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(By Public Information Office)

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Highlights

UN/ Agencies

UN official expelled for grave breaches, sources

(*Sudan Vision*) Informed sources briefed Sudan Vision on the reasons for expelling the UN South Darfur humanitarian director, Wael Al-Haj Ibrahim. The Canadian Wael El-Haj Ibrahim, the UN humanitarian coordinator, was ordered to leave South Darfur because he was discouraging civilians in camps of the displaced persons from returning to their home villages.

The sources said the UN official has persisted on breaching international conventions on humanitarian affairs work, citing that he had held a meeting with some leaders in Al-Gouz Al-Gharbi area and lured them to move their families to Attash camp in Nyala, after which he sent a team representing all the UN agencies, covered by UN security, to Al-Gouz Al-Gharbi area for the purpose of establishing that non-Arab tribes in Al-Habania area in the Locality of Boram have been coerced into migration. The sources added that the plot was exposed during the meeting held for assessing the visit after the team had returned to Nyala.

Wael Al-Haj was also apprehended while holding secret meetings with foreign organizations and the elders of the displaced in the camps of Kalima, Attash and Diraij, in pursuit of a policy of creating discord between the displaced and the government, offering incentives to the elders and inciting them against the government. He further attempted to implicate the government in human rights violations as he circulated on the net the previous report of NRC on the incidence of 80 rape cases in Darfur, which had prompted the government to expel that organization.

The sources added that the UN official had monopolized the activities of international and part of the national organizations and put them under his command though his responsibilities are restricted to coordination of humanitarian affairs for UN agencies.

Wael Al-Haj was also said to have circulated false information in which he affirmed that the government of South Darfur State has compulsorily repatriated the displaced persons and used fire-arms against them, calling on the international community to intervene. He told the AU that Sakeli residential plot for the displaced was under siege by armed militias and on the same day, he held a meeting with the residents of

the plot and queried them on the government's pledges to let them stay in the plot. He further incited the displaced in Kalima camp, particularly women and children, to stage demonstrations against the government.

After his expulsion, he sat with all UN agencies asking them to pressure the government into withdrawing its decision and urged the organizations not to attend the joint meeting of the joint meeting of the General Commissioner with the Deputy of UN Resident Representative during their visit to Sudan.

United Nations' anger at expulsion of Darfur official

(The Citizen) The United Nations office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs has expressed its anger at the expulsion of its chief in Darfur. Wael al-Haj Ibrahim, the top official of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Darfur was expelled and the details of the expulsion made the public contrary to an understanding between the UN and the government, according to a statement.

"The UN would like to reiterate its full support for the UN staff member and to emphasize that all humanitarian workers of the UN are bound by international humanitarian principals and law" Ammeerah hag, the UNOCHA boss in Sudan said. "The UN reaffirms its commitment to utilize established procedures as agreed with the Government of Sudan to address this issue. The UN is taking these allegations very seriously, and will be issuing a response through the official channels in Khartoum"

UN chief alarmed by delay in Darfur force deployment

(Sudan Tribune.com – 12 Nov. UNITED NATIONS) The U.N. chief appealed to the Sudanese government and other member states to step up efforts to facilitate the deployment of a planned peacekeeping force in Darfur, expressing concern at repeated delays.

"I am concerned that the security incidents over the past month and the continuing delays in the deployment of UNAMID (African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur) could lead to a further deterioration in the situation on the ground," said Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in a report officially released Monday.

Ban said deteriorating security and increased violence on both sides in recent months, including an attack on an African peacekeeping base in late September that left 10 people dead, "suggests the need to deploy a robust and credible force to Darfur is urgent." *Read more:* <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article24722>

ASG discusses in Khartoum preparations for the hybrid

(AlSahafa) The Assistant Secretary General (ASG) for Peacekeeping Operations, Edmond Mulet, has yesterday held a series of meetings in Khartoum with government officials and opposition leaders. The ASG focused in his discussions with the Sudanese leaders on preparations for deploying the UN-AU hybrid operation in Darfur. He met with the Assistant to the President Dr. Nafie Ali Nafie, Senior Presidential Assistant Mini Minawi, Dr. Hassan al Turabi the Secretary General of the

Popular Congress and Mohamed Ibrahim Nugud the Secretary General of the Communist Party.

Minawi said the government is keen to complete the peace process in Darfur with the DPA non-signatories by making Sirte talks a success.

Dr. Nafie discussed with Mulet issues related to the hybrid operation and cooperation between the GoS and the UN.

The ASG commended the GoS decision on a unilateral ceasefire saying that this proves the Government's commitment to achieving peace in the region.

