

**UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN****UNMIS****Media Monitoring Report, 25 November 07****(By Public Information Office)**

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## **Highlights**

### **UN/ Agencies**

#### **Ki-moon summons ABC experts to Security Council hearing session (AlSahafa)**

The SPLM said that the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon has agreed with Salva Kiir to summon the ABC experts for a Security Council hearing session. The GoSS Minister Presidential Affairs Luka Biong said in a press statement yesterday that the Plan (B) which Kiir has threatened to implement does not mean announcing unilaterally the separation of the south.

#### **UN Security Council to hold special session on Darfur Tuesday (Akhbar AIYom)**

The UN Security Council will hold a special session on Darfur on Tuesday. The Council will be briefed by a report prepared by the UN Special Envoy for Darfur Jan Eliasson on the progress of the peace process in Darfur. Eliasson will meet on Monday the Sudan Ambassador to the UN to brief him on the activities of the Joint Mediation Support Team.

#### **Sudan says UN should release money for Darfur (The Citizen)**

The State Minister at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, al Samani al Wasila, told reporters yesterday that the GoS welcomed the engineering unit of Chinese troops in the hybrid forces in Darfur.

“The arrival of the initial troops, according to our agreement with the UN and the AU, shows the government’s commitment to the UN resolution 1769 concerning the deployment of the hybrid troops in Darfur”, said al Wasila.

The State Minister said that the UN was working to ensure a budget for the hybrid troops, but he called for activating the role of African forces, which did not need 25% of the allocated amount before they could begin.

According to the Minister, the African forces could work with the experience and knowledge attained in the region, and the UN should ensure that money comes in as it was part of the Sudan government’s agreement with the UN.

### **Southern Sudan official urges UN supervision for disputed border territory**

*Text of report by opposition Sudanese newspaper Al-Khartoum on 24 November*

A high-ranking official in [ex-rebel] Sudan People's Liberation Movement [SPLM] has suggested putting the [disputed north-south border area of] Abyei under UN supervision.

The minister of presidential affairs of the Government of Southern Sudan [GoSS], Luka Biong, said following his return from USA, Khartoum and Southern Sudan were not expected to reach an agreement soon regarding the Abyei issue.

The suggestion came at a time some media reports indicated that SPLM was going to ask USA to interfere and administer Abyei.

Biong's suggestion, which also backs making China and Saudi Arabia part of the solution, acquires importance since he is a native of Abyei.

Observers say suggesting Saudi Arabia to be part of the solution is meant to reassure Arab countries that the demands of the Misiryah Arab tribe in Abyei will be considered [in the settlement].

*Source: Al-Khartoum, Khartoum, in Arabic 24 Nov 07*  
BBC Mon ME1 MEEau 241107/as/hh/mm

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

### **SPLM summons three high-ranking officials to Juba (ST)**

November 24, 2007 (KHARTOUM) — The Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM) has summoned three high ranking members to Juba in order to investigate statements and contacts they made during the political crisis with the National Congress Party over the implementation of the peace deal.

Former minister of foreign affairs, Lam Akol, former state minister at the presidency, Telar Deng and former state minister for the Interior, Aleu Ayieny Aleu, were summoned for questioning in Juba by the SPLM leadership.

Concordant sources said Kiir wants to hear Akol about suspected contacts he had undertaken with some SPLM MPs and SPLM leadership members.

Also, Mohamed Yousif Ahmed al-Mustafa, SPLM leading member and state labour minister, told al-Sudani that Lam Akol's conduct raised suspicion about its purpose. He further said Akol was working secretly but his movements were monitored.

Regarding Telar Ring Deng and Aleu Ayieny Aleu, the SPLM leadership seems angered by last week's statements about a plot to overthrow Salva Kiir from the leadership of the SPLM. Both have blamed Pagan Amum for the current crisis with the National Congress Party on the implementation of the CPA.

Aleu had said "Southern Sudan needs development not political troubles," insinuating that Pagan Amum's hard position for the full implementation of the CPA is counterproductive.

