



UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN

UNMIS

UNMIS Media Monitoring Report 20th November 2006

(By Public Information Office)

NOTE: Reproduction here does not mean that the UNMIS PIO can vouch for the accuracy or veracity of the contents, nor does this report reflect the views of the United Nations Mission in Sudan. Furthermore, international copyright exists on some materials and this summary should not be disseminated beyond the intended list of recipients.

IN THE NEWS TODAY:

> UN/ Agencies

- Humanitarian Aid Commissioner describes accuses USG Egeland of lying (AlAdhwaa)
- UN rights chief warns of crisis in Chad as Darfur atrocities spill over (The Citizen)
- Deputy Governor of S. Darfur says the NRC has distributed 40 mobile phones to IDPs (*AlAdhwaa*)

United Nations and the Transition Debate

- Sudan ruling party rejects any joint or mixed forces in Darfur (SudanTribune.com)
- UN Darfur force is ruse to grab Sudan's oil Libyan leader (SudanTribune.com)
- African Union Peace & Security Council meeting deferred to next week and to be held in Abuja (*AlIntibaha*)

≻ <u>GoNU</u>

- Khartoum legislative assembly calls on parties to the CPA to take political decision to resolve the issue of the presence of armed factions in the capital; Partners to the CPA agree on measures to resolve security concerns in the capital and the south (*AlRai AlAam; AlIntibaha*)
- President Bashir travels to Tripoli tomorrow to discuss border tensions with Chad (*AlRai AlAam*)
- Leader of British Conservative to visit Darfur (*SudanTribune.com*)
- Council of Ministers approves Political Parties' Act with reservations (*The Citizen*)
- Human Rights Commission draft act introduced (*The Citizen*)

GoSS/Southern Sudan/SPLM/A

- Sudanese president pledge to resolve Southern militia issue (SudanTribune.com)
- educations ministry says difficulties faced in teaching the national curriculum in southern Sudan (*AlSahafa*)

> <u>Darfur</u>

- Darfur SLA rebels kill over 100 soldiers; repulse government attack (*SudanTribune.com*)
- US envoy meets rebel leader, urges Darfur SLM reunification (SudanTribune.com)
- Rebels say army launches major offensive in Darfur; government denies (SudanTribune.com; the local press)
- Sudan, local rebel commanders sign peace deal in Libya (SudanTribune.com)
- Air drops by unidentified foreign aircraft of cases filled with some kind of flies threaten donkeys and horses in Darfur (*AlHayat*)

Editorials/ Commentaries

- Stop the killing for the sake of peace (Khartoum Monitor editorial)
- What a surprise! The Jebel Auliya incident [*when 5 policemen were killed in an ambush*] has been filed against "unknown elements" (*AlIntibaha editorial*)
- What happened in Addis Ababa (AlAyaam editorial)

HIGHLIGHTS:

UN

Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid says Egeland lied

 $(AlAdhwaa - 20^{th} Nov. Khrt.)$ The Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs says USG Egeland has lied and is fabricating the facts on the humanitarian situation in Darfur.

Speaking to the *Sudan Media Centre*, the Commissioner for Humanitarian Assistance at the ministry said that Mr. Egeland has deviated from his statements made jointly with the HAC before he travelled to Darfur and instead took a totally political position meant to buttress UNSCR 1706.

Commissioner Hassabo Mohamed Abdalla said that the humanitarian situation in Darfur has an excellent nutrition and mortality rate and humanitarian assistance is being distributed to all states. He also said this year promises a good harvest.

UN rights chief warns of crisis in Chad as Darfur atrocities spill over

(*The Citizen*)Deadly violence, maiming and burning of people alive is increasingly spilling over from strife-torn Darfur to neighbouring Chad and displacing thousands, United Nations agencies said today, as the world body's human rights chief warned of a full –blown crisis and called on Chadian leaders to protect their civilians.

Ms.Arbour also expressed her hope that the a state of emergency imposed on Chad's borders areas near Sudan ,as well as in the capital N'Djamena, would be lifted soon.

Deputy Governor of S. Darfur says the Norwegian Church Aid has distributed 40 mobile phones to IDPs

 $(AlAdhwaa - 20^{th} Nov. Nyala)$ Speaking at a meeting with UN relief agencies in Nyala, the Deputy Governor of South Darfur says any organisation that deviates from its relief functions will be expelled from the country.

