



UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN

UNMIS

Media Monitoring Report, 11 November 07

(By Public Information Office)

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Highlights

UN/ Agencies

Source from Justice Ministry discloses violations by UN coordinator of humanitarian Affairs in South Darfur

(*Akhbar Alyaum*) has got information from sources in the Ministry of Justice on the violations committed by the UN Humanitarian Affairs Coordinator in South Darfur which has resulted in his expulsion from the State. For the list of the violations detailed by the Government

Please see attachment “On the UN Humanitarian Affairs Coordinator in South Darfur”.

UN pledges to send demining teams to Blue Nile State

(*Akhbar Alyaum*) The UNMIS Head of Office in Ed-Damazin said that the UN will send four demining teams to the Southern Blue Nile State to demine some areas and conduct surveys at Wadaka, Adlo, Kurmuk and Alzareeba villages.

The Head of UNMS in the State Abdul-Dayem Mubarez paid a visit to Kurmuk to see the situation in the State on the ground and the status of the CPA implementation. He met with the military commanders. Mubarez said UNMIS will cooperate with the Kurmuk Locality (County) to achieve stability in the area and contribute to the demining process. He has also met with the humanitarian NGOs operating in the area and said UNMIS will contribute to the construction of Ed-Damazin road.

Darfur: Ban Ki-moon warns against delays in deployment of hybrid force

(*UN News Focus*) The hybrid United Nations-African Union peacekeeping mission to the war-torn Darfur region (UNAMID) still lacks critical transport and aviation units and the Sudanese Government has not responded yet to the UN-AU submission on the force’s composition, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon says, warning that delays to deployment will only exacerbate the humanitarian situation.

In his latest [report](#) on UNAMID, Mr. Ban says the combination of the delays and the recent spike in security incidents across the western Sudanese region has left Darfur “at a crossroads.”

He urges Member States which can do so to contribute the missing transport and aviation capabilities for the mission, which is expected to have more than 25,000 troops and police officers at full capacity.

The Secretary-General also calls on the Sudanese Government to cooperate concerning the acquisition of land, the approval of flight operations rights for UN aircraft and the composition of UNAMID so that the force can be quickly introduced.

Expulsion of UN humanitarian official from South Darfur sparks concern

(UN News Focus) The United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Sudan is in contact with the country's authorities to find out why a senior UN humanitarian official has been expelled from South Darfur.

Preliminary reports indicate that Wael al-Haj-Ibrahim, the head of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs ([OCHA](#)) in Sudan, has not been rendered persona non grata by the national Government, UN spokesperson Marie Okabe told reporters yesterday.

Rather, he has been forced to leave South Darfur under a directive from the State Governor and the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Ameerah Haq has taken up the issue with the authorities in Khartoum, the national capital.

Ms. Okabe said the UN was extremely concerned about the potential ramification of the expulsion decision, especially given that it violated the letter and spirit of the Joint Communiqué on the Facilitation of Humanitarian Assistance in Darfur that was signed earlier this year by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir.

Cooperation between the Humanitarian aid commission and the UN on Darfur kidnapped children

(Sudan Tribune) Commissioner General of the Humanitarian Aid Commission, Hasabu Mohamed Abdulrahman asserted the existence of cooperation between the UN and the commission to investigate the Darfur kidnapped children problem and the IDP's voluntary return to their villages. Abdulrahman spoke at a press conference yesterday after a meeting with the UN Humanitarian coordinator Amira Hag and southern Darfur State Governor, Ali Mahmoud. He asserted that the commission work in coordination and preparations with the UN, clarifying that the conflicts inside the camps weakens the IDP's voluntary return. On his part, Southern Darfur State Governor, Ali Mahmoud said that the IDP's went to known places and the state exerted its efforts to return them to their original places.

Child protection laws must be respected, Ban Ki-moon says after abduction case

(UN News Focus) The recent attempt by a French non-governmental organization (NGO) to remove more than 100 children from Chad underlines the need to ensure that international laws relating to the protection of children are fully respected, said Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

In voicing his concern over the incident, Mr. Ban joins senior UN officials in the region who have already expressed their strong reaction to the actions of the NGO Arche de Zoé. Last month, the organization tried to transfer 103 children – who range in age from one to 10 years old – out of eastern Chad and into France for adoption, a move deemed “illegal and totally irresponsible” by the ([UNICEF](#)).