(ST)

### **SDG 30 million from GoNU for census in southern Sudan (AlIntibaha)**

The Director of the Central Statistics Bureau Prof. Awad Haj Ali said the GoNU has granted to South Sudan a sum of SDG 30 million to facilitate the population census process in South Sudan. Speaking to Miraya FM Ali said disputes between the CPA partners have not affected the population census process. However, the main hindrances, he said, are the demarcation of north-south borders and the weak infrastructure in south Sudan.

### **Sudan's ruling party says committed to reconciliation deal with the opposition (ST)**

November 24, 2007 (KHARTOUM) — Sudan's ruling party renewed its commitment to a political reconciliation deal signed with an opposition umbrella in June 2005.

Mustafa Osman Ismail, the presidential advisor and leading member in the ruling National Congress Party, reiterated the commitment of the National Congress Party (NCP) to the Cairo Agreement signed with the Democratic National Alliance (NDA) in Cairo on June 18, 2005.

He also welcomed the decision of Mohamed Osman al Mirghani, Chairman of the NDA and leader of the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), to return home, early next year.

Mustafa has pointed out in press statements that the President al-Bashir has repeatedly valued the efforts exerted by al-Mirghani for the realization of national concordance and his rejection of all forms of foreign intervention into the domestic affairs.

Ismail pointed out to patriotic and wise stands adopted by the DUP under the leadership of Mirghani.

He said his party has good contacts with the DUP and that the participation of the representatives of the party in the Second General Conference of the NCP has great effects and was warmly welcomed by the leadership of the National Congress party.

These statements come one day after al-Bashir public criticisms to al-Mirghani's invitation for the DUP leadership to meet in Cairo. Bashir said holding such meeting in Egypt is unjustified because the DUP leader can convene this meeting in Khartoum.

(ST)

### **Sudan's Bashir reiterates opposition to Abyei report (ST)**

November 23, 2007 (KHARTOUM) — Sudanese president has renewed his full rejection of a report present by a panel of experts to define and demarcate the border of Abyei district in 1905.

Omer Hassan al-Bashir told the reporters on Friday in Khartoum at the end of three-day conference of Sudan's ruling party that Abyei Boundaries Commission exceeded its mandate and their had no power to do so.

The mandate of comission — agreed by both sides before the ABC was appointed — was to define and demarcate the area of the nine Ngok Dinka chiefdoms transferred to Kordofan in 1905.

The Sudanese president also said that the proposed solution is to establish a joint transitional administration charged of providing service and to ensure security to Abyei population. He added that the National Congress Party had presented more that fifty documents while the SPLM didn't produce any prove supporting its claim.

(ST)

### **Bashir says southern Sudan separation possible, urges more for unity (ST)**

November 23, 2007 (KHARTOUM) — Sudanese President Omer al-Bashir on Friday did not rule out a separation between northern and southern Sudan, calling for more efforts to maintain the unity of the largest African country.

"The possibility for the separation is existing, but the unity can still be ensured if a little more efforts are exerted," the Sudanese president said.

Al-Bashir made the remarks at a press conference after the ruling National Congress Party (NCP) closed a three-day general conference in Khartoum.

"The number of people who believe in the unity is not little, but sometimes the voice of the separatists is high," added al-Bashir, who is also the chairman of the NCP.

He asked the Sudanese southerners in the NCP as well as the Sudanese northerners in the south-based Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) to lead the public opinion toward the direction of the unity.

(Xinhua)

### **Luka: Washington informs Salva that ABC report final (AIRai AIAam)**

The GoSS Minister of Presidential Affairs Dr. Luka Biong said the US Administration (Secretary of State Rice) has assured FVP and GoSS President Salva Kiir that the ABC report is final. Biong said the stances of the SPLM and US Administration on Abyei are similar.

### **SPLM criticizes contradictory statements by Sudan's president (ST)**

November 22, 2007 (KHARTOUM) – Former rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) say President Omar Al-Bashir's recent statements are contradictory and could undermine the adjourned dialogue between the two parties.

This comes after President Bashir Wednesday called on the SPLM to work to unify the country. He also promised there would be no resumption of war between the north and the south. Some political observers believe Bashir's statements are an attempt to calm tensions after his call to increase mujahedeen recruits, which the SPLM described as deplorable.

