, says Kiir

(The Citizen; AlAyaam) VP Kiir, in his capacity as SPLA Commander-in-Chief, chaired an emergency meeting of the SPLA High Command in Juba yesterday in which he briefed participants on the recent meeting of the JDB report presented recently to the Presidency of the Republic about the JDB performance.

Speaking to reporters at Juba Airport, VP Kiir stated that the JDB report has revealed that implementation of the Security Arrangements has not been completed in accordance to the CPA. The SPLA C-in-C said that SAF failure is proof of lack of commitment to the CPA. He

said he has so far not been able to persuade his colleagues in the Presidency to redeploy the remaining SAF.

In a similar development, *AlAyaam* daily reports that the head of the EU delegation in Khartoum says worrying delays in the implementation of the security protocols as well as the ongoing crisis in Darfur pose a threat to the CPA.

The EU representative who was speaking at an investment conference in Sudan held in Nairobi, also pointed out that the slow progress on vital issues also threaten security in southern Sudan.

GoNU

Opposition figures gear up for meeting with Kiir

(*AlSahafa*) Leaders of the main opposition parties of Umma, Popular Congress, SCP and the DUP are in a series of consultations ahead of a meeting with VP Kiir next week.

The envisaged talks with Kiir will discuss developments related to the CPA and Darfur.

Other Headlines:

- [Sudan's FM, Egyptian envoy discuss 4 freedom agreement](#)

Southern Sudan/ GoSS/SPLM

Over 600 cases of cholera in Juba

(*Juba Post*) Over 600 cases of cholera are now under treatment in Juba with 80 new cases emerging on a daily basis.

The cholera infested areas of Kator-Loloo, Atlabara, Malakia and Muniki are now being treated in MSF-Spain's Cholera Treatment Center in Juba, the Spanish NGO said Wednesday.

MSF France is meanwhile trying to vaccinate up to 180,000 people in Juba by the end of this week to slow the spread of meningitis.

Vaccination started in Juba on Tuesday with a total of 25,000 people vaccinated by MSF-France in an exercise due to run up to 16 March.

SPLA mistreatment of civilians must stop, says Wani Igga

(*Juba Post*) Speaker of the GoSS Legislative Assembly, James Wani Igga, told an SPLM mobilization rally in the Peace Square in Juba last Monday that the relationship between the SPLA and the civilian population is "really poor".

He called upon the soldiers to behave themselves saying that mistreatment of civilians was reducing peoples' respect for the SPLM.

He however also blamed some people masquerading as SPLA for some of the incidents.

The LRA question

(Juba Post) After a on day meeting between GoSS President Salva Kiir and Uganda's Yuweri Museveni, both leaders unanimously agreed to continue peace efforts with the LRA.

The decision was made after VP Riek Machar and United Nations Envoy Joachim Chissano had met with the LRA deputy leader Vincent Otti in Ri-Kwangba and received a promise from the LRA leadership to resume talks within two weeks but requested that more observers be included in the talks.

This came also amidst reports that the LRA struck again in Nabazia, Western Equatoria, killing 3 and abducting a 10-year old girl, as reported by W. Equatoria Director of Security, John Bol.

On the other hand and despite efforts to disarm some communities in southern Sudan, the Commissioner of Magwi County has armed local youths with ammunitions to protect themselves against possible LRA raids.

Commissioner Colonel Emilio Igga pointed out that that was the only option as the LRA continues to kill and abduct people and to harvest the food of the communities.

Meanwhile in Western Equatoria, the Director of the Southern Sudan Rehabilitation and Reintegration Commission said that attempts to return refugees and IDPs from Western Equatoria are being undermined by the continued presence of the LRA in the region.

Returns update

(Juba Post) In the first week of March, **234 returnees were repatriated from Bangui, CAR, to southern Sudan.**

The refugees return however with a sense of frustration because many had been forced to leave their children behind because of failure to pay dowry.

In another development, at least **22 returnees have been repatriated from Kakuma to Juba this week.**

Kakuma refugees have been repatriated since early 2006 but kept on going back to Kakuma due to insecurity and shortage of services in their areas of return. To discourage such returns, the UNHCR says it will not grant refugee status to Sudanese who have been repatriated unless there is a strong reason to support their claims. The refugee agency says this decision

was taken to make the GoSS do more to reintegrate returnees into communities in southern Sudan.