“The Secretary-General believes that this incident underscores the urgent need for all concerned individuals, organizations and institutions to fully respect international legal instruments on the protection of children,” according to a [statement](#) issued today by his spokesperson.

GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)

Death sentence for Taha’s assassins

(*Sudan Vision*) Khartoum North Criminal Court ordered the assassins of the chief editor of Al Wifaq independent daily, Mohammed Ahmed Mohammed Taha, to be hanged to death after being found guilty under Articles 121, 162 and 130 of Sudan Criminal Law. The said articles relate to enticement, abduction and premeditated murder.

Following pronouncement of the verdict, Taha's kin opted for retribution after the Court offered them the choice of blood money, amnesty and retribution.

Presiding Judge of Khartoum North Criminal Court narrated at the beginning of the session the incidents of the crime perpetrated by the ten culprits in addition to a full elucidation of their confessions and the roles they had undertaken on the four stages of the crime, as of abducting the late journalist until his beheaded corpse was dropped off in Kalakla area.

Al Bashir to meet with Husni Mubarak today

(*AlSahafa*) President al Bashir, who will arrive today in Cairo, is expected to meet with President Husni Mubarak to discuss regional and international issues of interest to the two countries. During his one-day visit al Bashir will discuss also with Mubarak the Darfur issue, the Sirte peace talks and the CPA implementation.

Pagan Amum: the CPA partners’ six-man committee fails to reach understanding on pending issues

(*Akhbar Alyaum*) The SPLM Secretary General Pagan Amum said the NCP-SPLM six-man committee has failed in reaching understandings on all pending issues, especially the issue of Abyei. The committee, he said, will not resume meetings unless it receives instructions to that effect from al Bashir and Kiir.

25% increase in prices of bread

(*AlRai AlAam*) The bakeries in Khartoum have yesterday increased the prices of bread by 25% due to an increase of 12% in the prices of the flour.

No major change in US sanctions with South Sudan exemption - embassy

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 10 Nov. KHARTOUM) US mission in Khartoum said that exemption of Southern Sudan from economic sanction on the country does not represent a major change in US sanction policy towards Sudan.

In a press statement issued on November 7, the US Embassy in Khartoum said October 31 regulations in fact implement the easing of some sanctions for southern Sudan announced since last October 2006. "The changes have been in effect since that time, and the Treasury Department issued interpretive guidance last year explaining the impact of these changes. The new regulations merely serve as a more formal and authoritative explanation of these changes." The embassy said.

An October 31 notice from the U.S. Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) has cleared up confusion arising from a sanctions order issued last year. The new notice said most activities and money transactions, other than in the oil industry, are allowed in the south.

Sudan's Umma leader calls for inclusive constitutional conference

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 10 Nov. KHARTOUM) The leader of a Sudanese opposition party said that Sudan peace partners are in the impasse. He proposed that the solution of this critical position would be an all parties constitutional conference, the daily al-Sahafa reported today.

The leader of the opposition National Umma Party (NUP), Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, said that the (ruling) National Congress Party (NCP) and Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) is experiencing an impasse. He said that the solution to the stalemate would be an inclusive constitutional conference which would include all the political forces.

Sudan denies Rift Valley Fever in animals

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 10 Nov. KHARTOUM) Sudan on Saturday denied there were any confirmed cases of Rift Valley Fever in animals, after almost 250 human cases were recorded with a death rate of about 30 percent.

The disease could devastate livestock in the country where much of the population relies heavily on cattle farming. But Sudan's minister for animal resources said there were no clinical signs of the virus. "(An) investigation team conducted an epidemiological investigation and surveillance and did not come across any clinical symptoms to indicate an epidemic of Rift Valley Fever disease," Minister Gutluak Deng told reporters.

HCR official visits Darfur to review IDPs operations

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 09 Nov. GENEVA) Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees, L. Craig Johnstone, arrived to Darfur yesterday as part of a four-day mission to Sudan to review UNHCR's operations for refugees and internally displaced persons. Johnstone arrived in El Geneina, West Darfur, yesterday, afternoon following a day of meetings

in Khartoum with Sudanese officials. Today, he is scheduled to visit IDP camps in West Darfur.

US envoy, lawmakers diverge in north south peace assessment

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 08 Nov. WASHINGTON) US President Special Envoy to Sudan sees a deal reached last Saturday as a promising beginning toward ending decades of enmity between Sudan's predominantly Muslim north and the non-Muslim south. A prominent lawmaker says that is not what the southern Sudan leader told him.