"We don't know whether he has changed the trend from trend of war to a trend of peace because three days ago he was calling on the mujahedeens or the holy warriors to mobilize in the camps and to resume the training and the preparation for war. But now he is saying that there is no return to war. That may be a good portion for everything else, but for us in the SPLM we have different mission altogether. We are not advocating war...but we reserve the aright to defend ourselves, should war breakout" Agar pointed out.

"We are partners for the implementation of the CPA that we have already agreed between our two parties. So we would continue to be partners as long as the CPA is still there and as long as the implementation of the CPA is still there. As for unity, the priority of the SPLM is unity, and that this is a national party that has been calling for unity on new basis," he said.

Agar reiterated the SPLM's frustration with what he described as President Bashir's inconsistencies.

"I see contradictions that the mobilization for jihad and the holy war on one hand and then the call for peace on the other hand, and the youths are going to the camps. For us we reserve the right to defend ourselves... it literally means we reserve the right to defend ourselves if we are attacked. We are not going to say ladies and gentlemen," Agar noted.

(VOA)

### **Sudan to dicuss "children abduction" issue at African Parliamentary Union talks**

*Text of report in English by state-owned Sudanese news agency Suna website*

Khartoum, 24 November: National Assembly Speaker Ahmad Ibrahim al-Tahir will head a parliamentary delegation to meetings of the African Parliamentary Union, scheduled to open Sunday [25 November] in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.

Sudan is expected to raise [the issue of] children abduction attempt to brief regional and international public opinion of the dimension of the issue.

The meetings will discuss environmental and developmental issues in the continent.

The Speaker will also partake in the meetings of IGAD [Inter-Governmental Authority on Development] parliaments.

*Source: Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in English 24 Nov 07*  
BBC Mon ME1 MEEau 241107/hh/mm

### **Sudan: Ex-rebels file complaint with regional body over disputed Abyei area**

*Text of report by Sudanese newspaper Al-Ra'y al-Amm website on 24 November*

[Ex-rebel] Sudan People's Liberation Movement [SPLM] has said that it has filed an official complaint with IGAD [Intergovernmental Authority for Development] countries to dealing with the issue of Abyei. This is after the failure of bilateral dialogue with the [ruling] National Congress Party [NCP] regarding the matter.

The minister of transport, Kol Miang, told Al-Ra'y al-Amm that the SPLM has called for IGAD arbitration over the issue of Abyei, pointing out that the SPLM had agreed on mediation.

Miang affirmed that presidents of IGAD countries will meet in the few next days to discuss the issue, after which the president [Umar al-Bashir] and his first vice-president [Salva Kiir] will receive invitations [to attend].

He explained that Salva Kiir will head an SPLM delegation to the meeting. He affirmed that there will be no return to bilateral negotiations on Abyei since these had failed from the start, according to resolutions of the crisis committee.

*Source: Al-Ra'y al-Amm website, Khartoum, in Arabic 24 Nov 07*

BBC Mon ME1 MEEau 241107/as/hh/mm

## **GoSS**

### **South Sudan Machar says LRA deputy is still alive (ST)**

November 24, 2007 (JUBA) — The government of South Sudan believes that the deputy leader of the Ugandan rebel Lord's Resistance Army, Vincent Otti, is still alive but being held in house detention, Vice President Riak Machar said.

"I talked to [LRA leader] Joseph Kony a week ago and asked him about the rumours that Otti may be sick or in jail or dead," Machar told IRIN in Juba, capital of South Sudan, on 22 November. "In his words, his forces and the forces of his second-in-command had a conflict, but Otti is alive."

"I asked him: Is Otti in jail? He said: No, he is not in jail but he is alive. I think Otti is under house detention," he added.

(IRIN)

### **Lukudu appeals for elimination of corruption, nepotism in GoSS (Sudan Tribune)**

The Catholic Archbishop Paulino Lukudu said we are praying today in order to implement the hardly achieved CPA in best way possible for its success. Speaking to tens of hundreds faithful Christians today at All Saint Cathedral in Juba, Archbishop Lukudu says it would appear that there is no government in Juba because of the unfolding level of atrocities in the face of the GoSS leaders who claimed to have fought for liberation of the oppressed and marginalized southern Sudanese.