The UNHCR official however said that refugees from Darfur will be granted automatic refugee status because of the ongoing crisis there.

In Blue Nile State, over 200 Mbororo tribes people were flown back to Blue Nile State last Friday from Juba.

They claim they have not been welcome in all the areas they sought refuge in for the last couple of years and have decided to go back home.

In Khartoum and despite the new plots granted them by the government after their relocation from Thaura two years ago, ***IDPs of Al-Fatih say they are very eager to return home.***

But chances they will leave this year is very small but they hope their turn to the government and United Nations-supported repatriation comes before the end of March in time to be able to cultivate the land.

A camp resident said that the recent departure of IDP returnee convoys to South Kordofan and Unity State have given new hope for a return home.

Juba Post also produces a UNICEF-sponsored inset by the Sudan Information Campaign for Returnees on important pre-return information.

New prison buildings opened for juveniles

(Juba Post) The Police Commissioner has opened to new juvenile detention centers at Juba Central Prison.

During the war, these detention centers were used to detain political prisoners.

World Bank dismisses GoSS' accusations over bureaucracy

(Sudan Vision) The World Bank has dismissed accusations made by the GoSS that it is too bureaucratic in administering donor money for the development of impoverished southern Sudan.

A senior World Bank official speaking to the press following a tour of southern Sudan said that the World Bank only seeks to know there is good governance, no corruption and that the proper procurement procedures used for the last 50 years around the world are adhered to to ensure transparency and accountability so that the people of southern Sudan get value for their money.

South Sudan not to secede after interim period - official

(*Xinhua/SudanTribune.com*) Southern Sudan will not secede but remain united after the end of the five-year interim period of implementing the Comprehensive Peace Accord (CPA), which ended the long-running war between the North and the South, a senior official disclosed Wednesday.

Addressing international investors in Nairobi, Sudan's Energy and Mining Minister Angelina Teny said the former rebel Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM/A) has agreed to pursue unity of the country at the end of the five-year interim period of implementing the peace deal.

Teny, a top-ranking official in Sudan's Government of National Unity, was in Nairobi to address international oil experts and investors meeting here to discuss the investment potential in Southern Sudan.

The investors had earlier expressed concern that the country faced an oblique future as a result of the constitutional provisions allowing the Southern Sudanese to slip after six years. The decision, according to peace pact, was to be made at a national referendum.

Click on the link below for the full text of the story
[South Sudan not to secede after interim period - official](#)

Eastern Equatorians flee villages as Ugandan rebels resurface

(*SudanTribune.com*) The Ugandan rebels LRA has resurfaced and displaced entire people from Imurok and Bunyoro Villages in Eastern Equatoria, yesterday night, Col. Massimino Alam has said.

Col. Alam say LRA incursion in Eastern Equatoria state has become like a thorn in the flesh and therefore appeal to SPLA commander in chief to immediately send SPLA forces to come and flush LRA out of the state.

During the press briefing in his office Wednesday afternoon, Commissioner Alam said Imurok and Bunyoro Villages are 16 miles from Torit, capital of Eastern Equatoria state.

Click on the link below for the full text
[Eastern Equatorians flee villages as Ugandan rebels resurface](#)

Darfur/ Darfur Peace Agreement

Sudanese rebels call for focus on Darfur peace, not court trials

(*SMC/BBC Monitoring, 13 Mar. '07*) JEM peace wing urges for halting trials of Darfur crimes and giving priority to sustainable peace and security in the region. Political secretary of the movement Issa Abd-al-Karim said trials on Darfur are hostage to maintaining security and repatriation of IDPs to their villages.

He pointed out that his movement rejects trying Sudanese nationals before ICC because Sudan is not amongst member states who ratified the establishment of the court charter. Abd-al-Karim explained that those who were affected by incidents in Darfur should wait until after implementation of peace across the region.

On the other hand, Abd-al-Karim said his movement is pleased from what has been done by the government regarding provision of non military logistical support to signatories to Abuja agreement for helping them go ahead with implementing of DPA.

Rwanda may withdraw troops from Darfur

(*The Citizen*) Rwanda threatened on Tuesday to withdraw its troops from Darfur unless more resources were committed to the African Union peacekeeping forces, saying its soldiers had seen “no results” from their mission.