Bush appointed Andrew Natsios as his special envoy at a time when the agreement appeared to be in extreme jeopardy. Natsios suggested a five-part program that he felt might bridge the crevasse between the two sides.

On Nov. 3, as Kiir prepared for his trip to the United States, the two sides announced a deal that Natsios said includes all five compromises and confidence-building actions he had suggested. But, he said Thursday in an interview, "It's their agreement. They negotiated it. I think the utility of the proposal that the United States made to both sides was to show them there was way out."

Rice had invited Kiir to Washington as the negotiations over implementing the CPA teetered toward failure. After their meeting, McCormack said "I heard this upstairs when the secretary met with Salva Kiir" that Natsios' proposals were made irrelevant because "Khartoum and the south have actually already moved beyond those proposals."

In the telephone interview, Natsios said the key to bringing peace now is "they have to implement what they have agreed." One good thing about this is that the final deadline for resolution of all this is Jan. 9, two months away. No one has that short an attention span in world affairs that they are going to forget about what they agreed to.

Kiir's comments in the US

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 10 Nov. LONDON) Sudanese First Vice President and Chairman of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) said he prefers to maintain the current political partnership with the ruling National Congress Party despite the withdrawal of his ministers from the national government.

In a public meeting organised by Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington on November 7, Salva Kiir Mayadrit said it is better for the SPLM to maintain the political partnership with the NCP up to the next elections and the referendum, indicating that SPLM relations with other political parties in the country are weak, the London based al-Sharq alAwasat reported.

The Washington Post revealed that the US special envoy to Sudan Andrew Natsios was pushing officials from the Southern ex-rebel group Sudan People Liberation Movement (SPLM) to accept the plan.

According to the Washington Post Natsios's proposals were on the agenda of the meeting between Kiir and Rice.

However Kiir said in an interview last Wednesday that he doesn't agree with the plan suggesting that this will open up the accord to renegotiation. *Please see attachment.*

GoSS

Official investigation on Yambio events

(Allintibaha) A press statement issued by the office of the GoSS President Salva Kiir Mayardit said President Kiir has strongly condemned the killing on the 4th of November of three police officers in Yambio town in Western Equatoria State. The President instructed the setting up of a committee to investigate on the incident. Kiir urged the authorities to arrest the suspects and bring them to justice. He has also instructed replacing the SPLA unit in the JIU in Yambio with another force.

SPLM leader accuses Uganda of killing Garang

(AlSudani) The former SPLM Minister of State at the Interior Ministry Alio Ajang accused the Ugandan army of being involved in the killing of the late SPLM Chairman Dr. John Garang. He told the Canada-based New Sudan Vision that the former Ugandan Minister of Defence knows much about the assassination of Dr. John Garang. He added that Uganda was not happy with Garang due to his relationship with LRA.

South to use Uganda, Kenya, Eritrea, Ethiopia curriculum

(The Citizen) The Government of Southern Sudan has said pupils in different states may at the time being study under curricular of the neighboring countries until the region sets its own education guidelines.

Speaking to The Citizens, the under secretary in the south Sudan ministry of education science and technology Goss Atar Malou said education is the first priority of the ministry. He said the south has finished developing a curriculum for primary one to eight. Books are due to arrive this month and will be immediately sent to the states, said Atar. Atar said all the schools in the south shall be using different curriculum from other neighbouring countries, including Ethiopia, Eritrea, Uganda and Kenya.

South Sudan Archbishop condemns Yambio killing urges unity

(Sudan Tribune.com – 10 Nov. JUBA) The Catholic Archbishop Paolino Lukudu Loro said the incident that happened in Yambio last Sunday November 4th were three senior police officers were murdered in cold blood by their fellow Southern Sudanese's SPLA from Joint Integrated Unit (JIU) based in Yambio was an evil act deliberately calculated to divide the people of Southern Sudan and that it must be condemned in strongest term by all peace loving Sudanese.

The primate said the gallant police officers lost their life in the process of implementing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement that was signed between the government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement on January 9th 2005.

On behalf of the entire ecumenical Christians faithful in Juba, Archbishop Lukudu registered Church condolences to the families, children, relatives and friends of all those who were murdered in cold blood while performing their national duty at Yambio police station of Western Equatoria State.

