

**UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN**  
**UNMIS**  
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**(By Public Information Office)**

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**IN THE NEWS TODAY:**

➤ **United Nations**

- U.N.'s Egeland may meet Lord's Resistance chief
- UN assesses "bush schools" in South Sudan
- UN Rights Council to sit on Darfur end-November

➤ **United Nations and the Transitional Debate**

- African Union says its Darfur mission at risk next year
- Elected UN Ki-moon to visit Sudan for talks on Darfur
- Sudan, AU, UN to establish Darfur committee
- Security Council cancels trip to discuss Darfur force
- Increase AU force efficiency is our "priority" - French FM
- UK army chief of staff warns against UK military intervention in Darfur
- NGOs warn that deployment of an international force to Darfur will only aggravate the situation

➤ **CPA**

- Sudanese presidency resolves SPLM-NCP conflict in S. Kordofan

➤ **GoNU**

- Opposition forces to stage demonstrations against political parties and organization's draft
- Armed faction clash in Khartoum
- Libya's Gadhafi plans to for a tripartite meeting between Bashir, Debbe and Bouzize
- JEM holds conference in Addis
- Khartoum health workers threaten to strike over entitlements

➤ **Darfur**

- Minnawi blasts opposition forces in el-Fasher
- AU urges Darfurians to participate in dialogue conference\*
- 32 killed, 18 wounded in Darfur militia attack - rebels

➤ **Other Developments**

- Umma Army threatens confrontation with the party's political leadership

## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

### **United Nations**

#### **U.N.'s Egeland may meet Lord's Resistance chief**

(*Reuters* – 12<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Juba**) U.N. humanitarian chief Jan Egeland met negotiators from the Ugandan government and the Lord's Resistance Army on Saturday, hoping to give fresh impetus to peace talks aimed at ending the rebels' 20-year insurgency.

Egeland, speaking in the south Sudanese capital of Juba where the Uganda talks are being hosted, also said he would consider meeting reclusive LRA leader Joseph Kony. Rebel negotiators have said Kony wanted to meet Egeland.

"I am here to help (make) progress in Northern Uganda. ... We are having problems and we need more progress in the peace talks in Juba," Egeland told journalists on what is to be his last visit to Sudan as U.N. humanitarian coordinator.

"If I can help prolong the cessation of hostilities and help the protection of civilians, this may happen ... There are no fixed conditions because this is a judgment call," he said, referring to the prospect of a meeting with Kony.

"We are securing now some specific support for the assembly points so there will be better provision of water and food ... as we believe the LRA will begin to assemble," Egeland said.

The LRA has complained the assembly areas lack clean water and food, and said Uganda's army was surrounding them. Kony and other senior commanders have refused to quit their hideouts on the Sudan/Congo border to join talks themselves, fearing arrest.

Egeland said \$4 million had been secured from donors to fund the south Sudan mediation and provision of food at assembly points. The United Nations would provide helicopters to the cessation of hostilities monitoring team.

Egeland, who leaves his post in December, will also review implementation of a south Sudan peace deal to end more than two decades of north-south civil war, which many complain has been slow. Impasses remain over the division of oil wealth and the borders of the oil-rich areas.

#### **UN assesses "bush schools" in South Sudan**

(*UNICEF* – 10<sup>TH</sup> Nov. **Juba**) For the first time in the history of this war-torn region, a major survey has made it possible to identify the location and conditions of thousands of learning spaces – many of them 'bush schools' consisting of little more than a few benches under a tree.

The recently completed Rapid Assessment of Learning Spaces (RALS) found that 758,207 students are enrolled in 2,922 schools across the vast expanse of Southern Sudan, which is struggling to recover from two decades of armed conflict.

According to the survey, almost a third of these children still attend classes in the open air. A mere 31 per cent of learning spaces have access to adequate sanitation facilities, and one in five schools does not even have a chalkboard.

A unique collaboration between the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and UNICEF, the RALS report is the culmination of an unprecedented data collection effort.

Over the course of nine months, teams of RALS assessors fanned out across a territory of more than 600,000 square kilometres – sometimes walking for up to three days, using bicycles to navigate areas without roads and forging across swamps and impossibly hilly terrain to reach remote communities. Landmines and outbreaks of armed conflict occasionally brought the project to a complete halt.

Despite the challenges, the teams managed to reach nearly every school in Southern Sudan. Aided by global-positioning equipment, they recorded the precise location of each site and conducted a detailed assessment of the learning environment.

### **UN Rights Council to sit on Darfur end-November**

(*AlRai AlAam*) The UN Human Rights Council in Geneva will hold a meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> of this month to discuss the human rights situation in Sudan based on a report presented earlier by Special Rapporteur Sima Samar.