Workshop on Press Freedom: UN calls on Government to reconsider ban on reporting (by press on specific issues, i.e. sabotage attempt)

(*AlAyam*) Participants in the Workshop on the Press Freedom, organized by the Consultative Council on Human Rights and the UNMIS Human Rights Unit, stressed the need for amending the press law and other related laws that impact the freedom of expression. They demanded that ban on reporting should be allowed only temporarily, for clear reasons and according to the law.

The Head of UNMIS Human Rights Unit Daniel Ravindran said there are reports during the month of August on problems facing the freedom of publishing especially the ban of publishing. He said any ban on publishing should be based on a law, only temporary and for clear reasons. He called on the Minister of Justice to reconsider the ban on publishing and to allow freedom of publishing in line with the constitution.

Human Rights Council to discuss situation in Darfur Thursday

(*AlSudani*) The GoS delegation, headed by the Under Secretary of the Ministry of Justice, will leave Khartoum today to Geneva to participate in the meetings of the UN Human Rights Council.

According to the Sudan Deputy Head of Mission in Geneva, the Council will meet on Thursday to discuss a report to be presented by the Under Secretary of the Ministry of Justice. The report includes recommendations on the human rights situation in Darfur.

UN special envoy for Darfur returns to Libya

(*BBC Mon*) -- *Libyan TV* - The UN secretary-general's special envoy, Jan Eliasson, arrived in the Great Jamahiriya this evening to resume his participation in the final negotiations on peace in Darfur Province which entered their third week in Sirte. He was greeted at Sirte International Airport by the assistant director of the Africa Department at the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation.

It is worth mentioning that the final negotiations on [peace in] Darfur Province are continuing for the third week running in Sirte in closed sessions of consultations with the participation of the African Union chief negotiator Sam Ibok and the UN chief negotiator Taye Zerihoun, in addition to the representatives of the Sudanese

government delegation and the Darfur movements present in Sirte, and the Libyan delegation representing the neighboring countries.

GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)

Kiir asks Washington to intervene to settle Abyei issue

(*AlRai AlAam*) The SPLM has asked the UN Security Council to invite, through the UN Secretary General, the ABC experts to explain their views on the report which has been rejected by the NCP. According to Luka Biong the GoSS Minister for Presidential Affairs, Kiir has also asked the US officials to assist in resolving the Abyei issue. He asked Washington to request the regional organizations to establish a mechanism for solving this problem.

US says visit of Kiir to Washington coordinated with Sudan

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 12 Nov. KHARTOUM) The US embassy in Khartoum denied that the visit by the First Vice President Salva Kiir to Washington was arranged without the knowledge of the Sudanese government. “This visit took place with the knowledge of the Sudanese Government” the embassy said in a statement.

Last weekend the Sudanese president Omar Hassan 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.

Statement by the US Embassy in Khartoum about Kiir’s visit

(*Khartoum Monitor*)

November 12-11-2007

We had noticed false news reports in the local media about First Vice President Salva Kiir’s visit to the United States. This visit took place with the knowledge of the Sudanese Government. The Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs was notified officially and in writing on October 8, 2007 (in diplomatic note #650) by the US Embassy in Khartoum of the invitation by the US Secretary of the State Dr. Condoleeza Rice. The visit took place one month later. For further information, please contact the Public Affairs Office at the US Embassy Khartoum, Tel: 00 2491 83 774 701.

NCP downplays SPLM so called Plan (B) threat

(*Sudan Vision*) The National Congress has declared strong criticism to the threat uttered by First Vice President and President of SPLM First Lt. General Salva Kiir Mayardit in Washington to use plan B if the NCP doesn't respond to the demands presented by SPLM.

In statement to Sudan Vision leader in NCP and member of ceasefire political commission, Aldirdiri Mohammed Ahmed said that plan B mentioned by Salva Kiir means failure of peace agreement and seeking of another option. Aldirdiri asserted

that alternative for peace is peace itself. He added that plan A is the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and B is other alternatives which are rejected by all Sudanese people as it will not lead to stability. He renewed the NCP commitment to implement the CPA.

Sudan ruling party slams Salva Kiir attempt to address Security Council

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 12 Nov. KHARTOUM) The Sudan's ruling party has accused the president of the government of southern Sudan of attempting to address the UN Security Council in order complain over the political crisis between the two partners of peace in the country.

The National Congress Party condemned on Monday an attempt by the First Vice-President and President of the southern Sudan government to address the UN Security Council over the ill implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.

