

**UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN****UNMIS**Media Monitoring Report, 12 November 07

(By Public Information Office)

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### **UN/ Agencies**

#### **Sudan president accuses UN of trying to send intelligence units to Darfur**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 11 Nov. KHARTOUM) The Sudanese president Omer Al-Bashir accused the UN of trying to send under cover intelligence agents as part of the hybrid force in Darfur.

Al-Bashir told Al-Jazeera Arabic channel in Qatar that his government agreed to a brigade of engineers from China and Pakistan only. He added that the UN is trying to replace them with units from Norway and Sweden. "We refused to receive [engineers] from Norway and Sweden, and we will not accept this. We are convinced that the elements whom they insist to send to us from Sweden and Norway are intelligence elements; namely, MOSSAD [Israeli Intelligence] and CIA" Al-Bashir added.

Al-Bashir also criticized the UN for delaying the approval for the budget of the UN-AU hybrid force.

Al-Bashir also said that Scandinavian troops from Norway and Sweden will be at risk in Darfur. *Read more:* <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article24697>

#### **Pakistan army's peacekeeping contingent leaves for Sudan**

(*BBC Mon*)-- (*APP news agency*) A batch of 78 military personnel led by Colonel Anjum Irshad, commander of Pakistan Army peacekeeping contingent, left here this morning by a specially chartered UN aircraft on United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS).

According to an ISPR [Inter Services Public Relations] press release, the departing elements would replace their comrades in arm as part of the annual relieve-rotation schedule. Pakistan has contributed over 1500 troops for the aforesaid mission.

Bidding farewell to the troops at the Allama Iqbal International Airport, Brigadier Muhammad Yousaf underscored the need to maintain internationally acclaimed traditional professional image of the blue berets of Pakistan Army. He said that they were embarking on a noble mission and it was their moral duty to provide solace and relief to their brethren in distress on humanitarian grounds. He emphasized that their every action should match the long history of affinity that Pakistan has shared with the brotherly Islamic country of Sudan.

The Pakistan Army contingent is part of the 10,000 strong UN military components of the UNMIS contributed by over 41 countries. The Pakistan peacekeepers will perform their duties in Damazin in the south of Sudan.

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

### **Sudan accuses SPLM of acting like an independent state**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 10 Nov. KHARTOUM) The Sudanese president Omar Al-Bashir criticized the Southern ex-rebels, Sudan People Liberation Movement (SPLM), and said that they are acting like an independent state.

Al-Bashir told Al-Jazeera Arabic channel in Qatar said that the visit of his First Vice President Salva Kiir to the US was arranged through the SPLM's mission in Washington and not the Sudanese embassy. "The offices of SPLM abroad are still acting as they were embassies" Al-Bashir said.

The Sudanese president said he was suspicious on the goals behind Kiir's visit to Washington. The war of words between the NCP and SPLM has escalated since the withdrawal of the latter's ministers from the government of national unity.

Kiir told the BBC Arabic service from Washington that he "lost confidence in the National Congress Party (NCP) and president Al-Bashir".

### **Sudan FVP extends Washington visit to meet US President**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 11 Nov. KHARTOUM) Sudanese First Vice-President, Salva Kiir Mayardit, has extended his stay in the USA in order to meet the US president George Bush. According to *AlRai AlAam* daily, Salva Kiir has extended his stay that was scheduled to end today, to meet US President George Bush at the White House. The daily said the meeting would be held either on Sunday or Monday. The meeting is expected to focus on the pending issues in the implementation of the CPA signed between the NCP government and the former rebel SPLM in January 2005.

### **Kiir threatens NCP of plan (B)**

(*AlRai AlAam*) FVP and President of GoSS, who addressed yesterday the SPLM followers in Washington, threatened the NCP of what he called Plan (B) if the NCP does not resolve all the pending issues which the SPLM has highlighted. Kiir refused to reveal what he means by Plan (B) saying that he will do at the right time.

### **Kiir slams ghastly murder, orders soldiers arrest**

(*The Citizen*) First Vice President, Salva Kiir, has condemned the murder of three South Sudan police officers and at least 7 people in Yambio, Western Equatoria. The South Sudan president also ordered that the culprits be immediately arrested, the SPLM component of the Joint Integrated Units be immediately moved from Yambio, to be replaced by the SPLA Mother Units.

## **Work of the three-member committee suspended**

*(Khartoum Monitor, All press)* In a press conference held yesterday, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement said the work of the three member committee formed by the movement to iron out differences between the SPLM and the NCP has been suspended.