His Grace appealed for elimination of corruption and nepotism within the GoSS. He further went on pointing out that corruption, tribalism and nepotism compounded with placing wrong person in wrong place without any experience have characterized governments of southern Sudan from States to GoSS and nobody seems to be willing to correct the existing situation, besides looting is very common among southern Sudanese who are in key positions in GoSS.

### **SPLM failed to develop South Sudan, southern leader (Sudan Vision)**

By: Al Sammani Awadallah, SPLM walk out of the central government is a gross violation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, said Lt. Gen. Tout Galwak of the South Sudan Defence Force (SSDF) who recently joined Sudan Defence Force (SAF).

Galwak, advisor of the River Nile State government, said it is unfeasible for SPLM to pull out of the national government and at the same time demand implementation of the peace agreement, stressing that SPLM withdrawal has adversely affected the CPA.

He appealed to FVP LT. Gen. Salva Kiir to instruct SPLM ministers to resume their executive duties in GoNU for the sake of CPA implementation, adding that the peace agreement is the property of all the Sudanese people.

Galwak moreover blamed SPLM for failure to bring about development in South Sudan, notwithstanding the substantial funds it has received from the federal treasury in terms of oil revenues. He also slammed the SPLM for its slow transformation into a political party, remarking that continued sanctions on Sudan would impede development and basic services provision in South Sudan which is in pressing need for both development and services.

Lt. Gen. Galwak reiterated that neither the NCP nor the SPLM can decide separation of the South, underlining that those who push for separation of the South are



opponents of the CPA who are seeking to realize their own private agendas. He explained that the difference between the two peace partners is a commonplace occurrence because each party is seeking to accomplish its ambitions and aspirations. He further loaded the SPLM with responsibility for security disorders in the South.

On the other hand, Gen. Galwak said that all the factions in SSDF have been demobilized and reintegrated in either the SPLA or the SPLM, affirming that those who circulate the presence of armed factions in the South are seeking to spread rumours and ignite sedition.

### **30,000 Southern Sudanese return home from Ethiopia (ST)**

November 23, 2007 (KHARTOUM) — Close to 30,000 Southern Sudanese who fled the country's 21-year long north-south war are to return home from camps in neighbouring Ethiopia during 2008 as part of an agreement between the governments of the two countries and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), signed on 22 November in Khartoum.

"More than 41,000 Sudanese currently live in four camps in Ethiopia and we are repatriating refugees from all of them," Ato Ayalew Aweke, deputy director of Ethiopia's Administration of Refugee and Returnee Affairs, said at a press conference following the signing of the tripartite agreement. "We are hoping to have closed two camps in Gambella [region of western Ethiopia] by the end of 2008."

The remaining 11,000 refugees are scheduled to be repatriated by the end of 2009.

Since the signing of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) that ended the north-south Sudan war, a total of 160,000 refugees – 18,000 from Ethiopia alone – and one million internally displaced persons (IDPs) have returned to their home areas in Sudan.

The returns, mainly to Blue Nile, Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei and Upper Nile states, will take place by road and air. Both the Sudanese and Ethiopian governments have agreed to provide trucks to transport the refugees and rehabilitate the various 'corridors' to be used. Severe flooding in Blue Nile and Upper Nile over the past few months has made roads in the region virtually impassable, slowing returns.

The agreement emphasised the importance of ensuring women and children were protected during the repatriation process; gender focal people are being trained across the South to ensure issues of sexual and gender-based violence are dealt with appropriately.

"UNHCR is also working with the Ministry of Justice and the [government of Southern Sudan's] land commission to ensure that refugees get back land that was theirs and the people occupying the land are resettled elsewhere," Fatoumata Sinkoun Kaba, UNHCR spokesperson, told IRIN.

She added that land disputes between returning refugees and occupying IDPs were common, but said the government was working through traditional mechanisms to ensure they did not result in serious conflicts.

UNHCR Sudan's representative Chrysantus Ache said the agency would be working with the government of Southern Sudan through community-based projects to ensure the returning refugees had access to basic services such as water, healthcare and schools.

"About 30,000 Sudanese refugees in Egypt have indicated a desire to return home," Ache said. "It is important to develop an effective plan for their repatriation in a safe and dignified manner."

