

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

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## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

### **UN/ Agencies**

#### **UN's Pronk slams international passivity toward Darfur**

(*AFP* – 27<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Berlin**) Expelled head of the United Nations operation in Sudan Jan Pronk sharply criticized international passivity toward the Darfur crisis, in an interview to be published Monday by a German newspaper.

The international community "has absolutely not reacted to this day against (Khartoum's) violation of the Darfur peace treaty," Pronk told the daily Munich *Suddeutsche Zeitung*. "This must be registered. Any reply would have been better than no reply at all."

In the interview with the German newspaper, the blunt, former Dutch minister also strongly criticized Khartoum.

"The situation is very simple," Pronk said. "The government of Sudan has violated the peace treaty in Darfur to which it was a signatory. And it continues to violate this treaty. It bombs villages. It recruits more and more soldiers, instead of disarming the militias. It always seeks a military solution."

Pronk also called on world powers to finance an African Union peacekeeping force for Darfur to the tune of one to 1.5 billion dollars (760 million to 1.1 billion euros) a year — the amount he says would have been earmarked for a UN peacekeeping force rejected by Khartoum.

The operation should be composed of 17,000 soldiers from both Arab and African countries, Pronk said, so it is not perceived by Islamist militants as an occupation force.

#### **Sudan: UN responsible of delay in Darfur peace implementation**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 26<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Khrt.**) Sudan has said United Nations is responsible for the delay in the implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement.

After a meeting with UN deputy representatives in Sudan, the Presidential Advisor, Majzoub Al-Khalifa, has held the UN responsible for the delay in implementation of Darfur peace agreement on the ground, saying that the UN has pledged to implement sanctions on the parties that did not sign the peace agreement, but it tended to reward them.

Al-Khalifa said that the UN has dispersed the efforts to reach peace in Darfur through what it called the transfer from the African Union to the United Nations.

Al-Khalifa discussed with the Deputy UN Representative of the UN mission to Sudan the preparation for the Darfur-Darfur Dialogue Conference (DDDC), and the importance to expand the scope of participation at it, with the aim to guarantee realization of security and stability all over Darfur region.

The meeting discussed also the outcome of the recent partners meeting in Addis Ababa, which has called for support to the African Union forces and mission in Darfur, increasing the number of African countries that have troops in Darfur and making these forces under the command of the African Union.

## **United Nations and the Transition Debate**

### **AU, UN ink deal on first phase of 'hybrid' Darfur force**

(AFP – 27<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Addis Ababa**) The African Union and United Nations have agreed on the first phase of transforming the cash-strapped AU peace mission in Sudan's Darfur region into a "hybrid" AU-UN force, officials said.

Amid lingering questions over Khartoum's readiness to accept UN participation in a joint peacekeeping operation, UN and AU officials signed a memorandum of understanding here Saturday for phase one of the plan, they said.

The agreement formalizes the provision by the world body to the African Union force known as AMIS of a so-called "Light Support Package" of logistics and communications to assist in their patrols in the troubled Darfur region.

"This ... will help ensure a more transparent, systematic and efficient provision of UN support to AMIS," the African Union said in a statement released at its headquarters in the Ethiopian capital.

The deal was signed by AU Peace and Security Council Commissioner Said Djinnit and Taye-Brook Zerihoun, the head of the UN Mission in Sudan, it said.

The Light Support Package, which has been agreed to by the Sudanese government, is the first of three phases in the proposed transformation of AMIS into a hybrid AU-UN mission.

The second is a "Heavy Support Package" and the third and most contentious stage is a merger, on which Khartoum's position remains unclear after an agreement "in principal" was announced here on November 16 by UN chief Kofi Annan.

### **HRW urges African leader to back AU-UN force to protect Darfurians**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 27<sup>th</sup> Nov. **New York**) The African Union's Peace and Security Council should unanimously support a robust international protection force with the capacity to protect civilians in Darfur and along the Sudan-Chad border, Human Rights Watch said today in a letter to council members before they gather on Wednesday in the Nigerian capital Abuja to discuss Darfur.