A statement issued by the NCP this evening in Khartoum said the SPLM through "The so called SPLM mission" in Washington "in flagrant violation of the UN charter" requested to give Salva Kiir the opportunity to address the Security Council over the political crisis between the NCP and the SPLM over the implementation of the CPA.

The ruling party said such move contradicts the principle of partnership between the two parties as Salva Kiir reaffirmed before his departure to the United States. Further, the NCP said the escalation raised by press statements made by the leadership of the SPLM abroad does not inspire a sincere will to overcome the crisis on the peace deal implementation.

The statement said the UN as intergovernmental organization treats with the states not the regions, and diplomatic missions not the offices of the political parties.

Aldo Ajo Deng warns against inciting separation

(*Khartoum Monitor*) A prominent South Sudan leader warned that President Omar Al Bashir's statement about the Sudan People's Liberation Movement quitting the government while their leaders remain in place indicates a wrong interpretation of the provisions of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.

Aldo Ajo Deng, who is a member of the National Assembly, said Salva Kiir is the first Voice President in accordance with the CPA and the Interim Constitution with also gives the Vice Presidency to the SPLM.

According to the constitution, the President cannot fire his deputy who is part of the Presidency, he added.

Bashir criticism of Kiir's for traveling to the US without notifying foreign Ministry is untrue. Deng stated that the government should refrain from making secession desirable for southerners as separation is not good option. Irresponsible newspapers like Al Intibaha are advocating and inciting separation.

He went on to say that even separatist option dominates; a comeback to unity is possible as shown by the experience of other countries like Yemen and Korea. The CPA should not be a reason for separation.

JIU boss, 7 others arrested over grisly murder (Yambio incident)

(The Citizen) the commander of the Joint Integrated units in Yambio has been arrested over the death of police officers and at least 7 people a week ago.

Dominic Dim Deng, The Government of Southern Sudan Minister of SPLA affairs Monday told reporters after a day long deliberations with Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly on the massacre that the field commander was arrested alongside 14 other soldiers. “It was an earthquake and a shock to the Government of Southern Sudan and SPLA general secretariat. We call this group, a group of devil” said Dim.

Enlighten people on CPA, say experts

(The Citizen) the public should be taught the concepts of the CPA, experts said at a conference in Khartoum.

Al Sir Mekki said the demands by the SPLM represented demands by all the democratic political parties. And the people need to know the full details of the Naivasha protocols, which the NCP was not implementing.

In a political forum at the Red Sea Information Centre, most participants and experts attacked GoNU and the NCP in particular, saying that the NCP was dominating the national media and exploiting it for its own policies and interests. And by so doing the NCP was misleading the public, of which more than three quarters was ignorant, most said. Most participants added that the NCP was bothering newspapers, which did not support the NCP ideology.

Sudan opposition figures say they not yet charged

(Sudan Tribune.com – 12 Nov. KHARTOUM) Sudanese authorities have not formally pressed charges against 25 detained opposition figures, rendering their four-month imprisonment illegal, a lawyer for the defence said on Monday.

Sudan’s Justice Minister Mohamed Ali al-Mardi told Reuters on Sunday that charges had been filed against the 25 accused, which was why defence appeals for their release had been rejected. Defence lawyers said the detainees must be formally charged or released.

Mardi said various charges had been filed against the men, including counter terrorism charges, illegal possession of arms and ammunition and conspiracy to commit criminal acts.

The 25 were arrested at their homes four months ago, accused of attempting the overthrow the government and plotting to assassinate leading government figures.

Read more: <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article24710>

Amnesty says Sudan has sentenced a 16-year-old boy to death

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 12 Nov. LONDON) A 16-year-old boy is among a group of people facing the death sentence in Sudan for their alleged role in the assassination of a local newspaper editor last year, an international human rights group said Monday.

Al-Tayeb Abdel Aziz, who was 15 at the time of his arrest, was among 10 people sentenced to death Saturday for the killing of Mohamed Taha Mohamed Ahmed, the editor of the pro-Islamist Al-Wifaq newspaper, Amnesty International said in a statement.

Defense attorney Kamal Omar told The Associated Press on Sunday that the ruling relied on confessions extracted under torture.

Sudanese authorities detained 19 people — most from Darfur — in connection with the killing. Nine were later released for lack of evidence.

Read more: <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article24716>

Pagan: early separation possible, IGAD Summit soon

(*AlRai AlAam*) The SPLM Secretary General Pagan Amum said the Sudan Committee of the IGAD will hold a summit soon to discuss difficulties hindering the implementation of the CPA. He said Italy has sent invitations to the IGAD partners to discuss the Naivasha Agreement.