According to UNHCR, more than 300,000 Sudanese refugees remain in the region, many of them in neighbouring Kenya and Uganda. The country has more than four million IDPs.

(IRIN)

### **883 former SPLA combatants graduate as prison personnel (ST)**

November 21, 2007 (JUBA) – Over 800 ex-fighters from Sudan People Liberation Army (SPLA) graduated from the Prisons Service of Southern Sudan today including 101 females.

The graduation ceremony at Juba Football Stadium was attended by officials from South Sudan government and UN representatives as well a large numbers of citizens.

The Director General of Southern Sudan Prison Service, Major General Agasio Tong addressed the graduates saying that "One of the functions of the prison service is to build the capacity of our staff through effective recruitment, training and development to increase skills, abilities and standards."

The UN Development Program (UNDP) announced last September the inauguration of the Lologo Regional Training Center at a ceremony that also saw the launch of the Prison Service training programme for 550 SPLA soldiers who were being transferred from the army to join the Prison Service.

The UNDP estimates that the Prison Service will receive up to 1,500 former combatants over the next six months.

The center has been constructed under UNDP's Foundational Support to the Prisons Services of Southern Sudan Project and is jointly funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) of the Government of Canada and the UNDP. Training will be implemented by trainers from the Prison Service and the UNMIS Rule of Law/Corrections team.

(ST)

### **Sudanese religious leaders attend AIDS workshop in south**

*Text of report in English by UN sponsored Radio Miraya FM, Juba on 23 November*

Religious leaders are attending an HIV/AIDS awareness workshop in Juba as a strategy to control the disease.

Speaking to Miraya FM at the workshop, the chairman of Southern Sudan AIDS Commission, Dr Bellario Ahoy, says bringing on board religious leadership to fight the HIV/AIDS disease is a new strategy.

The director of behavioural and communications change at the Southern Sudan AIDS Commission, Dr Gloria Khamis, says the commission hopes to pass on the knowledge about the prevention against HIV/AIDS. She says even religious leaders have to know that condom prevents infection of the AIDS disease by 99 per cent.

About 20 religious leaders drawn from Muslim and Christian faiths attended the one-day workshop organized by the International AIDS Alliance in partnership with the Southern Sudan AIDS Commission.

*Source: Miraya FM, Juba, in English 1500 gmt 23 Nov 07*  
BBC Mon ME1 MEEau 241107/ap/hh/mm

### **Rift Valley Fever death toll climbs to 164 in Sudan (ST)**

November 22, 2007 (GENEVA) — The death toll from a Rift Valley Fever outbreak in Sudan has climbed to 164 out of 451 people stricken by the disease spread by infected animals, the World Health Organisation (WHO) said on Thursday.

In a statement, The United Nations agency urged community and religious leaders to ensure that herders and farmers who are at greatest risk know measures to take so as to avoid infection.

More than 221 new human cases have been reported in the last two weeks in White Nile, Sennar and Jazeera provinces in central and eastern Sudan, the WHO said on Thursday.

The overall figures include cases reported in Khartoum state, which it said were most likely infected in the three other areas.

(Reuters)

## **Darfur**

### **Darfur is hostile region for Chinese troops – rebel commander (ST)**

November 24, 2007 (AL-FALSHER) — A Darfur rebel commander slammed the participation of the Chinese troops in the joint peacekeeping force; he further said that they have to know that Darfur is hostile region for them.

Suleiman Marjan, the Sudan Liberation Movement commander for North Darfur region, told Sudan Tribune, that the Chinese engineers who arrived in Darfur today should know that they are not welcome. He added "We want to tell them that all Darfur is hostile to their presence."

The rebel commander said that Beijing is "accomplice" of Khartoum in Darfur killing and crimes and "We can't trust them or cooperate with."

(ST)

### **350 Polish to participate in EU force for Darfur in Chad (ST)**

November 23, 2007 (WARSAW) — Poland plans to boost its contribution to a European Union peacekeeping force to protect refugees along the borders of Sudan's Darfur region to 350 soldiers, Prime Minister Donald Tusk said in his inaugural policy speech to Parliament Friday.