"The African Union's slogan is 'Africa Must Unite,' and this is exactly what AU members need to do when they meet to discuss Darfur," said Peter Takirambudde, Africa director at Human Rights Watch. "Darfur is a critical test for the AU's Peace and Security Council, and its members should unite behind the people of Darfur and eastern Chad rather than abusive governments."

"If Africans are serious about protecting Darfur's people, they must stop accepting Khartoum's denials and excuses," said Takirambudde. "The AU should also ensure that any international force in Darfur has the mandate and capacity to effectively protect civilians and is not just the lowest common denominator."

The AU Peace and Security Council is comprised of 15 members and currently includes Algeria, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo-Brazzaville, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa and Uganda.

To view the letter from Human Rights Watch to the African Union's Peace and Security Council, please visit:

<http://hrw.org/english/docs/2006/11/21/darfur14655.htm>

For recent reports on the crisis in Darfur, please visit:

<http://www.hrw.org/doc?t=africa&c=darfur>

## **GoNU**

### **Sudanese president says committed to comprehensive peace**

(*Xinhua* – 26<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Khrt.**) Sudanese President Omer al-Bashir reiterated on Sunday his government's commitment to realizing a comprehensive peace in the country and ending the tensions in the hot areas especially the western region of Darfur.

Al-Bashir made the remarks at the opening session of the conference on Islam in Africa which was held on the occasion of the elapse of fourteen centuries since Islam entered the African continent.

"The efforts to contain the remaining points of conflict in Darfur are about to reach their objective so that the region will enjoy just and comprehensive peace," the president said.

He said that Sudan, which now is witnessing the implementation of peace agreements in south Sudan, Darfur and east Sudan, has shown its "credibility towards resolving all local African conflict in the African framework."

Reiterating his country's refusal of deploying UN international peacekeeping force in Darfur, al-Bashir said that "the peacekeeping force in Darfur should be basically African."

"We do not want Sudan to be the field of proving the incapability of the African Union to keep the peace and to solve the problems on the African continent," al-Bashir added.

Sudan has repeatedly rejected a UN Security Council resolution mandating the deployment of some 20,000 peacekeepers to replace the under-funded 7,800 AU forces in Darfur, terming it a violation of Sudan's sovereignty and an effort by the West to colonize the African oil producing country.

### **Government-backed militia threaten security in Khartoum, says Kiir**

(*The Citizen; Sudan Tribune*) Addressing the press on arrival at Juba Airport yesterday, Vice-President Kiir expressed optimism that the problem of insecurity in and around khartoum will soon be resolved.

He pointed out that the problem is not between southerners and the police but rather with the armed groups including Janjaweed elements.

On Darfur, the Vice-President said that in his discussions with President Bashir, he stressed that the two options were to either accept international intervention or find political solutions to the crisis.

Still on insecurity in the capita, *Sudan Tribune* reports that the SPLM has denied having any militias in Khartoum or any other city.

A statement issued by the SPLM Northern Sector says that the 1,500 military personnel they have in khartoum is not a militia force but a regula force recognised under the provisions of the CPA and the Interim Constitution and are confined to their camps in Jebel Auliya and Soba and not in residential areas.

The statement further affirmed that the SPLA has nothing to do with the recent incidents that took place in AlAzhari.

In the statement, the SPLA further pointed out that there is an organised smear campaign being launched against it in the north so as to confine the movement to the south but pointed out that this will only breed turmoil and unrest within Khartoum.

### **Minister of interior says economic boom encouraging illegal entry into Sudan**

(*AlSudani*) Immigrations police have launched a massive dragnet for illegal immigrants in the capital. Latest statistics show that 1,339 illgal immigrants, most of them from neighbouring states, have been caught in Khartoum.

The interior ministry says this illegal immigration has been spurred by the recent economic boom the country is witnessing.

The labor ministry has also called for new measures to regulate illegal work force in the country.