Pagan did not rule out the possibility of early separation before conducting the referendum on self-determination. He said this would depend on developments such as lack of implementation of the CPA or if SAF did not redeploy from the oilfields or if the Abyei issue is not solved.

Parliament criticizes Government's dealing with the rift valley fever

(*AlRai AlAam*) MPs have yesterday criticized the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Animal Resources for their dealing with the rift valley fever. The MPs said the two ministries have acted too late to address this serious issue.

JEM releases the five abducted oil workers

(*AlSahafa*) JEM has yesterday released the five oil workers (three Sudanese, an Iraqi, an Egyptian) it has abducted earlier from Difra oilfield. JEM leader Abdel Aziz Ushar said his movement has freed the oil workers following appeals from the UN and the Egyptian government.

Presidential aide, UN official discuss implementation of hybrid operation

(*BBC Mon*) -- *Suna website* - Presidential Aide Dr Nafi Ali Nafi has discussed implementation of hybrid operation and joint cooperation between the UN and Sudan in that regard with the UN assistant secretary-general for peacekeeping operations, Edmond Mulet.

In a statement to Suna after meeting with Dr Nafi at the Presidential Palace on the decision by the government to declare unilateral cease-fire, Mulet said the decision shows that the Government of national Unity was serious in realization of peace in Darfur.

Sudan's Kiir says peace partners may resort to regional body for a solution

(BBC Mon) -- Sudanese radio - First Vice-President of Republic, President of Government of Southern Sudan and Chairman of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement [SPLM] General Salva Kiir Mayardit, has said that the movement will work seriously to resolve the crisis with National Congress Party upon his return from a visit to the USA.

Sudan radio correspondent in Washington reported that during an address at a university in Washington, Kiir told a number of Southern Sudanese that the peace partners may resort to IGAD [Inter-Governmental Authority on Development] if they do not reach a basic agreement between themselves.

Sudan's ruling party begins consultations with political forces over crisis

(BBC Mon) -- Al-Ray AlAam - The [ruling] National Congress Party [NCP] intends to hold meetings with various political forces, commencing today with the [opposition] National Democratic Alliance [NDA], as part of an initiative to deliberate on the current political situation and the relationship between the [ruling] partners.

The NCP's secretary of political affairs, Mustafa Uthman Isma'il, said in press statements that over the forthcoming period, his party will meet all parties in the government and opposition.

Isma'il further said that the NCP would hold a meeting with the NDA at the HQ of the [opposition] Democratic Unionist Party in order to discuss the current political situation, the relationship between the two partners, and the progress of implementing agreements and to exchange views on various other issues.

Isma'il explained that these meetings were part of an initiative by the NCP to consult political parties and reaffirmed that the meetings beginning today will continue with all political forces without exception.

GoSS

South Sudan arrests 15 suspects of Yambio incident

(Sudan Tribune.com — 12 Nov. JUBA) Southern Sudan government has arrested the commander and fourteen soldiers from the Joint Integrated Unit (JIU) of SPLA based in Yambio where three police officers were shot early last week.

The Minister of SPLA Affairs, Dominic Dim Deng, said the JIU unit commander plus 14 soldiers suspected of involvement in Yambio incident — were three senior police commanders from greater Equatorial were gun down — are now arrested and that military investigation is proceeding smoothly.

Speaking to journalists after day long quizzing by GoSS lawmakers, Minister Dim described the Yambio incident as being of shock like earthquake to the SPLA headquarters and the entire peace loving Southern Sudanese masses. He said the undisciplined JIU soldiers behaved like terrorists who deserve no single sympathy from any peace loving Sudanese.

Read more: <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article24715>

Uganda denounces "false" accusations on Garang death

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 12 Nov. KHARTOUM) Ugandan embassy in Khartoum has condemned "false" accusations by Sudanese former interior minister that Ugandan officials are involved in the tragic death of the late John Garang in chopper crash at the end of July 2005.

Aleu Ayieny Aleu, who is in the United States, told the Canada based New Sudan Vision that former Defence Minister Amama Mbabazi knows something about Garang's death. He also insinuated that Ugandan Army had some interest in his death because Garang wasn't cooperative in anti-LRA war in southern Sudan, he said.

The Ugandan Embassy registers "the concerns and dissatisfaction" of Kampala government at the continuous allegations and insinuations attributed to Aleu Ayieny, on the circumstances under which the Presidential choper crashed and killed Dr. John Garang in July 2005, the statement said.

Find attached the full text of the press statement issued by the Ugandan Embassy in Khartoum.

US\$ 400 million for development of South Sudan

(*AlSudani*) The GoSS Minister for Presidential Affairs Luka Biong said the US Administration will provide US\$ 400 million for development and capacity building projects in south Sudan.