"We will send 350 soldiers to Sudan," said Tusk.

Initially Poland had indicated it would contribute 150 soldiers to the mission, following a request from France, the mission's leader and its largest contributor, the Interfax reported.

(ST)

### **Darfur JEM rebels reject Chinese peacekeepers (ST)**

November 24, 2007 (KHARTOUM) — Rebels on Saturday demanded Beijing pull its peacekeepers out of Darfur, just hours after a unit of Chinese army engineers flew into the Sudanese region.

But the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) said it would not allow the engineers onto land held by its forces. It accused Beijing of stoking the crisis by supporting Khartoum.

"They are not welcome... They can never come into our area," JEM leader Khalil Ibrahim told Reuters.

"We oppose them coming because China is not interested in human rights. It is just interested in Sudan's resources. We are calling on them to quit Sudan, especially the petroleum areas."

"I am not saying I will attack them. I will not say I will not attack them. What I am saying is that they are taking our oil for blood," he said.

U.N. spokesman Ali Hamati said the 135 Chinese engineers and medical officers arrived in Nyala at 10.30 a.m. (0730 GMT) wearing the blue berets and scarves of U.N. peacekeepers, the first of a 315-strong contingent promised by Beijing.

They will build bridges and roads and dig wells to prepare the ground for the 26,000 peacekeepers due from January onwards.

(Reuters)

### **Chinese peacekeepers arrive in Darfur (ST)**

November 24, 2007 (KHARTOUM) — More than 100 Chinese engineers have arrived in Sudan's war-torn Darfur as part of the vanguard for a joint African Union-UN peacekeeping mission to be in place next year, a UN spokesman said Saturday.

"The 135 engineers arrived at 10:30 am (0730 GMT) in Nyala airport, wearing blue berets and scarfs," UN spokesman Ali Hamati told AFP by telephone, referring to the capital of South Darfur state.

"These are the advanced team of the 315 Chinese engineers who will come during December under the heavy support package to pave the way for the deployment of UNAMID," said Hamati.

The Chinese engineers are to build roads and bridges, and dig wells, and have also brought a medical team, said Hamati.

(AFP)

### **Sudan denies criticism over Darfur hybrid force deployment (ST)**

November 23, 2007 (KHARTOUM) — President Omer Bashir on Friday denied western criticism that Sudan was setting out to delay the deployment of the African Union –United Nation peacekeeping for in Sudan's troubled Darfur region.

"We are not holding up this mission. The ones who are hindering the process are those who are trying to impose their agenda on us. If there is any delay in the issue it is from the United Nations and those who are standing behind the United Nations," he said.

Speaking at as his National Congress party wound up a three-day conference, Bashir said the incoming peacekeepers would have to be led by an African wearing an African Union helmet. It had been widely expected that the peacekeepers would switch to blue UN helmets in January when they replace a struggling 7,000-strong AU force currently on the ground.

Bashir said his country had accepted Chinese, Egyptian and Indian contingents despite the UN trying to impose Scandinavian and Thai troops.

He said his original agreement with the AU and the U.N. was for a force made up of African troops, backed up from logistics and technical units from the UN.

Bashir further said "When they told us that they wanted to bring other troops from other countries, we rejected them."

Offers from all other non-African countries, apart from China and Pakistan, had also come in "too late", after Sudan had signed its agreement with the U.N. and the AU over the force.

"These Swedish and Norwegian troops are not acceptable. We shall not accept them," said Bashir.

Speaking about a proposed Thai infantry battalion, Bashir added: "Even if there is a shortage of troops from the African continent, we are not going to accept those people. Because we were not consulted about it."

However UN negotiators say they have not yet had any concrete refusal from Sudan on non-African troops, just a constant request for more technical discussions. But Bashir's speech was a clear rejection of further outside involvement.

(ST, agencies)

### **'Save Darfur' slams Sudan president statements on Darfur force (ST)**

By Wasil Ali

November 23, 2007 (WASHINGTON) – The Save Darfur coalition decried statements by Sudanese president Omar Hassan Al-Bashir on the peacekeeping force to be deployed in the war ravaged region.

Al-Bashir said yesterday that he will not accept non-African UN-AU peacekeeping forces in Darfur, apart from Chinese and Pakistani technical units already committed.