Malik Agar, the Governor of the Blue Nile State and a senior member of the SPLM, said the work of the committee has been suspended because of disagreement on the way of resolving the points of differences on how to implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. "Top of these points of disagreements is the Abyei protocol" Agar said. He added that the committee will wait for further directives from the President of the Republic. Omar El Bashir and the president of GoSS, Salva Kiir when they return from their current visits abroad.

## **Legal experts: GoNU has to review activities of all foreign organizations in the country**

*(Khartoum Monitor)* Legal experts called on the Sudanese government to review the entire activities of the foreign organizations working in the country. The activities have to comply with the National Sudanese laws. Head of the advocates syndicate, Fathi Khalil said that the kidnapping of Darfur children is the crime of the century, as it is a violation of vital human rights that reverberates the echoes of human dignity.

He added, in a press conference, that foreign organizations violated the rules and performed inhuman actions as a consequence of the way the Sudanese deal with foreigners. Director of Khartoum Human Rights Centre, Legal expert Dr. Ahmed Mufti said that kidnapping children is a complex crime. Dr. Mufti explained that kidnapping juniors is an offense that has to be handled by the French President himself.

## **Donors, GoNU plan to fund local state projects**

*(The Citizen)* Minister of finance Al Zubeir Ahmed al Hassan in a meeting with World Bank delegation yesterday confirmed the commitment of the GoSS to offer financial and technical support for the projects of local communities. The targeted states are Kassala, North Kordofan, south Kordofan, and Blue Nile. The minister said that the projects will include, water projects, health education and power for states with solar system. He disclosed that the cost of the first phase of the project costs \$25 mil-- \$15m from the donors and \$10 m from the Government of Sudan.

## **Summit in Cairo (Egypt, Sudan, Iraq, Yemen) to discuss Darfur**

*(AlRai AlAam)* A summit for the Sudanese, Egyptian, Yemeni and Iraqi presidents was held yesterday in Cairo. The summit discussed developments in the Arab world and Darfur. President al Bashir explained the status of the CPA implementation, the political partnership between the CPA partners and efforts for a political settlement in Darfur. The Egyptian Presidency Spokesperson Suliman Awaad said that President Husni Mubarak has instructed the Foreign Minister Armed Abu Elgheit and the Head

of Intelligence Omer Suliman to continue their contacts with the Darfur rebel factions boycotting the Sirte talks in order to achieve a peace agreement.

### **Washington suggests American-Saudi-Chinese mediation for resolving Abyei issue**

(*AlSudani*) The GoSS Minister of Presidential Affairs, Luka Biong, told AlSudani from New York that the US Special Envoy for Sudan, Andrew Natsios, has presented an American initiative on resolving the issue of Abyei through an American-Saudi-Chinese mediation. According to Bing the initiative includes five points:

1. Giving UNMIS the right to monitor the situation in Abyei until the problem is resolved.
2. Redeploying SAF and SPLA 20 kilometers north and south of 1956 borders respectively for a period of one month starting from the 15<sup>th</sup> of November 07 so that the area of 40 kilometers could be monitored by the UN troops. Completing the formation of the JIUs by the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2008.
3. Setting up of a joint mediation committee from the US, Saudi Arabia and China to resolve the Abyei and border issues.
4. Assuring the role of the Assessment and Evaluation Commission in monitoring progress in implementing the CPA.
5. Creation of a political mechanism to help building trust between the CPA partners.

Biong said the SPLM has expressed reservations in regard to the point of the mediation on Abyei.

### **South Sudan could secede unilaterally if Abyei unresolved-Turabi**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 11 Nov. KHARTOUM) South Sudan could unilaterally split from the north because of a dispute over the oil-rich region of Abyei in Africa's largest country, leading Islamist opposition party leader Hassan al-Turabi said on Sunday.

The former southern rebel Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) withdrew from government a month ago in protest over slow implementation of a landmark 2005 peace deal which ended Africa's longest civil war. Observers say the biggest obstacle to reconciliation is the unresolved status of Abyei, which is on the north-south border.

"I realize now that this is a very critical issue — it could risk something very serious for the whole deal," Turabi told Reuters in an interview. "It might provoke the south to proceed directly towards a proclamation of secession."

He said southerners were partly to blame by focusing too much on the south at the expense of national politics, where they are the junior partner in a coalition government. Turabi said if borders were decided, Abyei should become a buffer zone, with free trade and movement and its oil revenues shared to avoid a return to civil war.