He said that the decision to expel Norwegian Church Aid came as a result of violations of its agreement with the government. He also said that the NGO itself did confess that its reports on mass rape in the Kalma camp was not credible and that it did distribute for free forty mobile phones to IDPs so that they could send wrong information and incite the citizens against the government.

Of the security situation in the state, the Deputy Governor pointed out that the security situation is calm despite the displacement recently of about 5,000 from Sheiriya and Haskanita.

United Nations and the Transitional Debate

Sudan ruling party rejects any joint or mixed forces in Darfur

 $(FT - 19^{\text{th}} \text{ Nov. Khrt.})$ In a press statement Sunday, Deputy Chairman of the National Congress and Secretary of the Information Secretariat, Ibrahim Ahmed Omer, said that Sudan will not accept full UN command of the African Union forces in Darfur and that discussions will be held at the forthcoming meeting of the African Union Peace & Security Council on November 29^{th} .

After Addis Ababa meeting on Thursday 16 November of Sudanese, AU and UN Security Council permanent members, Kofi Annan, UN secretary-general, said Khartoum had agreed in principle to a mixed force, which was interpreted by some as a joint AU-UN operation.

Lam Akol, Sudan's foreign minister, said the peacekeeping mission will continue to be led by the AU and suggested the mandate would not be altered. He also said Sudan had not agreed the extent to which the AU force should be expanded - the UN has been calling for a 17,000-strong military force and 3,000 police.

Akol said Khartoum had agreed the UN could send personnel to provide technical and administrative support to the AU, but that Sudan had rejected a proposal that the UN be involved in deciding on the appointment of the mission's political and military chiefs.

UN Darfur force is ruse to grab Sudan's oil - Libyan leader

(*Reuters* – 19th Nov. **Tripoli**) Echoing Sudanese government criticisms of a proposed UN deployment as a western attempt at colonization, Libyan leader Muammar Gadhaffi Sunday accused the West of trying to grab Sudan's oil wealth with its plan to send U.N. troops to Darfur and urged Khartoum to reject them.

"Western countries and America are not busying themselves out of sympathy for the Sudanese people or for Africa but for oil and for the return of colonialism to the African continent," he said.

"To be occupied by the Sudanese army is better than to be occupied by U.N. forces, and the biggest disaster is if the Atlantic army came and positioned itself in Sudan," he said, referring to Western troops.

Gadhafi was speaking at a ceremony attended by Sudanese government officials and a faction of the Sudan Liberation Army (SLA) rebels to celebrate their signing in Tripoli on Saturday of an agreement aimed at bringing peace to Darfur.

African Union Peace & Security Council meeting deferred to next week

(*AlIntibaha*) President Bashir will lead the Sudan government delegation to the African Union Peace & Security Council summit meeting to be held in Abuja next week.

The meeting will focus on the future of AMIS in Darfur.

<u>GoNU</u>

Khartoum legislative assembly calls on parties to the CPA to take political decision to resolve the issue of the presence of armed factions in the capital; Partners to the CPA agree on measures to resolve security concerns in the capital and the south

(*AlRai AlAam; AlIntibaha*) A member of the Khartoum Legislative Assembly warned of war in Khartoum and urged the government to pull out the militias from Khartoum, disarmament, and setting up a plan for dealing with the insecurity in Khartoum.

President Bashir travels to Tripoli tomorrow to discuss border tensions with Chad (*AlRai AlAam*)

(*AlRai AlAam*), President Bashir is to visit Tripoli tomorrow to meet the Libyan President El Gadaffi. The meeting is held in the context of coordination and negotiation over mechanisms of implementing Tripoli Peace Agreement to contain tensions between Sudan and Chad.

Leader of British Conservative to visit Darfur

(*SudanTribune.com* – 19th Nov. **Khrt.**) Leader of the British Conservative Party and head of the British opposition David Cameron is to arrive in Khartoum Monday morning on a short visit to the country.

Cameron is expected to meet the Sudanese Foreign Minister, Lam Akol on Monday. In the same day he will fly to Al-Fashir, capital of north Darfur state in Western Sudan.

The British opposition leader is to conclude his visit on Tuesday and fly directly to London from Al-Fashir.