Ten reportedly killed in tribal clashes in southern Sudan

(*BBC Mon*) -- *Sudan Radio Service* [Presenter] ten people were killed and over 60 seriously injured in a fight that broke out between two Nuer clans in Rubkona County in Unity state earlier this month.

A resident of Rubkona County who witnessed the clashes, Mr. Gatjang Nyot, told Sudan Radio Service by phone last week that the fight erupted in Nhial Diu Payam [as heard] when some men tried to kill a man from Western Nhial Diu who was in Nhial Diu looking for his lost cattle.

Two days after this attack, clan mates of the Western Nhial Diu man retaliated. By the time the fighting ended, ten people were dead and dozens were seriously wounded. Mr Nyot says that because those involved in the fighting fear being arrested, most are not seeking medical treatment.

He said that the area SPLA commander was asked to intervene, but was unable to stop the fighting and so gave up trying to. He says that Unity state authorities arrested and have charged some suspects for allegedly starting the clashes. Some remain in custody.

Darfur

Darfur displaced risk death if chased from camps

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 12 Nov. WASHINGTON) A prominent doctor, who treats displaced people in Darfur, says the Sudanese government is risking the deaths of hundreds of thousands by forcing people out of the camps where they receive humanitarian aid.

Dr Mohamed Ahmed Abdallah, who runs a human rights group in south Darfur's capital, Nyala, said he has seen evidence backing a recent U.N. claim that the government was chasing people out of nearby camps. The government has denied the charge.

Ahmed is in Washington to receive an award from the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Human Rights for his work in treating victims of torture and sexual violence in Sudan.

Ahmed said he believes more than a dozen people have been killed in camps in and around Nyala in recent weeks. He said the government also has been hindering aid groups trying to operate in the camps.

"If people are expelled from the camps, all of them are going to die, either by starvation or malnutrition," he said at a news conference Monday. "And the other thing is that the janjaweed will be waiting."

Darfur rebels may unite but talks still tough

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 12 Nov. KHARTOUM) Negotiations to hammer out a unified stance among Darfur's rebel groups are going well but obstacles to peace remain even if they do rejoin talks with the government, insurgent sources and analysts said on Monday.

Unity talks in the south Sudanese capital Juba are progressing, with all but one rebel faction present, insurgents said, and they expected to develop a unified stance for any fresh talks with Khartoum.

"The talks are going well," Sudan Liberation Army (SLA) commander Jar el-Neby said. Another leader, Ahmed Abdel Shafie, said the SLA had agreed a unified position.

Negotiations opened in Sirte, Libya, on Oct. 27, but quickly fizzled out as most rebel factions refused to attend, saying they had not had enough time to agree on a unified position. **Read more:** <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article24712>

US, Nigeria discuss Darfur force deployment

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 12 Nov. ABUJA) US Deputy Secretary of State John Negroponte and Nigeria's Foreign Minister Ojo Maduekwe on Monday discussed the importance of a rapid deployment of the United Nations-African Union hybrid force to Sudan's troubled Darfur region. "I think there is work to be done in Darfur. It's very important that a heavy support package should be deployed as soon as possible and then followed by the UN-AU hybrid force," Negroponte told reporters after the talks in Abuja.

"We agree with the US... on the need to expand the force in Darfur, but we also feel the need to hear out the president of Sudan as to what are his fears and concerns," Maduekwe said. *Read more:* <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article24711>

Sudan blames Darfur rebels' hosts for talk boycott

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 12 Nov. DUBAI) Sudan on Monday blamed countries that allow Darfur rebels to operate in their territory for failing to use their influence to persuade the insurgents to attend peace talks last month.

Neighboring Chad allows Darfur rebels to remain armed on its territory though the groups have representatives in several countries. The Justice and Equality Movement and Sudan Liberation Army, the main factions fighting in Darfur, did not attend talks in the Libyan town of Sirte in October.

"We really think that the countries that are hosting these insurgents are not playing their required role to the full to push them to attend the conference," Sudanese Defence Minister Abdulrahim Hussein told a news conference in Dubai.

Mediators had hoped the negotiations in Libya would help end spiraling chaos in Darfur, which some international experts estimate has claimed 200,000 lives and driven 2.5 million from the homes since 2003. Khartoum says 9,000 people have died.

Read more: <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article24713>

Darfur rebel movements demand moving peace talks to The Hague

(*AlSudani*) The Darfur rebel factions meeting in Juba demanded moving the peace talks on Darfur from Sirte to The Hague. SLM leader Isam al Haj said that six rebel movements have agreed on this proposal.