## **Sudan charges 25 opposition members over plot**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 11 Nov. KHARTOUM) Sudan has charged 25 opposition politicians with crimes ranging from illegal possession of arms to organizing terrorist groups and has rejected a defence appeal to release them, the justice minister said on Sunday.

The 25 were seized from their homes at gunpoint four months ago and accused of attempting to overthrow the government.

Justice Minister Mohamed Ali al-Mardi told Reuters the politicians had lost an appeal for their release, which had been brought by defence lawyers on the grounds that they had not been told of any charges against their clients.

Mardi said charges included abetting mutiny, holding illegal military training, calling for opposition to public authority using criminal force or violence and organizing criminal and terrorist organizations.

The two most high-profile detainees are the head of the opposition Umma Party for Reform and Renewal, Mubarak al-Fadil, and the Deputy Secretary-General of the opposition Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), Ali Mahmoud Hassanein.

## **GoSS**

### **Sudan's Kiir accuses ruling partner of being reluctant to implement peace accord**

(*BBC Mon*)-- *Radio Miraya FM* First Vice-President of Republic and President of GoSS, General Salva Kiir Mayardit, has accused the National Congress Party of being reluctant to implement the CPA. Speaking to BBC Mr. Kiir reiterated that SPLM ministers will not resume their duties unless the CPA is implemented. Kiir added that the NCP is to blame for separation if it happens. Continuing with his visit to the US, Mr. Kiir says he is waiting for President Al Bashir to solve the outstanding issues.

### **South Sudan speaker urges more active role for Equatoria in police and prisons**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 11 Nov. JUBA) In order to ease the tension raised by the killing of three police officers by undisciplined SPLM soldiers in Yambio last week, the speaker of Southern Sudan parliament called to give Equatorian responsibility of their coercive administration.

The Speaker of Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly, James Wani Igga, has Saturday evening appealed to all southern Sudan Inspector General of Police, Prison and Wildlife to let sons and daughters of greater Equatoria take charge of their Police, Prison and Wildlife administration. Igga made the appeal when addressing mourners at the funeral rite of police brigadier General Michael Sebit who was murdered along with two colleagues on November 4 in Yambio.

## **Zande community in Khartoum denounces WES (Western Equatoria State) incident**

*(Khartoum Monitor)* Zande community has strongly denounced the recent killing of three police officers and other soldiers in Western Equatoria State (WES) Yambio, by the joint Integrated Units soldiers. The Chairman of Zande community in Khartoum, Kennedy Gaaiko Celement yesterday told Zande meeting at the Young men's Christian Association that the WES citizens and Zande in particular are calling for the removal of the JIUs soldiers from Yambio. If not they are to be taken to Maridi and Nazara areas as stipulated in the CPA. If they are to remain in WES, the JIUs soldiers should be mixed and have majority from the WES people, not only from the ethnic group, Clement said.

## **Southern Sudan lacks drugs for Rift Valley fever – minister**

*(BBC Mon)-- Radio Miraya FM* The minister of animal resources and fisheries, Dr Festo Kumba revealed that the ministry has no medicines at the moment to send to the areas affected with the Rift Valley Fever.

Speaking to Miraya fm, Dr Kumba said the medicines, which the ministry had, were sent to the flood affected areas in parts of south Sudan.

The minister of animal resources and fisheries, Dr Festo Kumba revealed that the ministry has no medicines at the moment to send to the areas affected with the Rift Valley Fever. Speaking to Miraya Fm, Dr Kumba said the medicines, which the ministry had, were sent to the flood affected areas in parts of south Sudan. "You will imagine that the rains started, reserves of medicines and vaccines that we had, we sent them to those areas and they are finished

The FAO actually came in to help us at that time with some of the medicines and vaccines that we dispatch to those areas. We don't have anything right now." Mr. Kumba said.

## **Situation stable in White Nile, Upper Nile States following SPLM pull out**

*(Sudan Tribune)* El Salam Locality Commissioner, Ismaiel Nawai has confirmed that the decision of the council for the joint command commission on the withdrawal of the SPLM forces and SAF has found response from the two sides, and that this move would enhance relations and co-existence between the tribes of the area. He further stressed the political leadership's determination to hold a conference for unity and peaceful co-existence in El Salam locality and Elmany district.