The Sudanese leader also said that the force will be under African Union (AU) command and wearing their helmets.

Larry Rossin, a board member of the Save Darfur Coalition and a former U.N. official told Sudan Tribune that Al-Bashir's statements is another example of him reneging on agreements.

"Al-Bashir has told many lies to the UN, International community and the UN Security Council (UNSC). He said he accepted the force unconditionally when the UNSC were in Khartoum last June and here he is lying again" he added.

Rossin stressed that the resolution "called for predominantly African force and not an exclusive one under UN command".

US officials told Sudan Tribune that the ultimate decision lies with the UN Department of Peacekeeping operations (UNDPK).

But Rossin called on the US administration and other governments to intervene.

"The UN is an organization of member states and they have to tell it what to do" he said.

(ST)

### **India readies combat camels for Darfur (ST)**

November 21, 2007 (NEW DELHI) — India plans to send combat-trained camels to solve the transport headache facing a fledgling UN-African Union peacekeeping force in Sudan's strife-torn Darfur region, officers here say.

India's Border Security Force (BSF) said it received a request last week from the United Nations to send the specially schooled animals to the troubled African region.

"In principle the BSF has agreed to the request and will wait for the UN to approach it through the ministry of home affairs," said the chief of India's elite 200,000-member frontier force, A. K. Mitra.

The BSF in India also warned that any deployment of trained camels to transport foot soldiers in Darfur may be some time away.

"All our camels are engaged in border-guarding duties and this whole process could take a long time," said BSF spokesman Vijay Singh, adding the agency could currently spare up to 60 of its 700-plus battle-ready animals for Sudan.

BSF deputy commandant Kamal Kumar Rathore, who heads the force's camel division, said India could purchase the animals from the open market and transport them to Sudan after a crash course in combat.

(AFP)

### **Chinese are not welcome in Darfur - IDPs (ST)**

November 23, 2007 (NYALA) — Darfur displaced have rejected the participation of the Chinese troops in the joint African Union-United Nations peacekeeping operation comparing China to Khartoum backed militias.

Hussein Abusharati, the spokesperson of Darfur Internationally Displaced People and refugees expressed in statements to Sudan Tribune the rejection of the displaced in the war-torn region of the participation of Chinese troops in the Hybrid Operation.

"We reiterate our full rejection of the Chinese peacekeepers. The genocide and the robbery are taking place in Darfur since 2003 thanks to Chinese weapons. They should know that they are not welcome in Darfur." Hussein said.

The IDPs spokesperson said they do not distinguish between the Chinese soldiers and the Janjaweed, Khartoum backed militias that participate besides the regular army to quell the armed insurrection in western Sudan.

"We do not make a distinction between the Chinese troops and the Janjaweed, because they come to Darfur not to protect the Darfur civilians but to protect their own interests in the Sudan particularly the oil."

(ST)

**Darfur displaced say Sudan planning to dismantle camps (ST)**

November 23, 2007 (NYALA) — Darfur displaced dismissed Sudan government statements that weapons in displaced camps have fuelled crime; they further accused Khartoum to planning to dismantle camps.

Hussein Abusharta, the spokesperson of Darfur IDPs, dismissed to Sudan Tribune reports that IDPs in Kalma camp, southern Darfur, have weapons in the camp. He accused Sudanese government of planning to dismantle the camps before the deployment of the AU-UN troops in the region.

"The government of the National Congress Party threatens to arrest and torture the displaced alleging that they have illegal weapons in the camp, but international community should know they disseminate such false report to have a pretext to penetrate the camp and commit a new genocide." Hussein said.

Police have threatened to use force to seize weapons from displaced in Kalma camp. The threat has already started to spread panic among residents of the camp, said aid groups who added they were worried the seizures might provoke violent clashes or a mass exodus from the settlement. Sources in the United Nations in Sudan said they were aware of a police notice addressed to the African Union mission in the area and had been holding meetings to discuss it with the AU peacekeeping mission in the area.

Yesterday aid workers said they were worried the clampdown was part of a wider plan to close down Kalma and split up its population. Kalma is one of the largest and most volatile camps in the region.

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