The council's discussions will coincide with a meeting of the human rights committee in New York.

## **United Nations and the Transitional Debate**

### **African Union says its Darfur mission at risk next year**

(*Khartoum Monitor*) The African Union has warned that its operations in the Darfur region is at risk because it is running out of money.

The African Union is currently in the process of boosting the size of its peacekeeping force to more than 10,000 and Sudan's leaders have pledged to support a wider African Union presence but the African Union's Peace and Security Commissioner, Said Djinnit, says he is not sure how the mission will continue.

“The financial support remains precarious. There have been commitment, but the commitments are not enough for the African Union to sustain its mission till the end of December”, he says.

### **Elected UN Ki-moon to visit Sudan for talks on Darfur**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 11<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Khrt.**) The U.N. secretary-general elect, South Korea's Ban Ki-Moon, will visit Sudan in the near future, the Sudanese foreign minister said.

The current South Korea foreign minister who is elected to the post of the UN secretary general starting from the next year, Ban Ki-Moon, will visit Sudan to discuss Darfur crisis. Sudanese Lam Akol announced that Ki-Moon has accepted an invitation to visit Sudan soonest possible.

Sudanese Foreign Minister Lam Akol returned home on Friday 10 November after a visit to China, Japan and South Korea.

On his part, Ki-Moon, said on Tuesday 7 November, he aimed to meet Sudanese President Omar Hassan al-Bashir as soon as possible to break the deadlock over U.N. peacekeepers going to Darfur.

The Foreign minister had met his Korean counterpart and congratulated him on his election as UN secretary-general.

### **Sudan, AU, UN to establish Darfur committee**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 11<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Khrt.**) Sudan and the United Nations on Saturday agreed to set up a tripartite committee to study ways of providing supports to strengthen the African Union forces in Sudan 's western region of Darfur.

Sudanese government and the United Nations have agreed on formation of a tripartite committee with the African Union to review UN support to AU forces in Darfur, besides the exchange of information and facilitating the implementation of this package.

The Foreign Minister, Lam Akol, met on Saturday the Assistant Secretary General for Peace - keeping affairs, Hadi Annabi, and assured of Sudan firm stance toward the Security Council resolution 1706, indicating that Sudan will only accept discussion on the alternatives for this resolution.

Akol further said that the UN and the AU are needed to support in the implementation of Darfur peace agreement, adding that the agreement requires the signing of the peace agreement by all parties.

The Assistant UN Secretary General for Peacekeeping Operation said he discussed with Akol the situation in Darfur and aspects of UN support to the peace process and the international organization's package of support to the African Union.

Annabi said he will participate in a meeting in Addis Ababa between representatives of the African Union, the United Nations and Sudan government. He said that he is holding a message based on the UN desire to back up the peace process and realization of security in Darfur, in collaboration with Sudan government.

The spokesperson of the Foreign Ministry, Ali Al-Saddiq, said that Akol and Hadi Annabi have discussed a number of issues, including the situation of the African Union mission and ways to support it.

He said that the Foreign Minister affirmed to the UN official that the United Nations is not entitled to bring international forces without consent of Sudan government.

Al-Saddiq said that Akol affirmed the importance of support to the AU peacekeeping forces so as to carry out its mission in Darfur.

He pointed out that the two parties agreed on the importance of support to the political process and the dialogue between all the concerned parties in Darfur issue on ground that the political solution is the best for Darfur problem.

Meanwhile, the ministry's spokesperson said that the talks between Akol and Al-Hadi Annabi was mainly focused on the package of UN support to the African Union mission, adding that

the Foreign Minister and the UN official agreed on the importance of implementing this package as soon as possible.

Al-Saddiq indicated that Akol and Hadi Annabi also reviewed the situation at Sudan's border with Chad and the Central African Republic, adding that Annabi stated the UN will send an assessment team to the border areas between the three countries and the displaced people camps to prepare reports and recommendations in this regard.

### **Security Council cancels trip to discuss Darfur force**

(Reuters – 10<sup>th</sup> Nov. UN) A divided U.N. Security Council on Friday abruptly cancelled a trip to the African Union in Ethiopia to discuss a future force in Darfur after failing to agree on what they could talk about, diplomats said.

A delegation of eight envoys, led by Britain, was to have taken part in meetings on Monday with Sudanese officials and African Union officials at AU headquarters in Addis Ababa.

But differences emerged about whether the group had a mandate to engage in discussions, the size of the delegation and whether the visit should supersede a planned trip to Addis three days later from Secretary-General Kofi Annan and his staff, the envoys said.

"We haven't been able to reach consensus on the meeting in Addis Ababa," Peru's U.N. Ambassador Jorge Voto-Bernales, the current president, told reporters after lengthy consultations among the 15 council members.