US refugees from rival tribes team up to drill wells in South Sudan

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 10 Nov. ROCHESTER, N.Y) At the time, two decades ago, the boy was scrambling to stay alive, dodging a civil war enveloping his native southern Sudan.

Salva Dut was 11 when he, his uncle and two dozen villagers crossed into territory controlled by the rival Nuer tribe. Dut and most of his group were Dinkas.

As they rested by a pond, the rising sun already baking the tawny plain, six armed men appeared and questioned them shrilly about their links to John Garang, a Dinka rebel leader blamed for violent raids on the Nuer. The bandits then singled out Dut's uncle, Jewiir, tied him to a tree and shot him.

"We find a hole in the ground left by an animal and buried him," Dut said recently, still jolted by flashbacks from that day in 1986. "We spent the day mourning and at nighttime we resumed our walk." *Find attached the full story*

South Sudan to give UK White Nile stake in new oil firm

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 09 Nov. JUBA, Sudan) The semi-autonomous government of southern Sudan will give 55 percent of shares in a planned government-owned oil company to White Nile Plc , government officials said on Friday.

The company will take over the part of the block B consortium — mostly held by French Total — which was freed up when U.S. firm Marathon Oil Corp pulled out because of Washington's sanctions on Sudan, the officials said.

The block has been the subject of a long-running dispute between the French oil giant and the British exploration company, which is 50 percent owned by the southern Sudanese government. Total had taken the dispute to a British court. The British firm had already begun exploratory work in one section of the concession.

South Sudan cabinet endorses plan to borrow money

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 09 Nov. JUBA) The southern Sudan government said today it is looking for African and Arab funds in support of the development programs and economic infrastructure build up.

The newly appointed minister of Information and the spokesperson of the Government of South Sudan (GoSS), Gabriel Changson following the weekly cabinet meeting told the press, that the semi autonomous government is seeking to borrow five billion US dollars to for economic and social development in the south. Changson said that the Council of Ministers had endorsed a report presented by the Minister of Finance seeking for the money after a meeting held with the African Development Bank in Rwanda recently.

Regular Repatriation to South Will Start Next December Targeting 3500 IDPS

(SMC – 10 Nov.). Ministry of humanitarian affairs announces that regular repatriation program will start by the beginning of next December to south Kordofan and Unity States.

Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS) repatriation program coordinator Kormaj Shol Badong told (smc) that the program technical committee is holding intense meetings at national displacement center between representatives of government of national unity, GOSS and UN. He said as consequence 35000 IDPs should be repatriated from the north to Upper Nile Unity and south Kordofan states. He explained that repatriation operation should be organized by land and river facilities targeting 35000 IDPS. He said IDPS will be assembled at camps in Rank Malut and Maban , before they get transported to their original villages.

Darfur

Minnawi Reviews with Zerihoun Ways of Boosting Sirte Peace Talks on Darfur

(*Sudan vision daily*) The Senior Assistant of the Sudanese President Minni Arko Minnawi on Wednesday reviewed with the UN Chief Negotiator Taye Zerihoun, the efforts exerted for the success of Sirte peace talks with the armed rebel groups opposed to the Abuja Peace Agreement. The Senior Presidential Assistant has pointed out in his meeting with Zerihoun the role being played by the mediators to convince those factions into joining the peace negotiations in Sirte. The UN official has pointed out in a statement to the Sudan News Agency that he has briefed the senior assistant on the efforts being exerted by the Joint Mediation Team and the international partners for the success of the talks and the realization of peace in the Darfur.

Dutch FM urges tougher Sudan sanctions over Darfur

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 10 Nov. The Hague) Dutch Foreign Minister, Maxime Verhagen, has called for tougher United Nations sanctions against Sudan because of the humanitarian crisis in Darfur. If such a move cannot be agreed in the Security Council, he wants the European Union to impose extra sanctions independently, reported Radio Netherlands Worldwide. The foreign minister was speaking during a special programme on Darfur broadcast by Dutch public service television on Friday evening.

Chadian judge slams foreign pressure to free child kidnap suspects

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 10 Nov. NDJAMENA) A senior Chadian judge has slammed foreign pressure that he claimed led to the freeing of 11 Europeans held in the central African nation over a bid to illegally fly out 103 children presented as war orphans. "Our judicial system has been trampled upon," said Abdoulaye Cheikh, head of the Union of Judges of Chad, denouncing former colonial master France for arm-twisting Chad

into submission. "They should have been judged here. These decisions were taken elsewhere," he said in an interview, accusing French President Nicolas Sarkozy of treating "Chad like a nation without any institutions, without any judiciary."