### **16 suspects arrested over AlAzhari police killing**

(*AlIntibaha*) 16 suspects have been arrested over the murder of a police officer in AlAzhari, Khartoum South.

Investigations are ongoing pending a trial.

### **Darfur/Darfur Peace Agreement**

#### **Minnawi describes security situation in Darfur as stable**

(*Sudan Tribune*) Mini Minnawi says that the security situation in Darfur is stable save for some slight prolems in South Darfur State which, he said, cannot be termed as critical.

In a press conference at the Presidential Palace in khartoum, Minnawi said that some clashes have occurred in West Darfur State, Serba and the Jebel Moon area between the government forces and elements of the NRF. He said the Janjaweed have also been involved in these clashes and has reiterated calls for their disarmament.

He also said that his movement has reached an agreement with the NRF to guarantee safe passage for aid convoys.

The senior presidential aide denied reports that the NRF has occupied SLM positions and said that he spoke with his forces in North Darfur State before holding the press conference and

there was no such thing. He also rebuffed reports about the fall of Gereida and other areas to the NRF.

### **Darfur rebels attack West Darfur oil field**

(*SudanTribune.com, Reuters, AlAyaam* – 27<sup>th</sup> Nov. **El-Fasher**) Darfur rebels attacked an oil field in western Kordofan, the assailants said control the sit of oil production.

In two separated press releases, the SLM and NRF announced an attack against Abu Jabra oil field in the state of West Kordofan on Sunday 26 November.

“The government garrison guarding the Oil Filed was totally destroyed. Numerous soldiers including high ranking officers and army generals have surrendered to the NRF and are now recovering from their ordeal”.

The rebels said they hit a Helicopter at the garrison.

They claim gaining substantial amount of weapons, ammunitions, anti-aircraft missiles and military vehicles.

But the Sudanese military said its forces had repelled the attack and were in full control of the field.

The army "inflicted heavy casualties on the rebels, who withdrew from the area," said a military spokesman, speaking on condition of anonymity in line with official policy.

"To put it simply, they did not achieve what they were looking for," the military spokesman said.

The military spokesman also rebuffed rebel claims of having downed a military helicopter

The NRF stronghold has traditionally been in Northern Darfur, and its conducting a strike on the border South Darfur and Southern Kordofan shows a considerable leap in range.

A Sudanese official in the oil industry said the state-owned Abu Jabra field produces up to 10,000 barrels per day — a relatively small output.

Sudanese officials say the country produces about 500,000 barrels per day and that oil revenue should be at least US\$4 billion this year, more than half of the government's income.

After the Abu Jabra attack, South Darfur officials accused Minni Minnawi, the one rebel chief who signed the May peace accord and subsequently took a government position, of having ceded terrain to the NRF to facilitate attacks.

But the NRF's head of strategic planning, Abdullahi el-Tom, denied this, telling The Associated Press saying his group had occupied Minnawi's territory in South Darfur by force.

### **Al-Nur urges Darfur rebels to join SLM or JEM for peace talks**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 26<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Paris**) The leader of the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) Abdelwahid al-Nur, who is currently in a European tour, said his group is ready for talks with the Sudanese government on the additional paper for the Darfur peace talks.

Asked about the place of the new rebel groups formed after the end of Abuja talks in the expected talks, Al-Nur said these groups have no difference with SLM and JEM on the causes of the rejection of Abuja accord signed on 5 May.

Regarding the situation within the SLM, he said the new factions (Abdelshafi faction and the SLM members who were in Minawi faction but reject the DPA), can join the SLM delegation and participate in the talks. If not they can wait the conclusion of a deal with the government and then they could participate in the Darfur-Darfur dialogue process.

According to him, the Darfur-Darfur dialogue allows these groups to control the region and its administrations' body after the peace. "when we insisted during the talks at Abuja on the question of Darfur-Darfur dialogue process we had said Darfur people are divided, we need to harmonize the Darfuri society and we meant to create a regional government of national unity there to allow all the political forces in the region to participate in the administration of Darfur even those who had not participated in the talks".