He said there were disagreements over two issues. One was "the mandate the delegation would have, constraints they would have, what message they would convey."

"The other was the composition. A number of delegations had volunteered to go but we received suggestions that we appoint a smaller delegation. But this matter also didn't reach consensus," Voto-Bernales said.

At issue is an Aug. 31 Security Council resolution authorizing up to 22,500 U.N. troops, police and civilians for Darfur, providing the Sudan government agreed.

The AU extended its invitation in September but since then Khartoum has been adamant about rejecting a force under United Nations command, calling it colonialism.

So explaining the resolution, which was the original purpose of the visit, is "perhaps a bit dated," one envoy said, adding that no one was sure how the council discussions would mesh with what Annan's staff was considering.

The African Union has scheduled a series of meetings with Sudan next week on the future of its force in Darfur, whose mandate expires on Dec. 31.

The AU has asked the United Nations to take over its underfinanced 7,000-strong operation, which has been unable to stop the violence that has cost at least 200,000 lives in the past three years.

Some diplomats said the United States, which was not in the delegation, was opposed to the trip, saying that the group could not negotiate on behalf of the Security Council. Russia opposed suggestions for a smaller group, diplomats reported.

The eight-member mission was to be headed by British Ambassador Emyr Jones Parry, who also led a council delegation to Sudan and Chad in June. Other envoys were from China, Ghana, France, Tanzania, Argentina, Qatar and Congo Republic, which holds the African Union presidency.

In the background are informal discussions on an African Union-U.N. hybrid force. One idea is to have the mission report politically to the United Nations as well as the African Union but have the force commander remain with the AU.

Such an arrangement could prove difficult in determining who makes which decisions, even if the concept proves to be more amenable to Sudan.

### **Increase AU force efficiency is our "priority" - French FM**

(AFP – 11<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Cairo**) French Foreign Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy said his country considers the top priority for Darfur region is to augment African troops to protect displaced and to secure border with Chad.

In an interview ahead of his talks with Ahmed Abul Gheit, the minister said the immediate priority in Darfur must be ‘to increase the efficiency of the African Union (peacekeeping) force. Consideration of this must also include the question of securing the frontiers of neighbouring countries, such as Chad and the Central African Republic.’

He told the Egyptian government daily Al Ahram: ‘All avenues must be explored with a double necessity — that of respect for the sovereignty of Sudan ... and that of the responsibility to protect the civilian populations which is incumbent on the Sudanese leaders.’

Doust-Blazy is due in Cairo Saturday for talks with his Egyptian counterpart on the situation in Darfur, before heading to Sudan and to the war-torn eastern region.

Doust-Blazy recalled that Sudan had rejected UN Security Council Resolution 1706 to create a peace force for Darfur. ‘This must be taken into account,’ he said.

Doust-Blazy will meet with Abul Gheit on Saturday and with President Hosni Mubarak on Sunday. He is also to talk with Arab League Secretary General Amr Mussa, before heading for Khartoum for talks with Beshir.

On Monday, he is due to travel to Darfur on a fact-finding mission and to hold talks with AU, UN and non-governmental organisation officials on the spot.

### **UK army chief of staff warns against UK military intervention in Darfur**

(*AlSahafa, AlIntibaha, et al citing agencies*) Richard Tenet, the UK’s army chief of staff, says he could almost envisage the failure of the UK military should it be deployed to Darfur.

He told *The Scotsman* that the UK government has requested the army to draw plans for a deployment to Darfur but, he adds, the military was shocked on receiving this request.

**NGOs warn that deployment of an international force to Darfur will only aggravate the situation**

(AFP in Paris via AlHayat) NGOs operating in Darfur warn that the deployment of a UN force to Darfur will only further aggravate the situation in the region.

They warn of possibilities of increased attacks between government and armed groups, inter-factional fighting and attacks against foreigners.

Norwegian Church Aid, a major player in the humanitarian operations in Darfur, was compelled to close down its operations in the region last Friday.

## **CPA**

### **Sudanese presidency resolves SPLM-NCP conflict in S. Kordofan**

(SudanTribune.com – 11<sup>th</sup> Nov. Khrt.) The Presidency has resolved a difference on the leadership of the legislative assembly between the two big partners in the GoNU n South Kordofan through a meeting between President Bashir and Vice-Presidents Kiir .

According to the agreement reached, the ruling National Congress Party (NCP) shall assume the chairmanship of the assembly, while the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) shall assume the posts of deputy chairman and leader of the assembly.

State Minister at the Presidency, Telar Deng, said that the meeting affirmed commitment to the provision of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement stipulating that the chairmanship of the legislative council shall be held by the NCP and the Deputy Chairman for SPLM.