Darfur rebel group says mediation encourages fragmentation

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 09 Nov. PARIS) A Darfur rebel group denounced the joint mediation for encouraging dissidence of commanders and allowing them to attend the brokered peace talks in Libya under the name of the group.

The leader of the rebel Sudan Liberation Movement Unity Command (SLM-Unity), Abdalla Yahia, said in a statement issued on Thursday that the mediation team had convinced one of its commanders, Adam Bakheit, to participate in Sirte peace talks under the name of the group. Yahia further said this move comes after his rejection to participate in the peace talks and aims to punish the SLM-Unity for its refusal.

Sudan blames UN expelled official for discouraging IDPs return to villages

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 08 Nov. KHARTOUM, Sudan) The U.N. humanitarian director was ordered to leave south Darfur because he was discouraging civilians displaced by violence from returning to their villages, Sudan's justice minister said Thursday.

Justice Minister Mohamed Ali al-Mardi praised the decision by south Darfur Governor Ali Mahmood Mohammed, saying there was sufficient evidence to back the accusations. "State authorities were left with no other alternative but to take that decision so as to preserve the independence of Sudan," al-Mardi was quoted as saying by the state news agency SUNA.

The justice minister said Wael Al-Haj Ibrahim, the south Darfur director of the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, known as OCHA, was warned three times not to discourage the return of displaced civilians but did so anyway. He said Ibrahim also told displaced Darfurians who had gone back to their villages that they should return to the camps set up for them.

Food Relief Becomes Accessible to Remote Areas in Northern Darfur

(*SMC* – 10 Nov.) Northern Darfur State Humanitarian Assistance Commission confirms the access flow of humanitarian relief to IDPS across the state. Humanitarian commissioner in the state Ibrahim Hamid told (*smc*) that the humanitarian situation there is stable and that food is accessible to IDPS. He estimated the availability food for 9 thousands metric tons. He said the food is distributed in coordination with WFP, Red Cross and the humanitarian commission. He has likely maintained that food was made accessible to remotes areas as well.

JEM Plans for Escalation of Military Act and Insecurity across Darfur

(*SMC* – 10 Nov.) JEM headed by Dr Khalil Ibrahim has set a plan targeting creation of insecurity in Darfur to improve its situation before get involve in peace negotiation with the government. Diplomats told (*smc*) that chief of JEM's advisor Gibril Ibrahim stated that the movement has rejected participation in Sirte / Libya talks until it could

improve its military situation on the ground and make internal reconciliation to force the international community recognize its influential role as strong movement. However, diplomats said have told JEM that continuity of creating insecurity in Darfur should lead to isolation of all Darfurian movement accused of hampering peace

Mandate for German Armed Forces in Sudan

(SMC) The German government has decided to mandate the involvement of the German Armed Forces in two UN missions in Sudan. The mandate of the German contingent to the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) is to be extended by one year. In addition to this, German troops are to participate in the United Nations African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) in the west of the country.

The UNMIS mandate is to be extended essentially unchanged until 15 August 2008. This decision is still subject to parliamentary approval by the German Bundestag.

Germany will contribute up to 75 unarmed military observers to the mission. Currently, 37 members of the German Armed Forces and five police officers are deployed.

The German Armed Forces are making a long-term contribution to overcoming the conflict, which is one of the longest and bloodiest in Africa. UNMIS is providing support to the former parties to the conflict, helping them put into practice the terms of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement signed in 2005. The mission also plays an important part in ensuring the security needed for economic and political reconstruction in southern Sudan.

SLM of Mini Arkoy Accuses Some Groups of Plotting Against the Movement

(SMC) SLM of Mini Arkoy accused some groups, without identifying them, of escalating sedition amongst the movement's membership. SLM spokesman Al-Tayeb Khamis said the suspected groups were previously involved in the Darfur war based on a tribal concept. He said they are now plotting actively against the movement's institutions and are seeking to undermine the power of Mustafa Tarab, the SLM's Secretary General.

The spokesman told local press that his movement uncovered a spy network seeking the involvement of SLM in military operations against some tribes in Mahjaria and Girada areas in south Darfur.