“The African Union ... is being overstretched in the sense that it has no capacity, no logistics, no funds and is facing weaknesses in coordination,” President Paul Kagame told reporters.

“We have given our support but there are no results,” adds the Rwandan President whose country contributes the backbone of 2,000 forces to the 7,000 strong African Union force in Darfur.

“We are in consultation with our partners regarding our stay there, but once we take a decision to withdraw our troops it will be done once and for all,” Kagame said. Rwanda says it has spent \$12 million on its deployment so far, but has only received half of that back from the African Union.

“If we are not getting the best support and our presence is not benefiting those in the conflict, it is not benefiting us either to be there, said Kagame.

SLM-Minnawi condemns killing of AU peacekeepers

(*SudanTribune.com*) SLM-Minnawi has condemned the killing of two African Union peacekeepers earlier this month in Graidia, South Darfur.

The presidential senior aide Minni Minawi reaffirmed his commitment to cooperate with AU mission and its troops in western Sudan. He further presented his condolence to the Nigerian government for the killing of the two soldiers.

Minawi visited the headquarters of the AU mission in Khartoum on Monday March 13 to express his regrets for the killing.

Click on the link below for the full text of the SLM-MM statement
[SLM-Minawi condemns killing of AU peacekeepers](#)

53 killed in clashes between SLA-Minawi, Darfur tribal forces

(SudanTribune.com) Fifty-three people were killed and 24 others injured during renewed clashes between the Maaliyah tribe and the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) faction led by Senior Presidential Assistant Minni Arkoi Minawi.

Both sides blamed each other for the renewed violence which has occurred five times in the last seven months. Head of the Maaliyah shura council Al-Sheikh Mirdas told Al-Sahafah that a SLM force on 20 land cruisers attacked the main grazing area used by his tribe's herders in the Matorit area and that his tribe had confronted them.

The clashes occurred in the Matorit area, 163 km east of Nyala the capital of South Darfur State.

He pointed out that the clashes had resulted in the death of 53 people from both sides, ten from the Maaliyah and 43 from the SLM while 24 were injured. He said four of those injured were from his tribe and had been taken to Al-Diayn hospital for treatment.

Mirdas accused the SLM-Minnawi of striving to impose a new reality and, according to him, change the demography of the area to the advantage of ethnic groups that had recently immigrated to the region. He further warned that clashes would break out in nearby Kilaykal if the situation was not contained.

In this regard, a senior SLM source, who requested anonymity, admitted that a number SLM soldiers had died or been injured in these incidents but would not give details. Speaking from Muhajriyah, one of the movement's strongholds near the scene of the clashes, he said that a group, described as Janjaweed, had attacked areas under SLM control.

He said this had led to the death and injuring of a number of SLM soldiers and the burning of the villages of Um Sautah, Um Hani and Al-Matorit and that 10,000 people had fled in the direction of Al-Diayn as a result of the fighting.

EU gives additional 60 mln Euros for Darfur victims

(SudanTribune.com) The European Commission Wednesday has adopted two global humanitarian aid plans totalling 60 million Euros for large-scale aid operations in Sudan and Chad.

Beneficiaries of the 45 million Euros global plan for Sudan are the most vulnerable populations throughout the country and in particular in Darfur and South Sudan. The 15

million Euros global plan for Chad focuses on assistance for refugees, displaced people and vulnerable resident communities in the east and the south of the country.

The main humanitarian concern of the Commission continues to be the conflict in the Sudanese province of Darfur. Up to four million people are affected and around two million are displaced. Some 230,000 have sought refuge in Chad.

Click on the link below for the full text of the story
[EU gives additional 60 mln Euros for Darfur victims](#)

Jewish organization says Darfur Jews are subjected to a new Holocaust

(*AlHayat*) The *Jerusalem Post* says a number of refugees from Darfur have sneaked across Israel's borders with Egypt.

The paper quotes a member of a Jewish NGO as saying that people like these "Darfur Jews" who escape a new form of Holocaust and come knocking on Israel's doors should not be turned away. The organization has offered to resettle hundreds of Darfurians who found themselves in Israeli jails over illegal entry.

An official in Sudan's embassy in Cairo says there are no Jews in Darfur.