In the same context, the southern director at the river transport, Eng. Adam Mohakar has pointed out that the movement of steamers, barges and river boats is normal, and that the situation is stable in the areas of Kakaw, Bor and Fanjak.

## **Darfur**

### **Darfuris accused of beheading editor to be hanged**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 11 Nov. KHARTOUM) Ten Darfuris convicted of beheading a Sudanese journalist have been sentenced to death by hanging, state media said on Sunday, contradicting an earlier account by their lawyer that they would be shot.

Kamal Omer, the lawyer for the 10 defendants aged between 16 and their mid-forties had told Reuters on Saturday the sentence was death by firing squad, a ruling he said was illegal unless issued by a military court. On Sunday he said he was trying to find the written judgment to check.

Most journalists were not allowed to enter the court on Saturday, which was surrounded by heavy security.

"The criminal court in Khartoum North presided over by Judge Osama Osman issued a judgment of death by hanging for all 10 accused in the case of the murder of journalist Mohamed Taha," the state-owned Sudanese Media Centre said.

The beheading of al-Wifaq editor Taha last year shocked Sudan's media. Taha, himself an Islamist, had angered other Islamists by reprinting articles questioning the roots of the Prophet Mohammed. Authorities also said he had provoked Darfuris with unflattering articles about Darfuri women. All the accused were from the Darfuri Fur tribe.

### **NCP calls for escalating of Darfur child trafficking case**

(*Sudan Vision*) The National Congress Party (NCP) called for mounting up the case of kidnapped Darfur children in all the regional and international forums, describing the crime as a breach of international conventions and humanitarian law.

It further urged Chad not to give in to French and European pressures and criticized the stance of the French premier because he violated a basic principle in international law.

The media forum staged by the NCP yesterday morning called on organizations and concerned parties to bring the culprits to trial and condemned the silence of the international community towards this case.

The Secretary of NCP Secretariat, Dr. Qutbi Al Mahdi, described the crime as a human catastrophe that targets the peoples of the third world, decrying the negative attitude of the international community towards the case which he said was stark trafficking in humans.

He cited another similar case in which 4,000 Sudanese children were kidnapped from the South and transported to the United States where they were later exploited to fuel wars in third world countries. He called for taking a hard stance on the case and laying it bare before all the forums since it has been perpetrated by countries that uphold the slogan of human rights protection.



## **Abd el Wahid hopes to be Sudan's President**

(AlAyam) In an interview with Aljazeera TV, the SLM leader Abdelwahid Mohamed Nour rejected allegations that he is an agent for the foreigners saying that he is an agent but only for the people of Darfur. He said that he does not want the position of a Vice President as he is hoping to be the President of Sudan.

## **Sudanese Media Company starts producing film on "kidnapped" Darfur children**

(BBC Mon)-- Akhir Lahzah Nabtah Media Production Company has begun preparing for the production of a documentary film entitled "Noah's Ark" on the operation of the abduction of 103 children from Darfur who were transferred to eastern Chad in preparation to being smuggled to France.

The company's general manager, Sayf-al-Din Hasan told Akhir Lahzah that the film would deal with the issue of African children who are taken to Europe and the intentions of humanitarian organizations particularly as the organization embroiled in the abduction of the Darfuri children was the French organization "Zoe's Ark" that entered Chad under the cover of humanitarianism.

The film will include interviews with the abducted children, members of the French organization, and lawyers and families of the children. Hasan explained that Nabtah had produced a number of documentaries films the latest being "The Way to Guantanamo" broadcast by Al-Jazirah satellite channel. He pointed out that they were now seeking a body to sponsor the film.

## **Editorials & Commentaries**

### **Sudanese writer urges northern political forces to respond to Kiir's concerns**

(BBC Mon)-- Al-Ayaam-- *Commentary by Mahjub Muhammad Salih:*

#### **"The crisis and returning to square one"**

It is useless to make optimistic statements about the crisis of the two partners, for the crisis is still sizzling. The statements made by the President and his Vice-President before their trips have solved nothing.

The six-member committee is still floundering. Yesterday's statements to the BBC by Vice-President Salva Kiir proved that the situation is still at dead centre, in square one, and that it will not move ahead without a new and comprehensive agreement coupled to a timetable which should be respected this time.

Whatever the sentences and phrasing of the next agreement between the two partners, the problem is not in formulation. The real problem is the lack of trust between the two partners. This was the most serious point in the statements by the head of the Government of South Sudan [GoSS] to the BBC. *Find attached the full text*