Human Rights Commission draft act introduced

(*The Citizen*) The co-chairman of the National Commission for Constitution Review, Barrister Abel Alier, addressing the opening session of the workshop on the draft human rights commission act, held yesterday at Friendship Hall, stressed that the draft contained issues of major concern and urged the committee to consider matters related to human rights in the context of a democratic and divers society.

Council of Ministers approves Political Parties' Act with reservations

Al-Sahafa, The Council Ministers passed' in its session yesterday which was chaired by the President of Republic ,Field Marshal Omer EL-Bashir, the draft political parties act with reservations on some on its clauses .The act was presented to the Council of Ministers by Minister of Justice Mohammed Ali Mardi.

The Council is expected to present a Memo to the National Legislature embodying their reservations on the act.

GoSS/Southern Sudan/SPLM

Sudanese president pledge to resolve Southern militia issue

(*SudanTribune.com*_- 19th Nov. **Juba**) The President Omar al-Bashir, has affirmed that issues concerning the militia, be it in the south or in Khartoum, will be dealt with. During his address to the Southern Sudan legislative assembly at its headquarters in Juba yesterday 18 November, he urged MPs and the southern government to safeguard the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) considering it the greatest achievements witnessed in the country after independence.

Meanwhile, the First Vice-President and President of Southern Sudan government, Salva Kiir Mayardit, warned against giving opportunities on what he described as enemies of Sudan, who did not want peace and stability for Sudan, he said.

Salva Kiir considered accepting the choice of peace as a brave step which history will talk about.

Educations Ministry says difficulties faced in teaching the national curriculum in southern Sudan

(*AlSahafa*)The Education Ministry says there are difficulties facing the teaching of the national curriculum in southern Sudan, because the SPLM had brought a Ugandan and Kenyan curriculum, saying that a political decision is needed to solve this problem.

The Director of the National Centre for the Curriculum and Educational Research in the Ministry of Education, Mohamed El-Muzameel EL-Bashir, said that the concerned authorities in GoSS did not attend the meetings on the national curriculum.

Darfur/Darfur Peace Agreement

Darfur SLA rebels kill over 100 soldiers; repulse government attack

(*SudanTribune.com* – 19th Nov. **el-Fasher**) Rebel Sudan Liberation Army (SLA) forces on Saturday 18 November repulsed an attack by Sudanese regular forces on SLA's position in the area of Saa'nie Aa'yah about 25km north of Maleit in North Darfur.

According to a SLA statement, the rebel forces captured 21 vehicles (intact), destroyed nine vehicles, over one hundred government and Janjaweed troops were killed including the Brigadier-general commanding the SAF force, as well as many POWs captured.

The rebels lost seven fighters who were killed by helicopter gunship.

SLM/A Chairman Designate, Ahmed Abdelshafi, who replaced Abdelwahid al-Nur, denounced the government's attack. He said it was a desperate attempt by the Government of Sudan to prevent a scheduled meeting of the SLM/A Field Commanders in Darfur which is (the meeting) aimed at re-uniting all SLM/A factions.

The SLM/A condemned the negative attitude of the African Union which is incapable to prevent repetitive violations of the ceasefire. Abdelshafi requested the deployment of international peacekeeping force in the region.

The rebel leader is also dismissing the accord signed between some SLM field commanders (led by Abuelgasim Imam) and the government in Tripoli, Libya yesterday. Abelshafi says "that, these field commanders are not representing the SLM/A and they're only representing themselves and their hidden agenda".

Reliable rebel sources told Sudan Tribune that Imam is one of rebel commander who committed atrocities in Darfur and his name is among the wanted rebel leaders by the International Criminal Court. So he joined the government because of fears of arrest by the ICC.

US envoy meets rebel leader, urges Darfur SLM reunification

(*SudanTribune.com-* 19th Nov. **Paris**) US President special envoy to Sudan, Andrew Natsios, Saturday 18 November, held a meeting with Abdelwahid Mohamed al-Nur in Paris and urged the rebel leader to work seriously for the reunification of the SLM factions.

Natsios who invited al-Nur to meet the US president George Bush, pledged to support the SLM after the reunification, to organize a capacity building program, crisis management and its transformation from a rebel group to a political movement.

Al-Nur, who was ejected from the leadership of his group at the end of July, informed the US official of different meetings and preparations inside and outside the country in order to end the current divisions in the rebel movement.