The SPLM also obtained in a political agreement reached in the meeting that SPLM shall hold the post of leader of the council.

Telar added that the President and his two deputies directed the legislative council to give priority after approving the constitution to the localities act.

## **GoNU**

### **Opposition forces to stage demonstrations against political parties and organization's draft**

(AlAyaam) Opposition political parties are mounting a rejection campaign against article (18) of the Political Parties and Organization's Bill which gives the court the right to suspend or stop a party's activity.

The opposition intends to stage peaceful demonstrations and other actions until the contested article is repealed.

The opposition parties are to hold a keynote meeting today to agree over the controversial political parties draft issue.

### **Armed faction clash in Khartoum**

(AlAyaam) Khartoum police managed yesterday to contain clashes in Khartoum East between armed elements loyal to different factions.

The police cordoned off some roads and contained the situation.

## **Libya's Gadhafi plans to for a tripartite meeting between Bashir, Debbe and Bouzize**

(*AlSahafa*) Libyan leader Muamar el- Gadhafi is planning to organise a tripartite meeting between Presidents Bashir, Debbe and Bouzize in order to resolve the problems between them.

Chad meanwhile plans to file a protest before the African Union Peace & Security Council summit meeting to be held on 24<sup>th</sup> November for what it describes as Sudan's intervention in its internal affairs.

## **JEM holds conference in Addis**

(*AlSudani*) The JEM has announced it will be holding its 2<sup>nd</sup> general convention in Addis Ababa from 20<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> November.

The JEM has invited the media, opinion leaders and representatives of political forces in the country to attend.

Sources say that Ethiopia, by hosting this convention, will have made a shift in its relations with the Sudan. The sources attribute this about-turn in the Ethiopian position to suspicions the Ethiopian government has been harbouring for a long time that Sudan is backing the Islamic Courts' Union in Somalia.

## **Khartoum health workers threaten to strike over entitlements**

(*AlSahafa*) The association of health workers at the Ministry of Health has raised a Memo in which it criticised the health ministry for the manner in which it is handling the issue of delayed pay and other entitlements.

The union has threatened to strike should their grievances not be addressed by the 31<sup>st</sup> of November.

## **Darfur**

### **Minnawi blasts opposition forces in el-Fasher**

(*AlHayat*) In a rally yesterday, Senior Presidential Aide and head of the Darfur Interim Authority, Mini Minnawi, blasted SLM critics who criticise the SLM's political vision and describe it as representing only one of the tribes of Darfur.

Minnawi who was speaking at a meeting yesterday with activists in el-Fasher deplored the fact that the Darfur Peace Agreement has been implemented by only 1% and is yet to be felt on the ground.

He said the SLM intends to transform into a political party but added this may take some time.

### **AU urges Darfurians to participate in dialogue conference\***

(*Xinhua* – 11<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Khrt.**) The African Union (AU) stressed on Saturday the necessity for all the Darfurians, including those who refused to sign a peace deal with the Sudanese government, to take part in a proposed dialogue conference to end the bloody conflicts in the war-torn western Sudanese region.



Saeed Djinnit, the AU commissioner for peace and security, told reporters before leaving Khartoum concluding a three-day visit in Sudan, that the Darfurian-Darfurian dialogue conference, which is to be held under the supervision of the pan-African body, "will be an excellent opportunity for establishing a new future based on peace, unity and stability in Darfur".

Djinnit returned to Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa where he is to deliver a report to the AU on his visit in Sudan.

The AU Peace and Security Council will hold a meeting in Addis Ababa on Monday to discuss the situation in Darfur and look into a suggestion of reinforcing the AU peacekeeping forces in Darfur with the help to be provided by the United Nations.

*\* See related African Union statement in separate attachment*

### **32 killed, 18 wounded in Darfur militia attack - rebels**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 11<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Khrt.**) The NRF said around 300 Janjaweed on camel and horseback backed by 18 military vehicles attacked the IDP camps of Sirba, about 47 k north of al-Geneina, capital of West Darfur state killing 31 and injuring 18 displaced including women and children.

The rebel statement further said that the Janjaweed and the Sudanese army burnt down 98 houses and looted 500 heads of cattle.

*\* Also see attached separately articles describing in detail the security situation in some parts of Darfur*

## **Other Developments**

### **Umma Army threatens confrontation with the party's political leadership**

(*AlHayat*) The military wing of the National Umma Party threatens confrontation with the party's political leadership and has declared its intentions to push for a transformation in the party's leadership.

Reliable sources at the Umma Party say that Umma Army elements who returned from exile will continue to push for financial entitlements for their demobilization and will seek political change in the party's leadership if their legitimate demands are not addressed within the next few weeks.