The rebel leader disclosed that he had tried to hold a meeting for SLA commanders at Abdelshakour locality near the Bir Mazza area in North Darfur but the Sudanese army of bombarding the area to prevent this meeting.

He said more than one hundred child and older people lost their live during this attack on 18-19 November. He indicated that Khartoum apparently was informed about the meeting. "The size of casualties pushed us to suspend the holding of such meeting in the near future;" he further added

Asked whether he agree with a SLM-reunification process launched by Ahamed Abdelshafi; Al-Nur expressed his appreciation for this effort but declined the offer saying all SLM sectors should be involved in the reunification conference "it is not only a meeting for military commanders".

"So we have to wait for better conditions for the holding of this conference" he said.

## **Eastern Sudan**

### **East Sudan ex-rebels vow peaceful future**

(AFP, *AlHayat et al* – 27<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Khrt.**) Former rebels from eastern Sudan on Sunday vowed to lay down their arms and pursue the path of politics as they held their first ever news conference in Khartoum after signing a peace deal last month.

"We have decided to return home, stop fighting against the government and begin operating as a political party," said Abdullah Musa, spokesman for the Eastern Front rebel grouping.

"We have completed preparations for implementing the peace agreement that we signed with the national unity government in Asmara on October 14," said Musa, hailing Eritrea's "honest and impartial" role in brokering the deal.

"Our political organisation is ready for participation in politics and our military leadership is also ready to move to three points of assembly inside east Sudan as specified by the peace agreement," Musa added, speaking from the Front's new offices in the Sudanese capital.

According to power-sharing provisions in the peace deal, a presidential assistant will be nominated from among the leaders of the Eastern Front, who Musa on Sunday named as Eastern Front chief Musa Mohamed Ahmed.

A minister of state and eight members of parliament will also be chosen from among the rebel group, posts for which Musa said the Front was still seeking nominations.

On resource sharing, the Sudanese government will allocate 100 million dollars to development of the eastern region in 2007, followed by 125 million dollars a year between 2008 and 2011 — a total of 600 million dollars over five years.

Under security arrangements agreed in the peace deal, all Eastern Front prisoners will be released after the ceasefire and its fighters will be integrated into the Sudanese army.

Musa said armed eastern rebels number around 1,800 who, once assembled, will decide on whether to return to civilian life or join the Sudanese army or police.

He also alleged that "hidden hands" had tried to turn Sudan's eastern conflict into "another Darfur", where hundreds of thousands of people have died in fighting between rebels, the army and government-backed militia.

"The hidden hands planned to make of east Sudan another Darfur where Arab and non-Arab tribes are fighting against each other, but the east is not a soil for tribal conflict," he said.

The spokesperson pointed out that the Eastern Front and the Beja Congress reject moves to distribute constitutional posts earmarked for the Eastern Front along tribal lines. He said that the EF had recently expelled prominent member, Amina Dirrar, from its membership because she had drawn up a list along tribal lines of nominees to represent the EF in government.

## **Editorials/ Commentaries**

### **Security lapses again**

*(AlAyaam editorial)* The paper deplores the security lapses in the capital saying that this constitutes a threat to the implementation of the CPA.

The paper recommends the formation of search parties to smoke out illegal arms and armed groups that exist in the capital.

The editorial concludes that these incidents should not be seen as individual cases but should be regarded as an emerging phenomenon that should be checked.

### **GoSS battles against Islam**

*(Rai AlShaab)* The writer of this report argues that the GoSS is waging an all out war on Islam when the country is still undergoing an interim period. The writer cites the closure of the offices of the Chambers of Zakat in the south, reports of the closure of the Holy Quran University in the south and of an order issued by the governor of Upper Nile prohibiting the wearing of Hijab by Muslim women.

In conclusion, the writer urges Muslims around the country to blame the CPA for what he describes as this war against Islam.