Al-Nur is on European tour visiting several capitals to explain his position on the future peace talks with the Sudanese government.

Rebels say army launches major offensive in Darfur

(*Reuters* – 19^{th} Nov. **Khrt.**) The Sudanese government has launched a major offensive in North Darfur despite an agreement to hold new talks among all parties to the conflict, Darfur rebels said on Sunday.

A rebel commander said clashes continued on Saturday and Sunday, after joint attacks by government forces and militia on rebel bases in the Bir Mazza area on Wednesday and Thursday.

The African Union (AU) monitoring mission, which had condemned last week's attacks, confirmed that fighting was continuing.

"We have split into two or three groups and all have fighting," said Jar el-Neby, a commander from the rebel National Redemption Front (NRF), which rejects a May peace accord signed by only one of many rebel factions.

"The government did not use planes yesterday but today the Antonovs are circling," he told Reuters from Darfur.

Government troops and allied militia known as Janjaweed were still inside the former rebel town of Bir Mazza, Neby said, calling on the international community to intervene to protect civilians there.

A Sudanese army spokesman denied the allegations.

"There were clashes between some tribes and the rebels in the area and the armed forces intervened just to protect the civilians there," he said. "But the clashes were very minor, the (rebel) and AU reports are untrue."

Air drops by unidentified foreign aircraft of cases filled with some kind of flies threaten donkeys and horses in Darfur

(*AlHayat*), Sources revealed air drops by unidentified foreign aircraft of cases filled with some kind of flies which kill donkeys and horses within 24 hours in Darfur. There is one case among horses in Um Shalia area and two in Dar el Salaam in West Darfur State, the source said.

Editorials/ Commentaries

• (*Khartoum Monitor editorial*) We lost six people, five of them in Jabel Aulia, just within the last week a time when we are supposed to be celebrating peace. We are fed up with unnecessary shedding of blood.

As long as we are still on earth, there is bound to be conflict. Perhaps the only difference will be the way we will mange such conflicts .It is not true that all conflicts must necessarily lead to violence and loss of lives .Conflicts, when managed creatively, could help us grow into mature human beings.

The loss of six trained soldiers in just less than a week is a painful tragedy .These are people who are supposed to maintain law and order .They have been trained with taxpayers' money for the good of society .This bloodshed must stop for the sake of peace.

We want a society free of violence .If anything at all ,we should worry over the country development in various fields Water, Nutrition, Health and Education and so on .In a word ,this the time for war on development and not the killing of one another .Peace must engulf this country.

• (*Al-Intibaha editorial*)-- What a surprise! The Jebel Auliya incident [*when 5 policemen were killed in an ambush*] has been filed against "unknown elements"

5 policemen were killed in an ambush has been filed against "unknown elements". And the local authorities in Jabel Aulia are still running the investigations.

If the incident committed by unknown persons, and ambiguous, then it is logically to field it against "unknown elements"!

If the accident was an individual case and the victims is only one, whom killed on the night thus, it reasonable to field the incident against **"unknown elements"**, that the authorities must have a time in running investigations to find out the chargers of this crime.

But in this incident the killers is known by every body, he threatened on the funeral occasion of Willam Dot Nagoor, and The Citizen daily paper was strengthen their threatens by advising the SPLA to don't waste the time in investigations and must be have a revenge a against the killers of his colleagues, and it must be learn to treat the a police exactly like his attitudes.

Who advised the government to still mute and file the incident against "unknown elements"

We search for the reality! The full reality, without a cover.

We don't want to get acknowledge with the killers because we have been already known them but we want the revenge against the killers of the

• (AL-Ayam editorial)-- What happened in Addis Ababa?

The contradictions in the statements that came from the UN, the AU and GoS about the true story of what kind of agreement was reached during the meetings called by the UN on Darfur creates indeed surprises and confusion. The United Nations declared that the agreement was on the principle of joint UN-AU force and that the AU will have the upper hand or "hegemony according to the paper" and that force will include elements from the UN. But the GoS stated that it didn't agree on a joint force but it has agreed on a "**joint operation**" and that the UN role in this operation will be limited only to providing logistic support. The public is still confused about both stories. Now after the GoS has denied the UN statement, the UN has to retract its statement and to declare its opinion clearly about what really happened in order to defuse the current confusion state.