



## UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN

## UNMIS

Media Headlines, 30 October 07

(By Public Information Office)

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## **Highlights**

### **UN/ Agencies**

#### **Al Bashir meets SRSG**

(*Akhbar AlYom, AlRai AlAam*), In his meeting yesterday with the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for the Sudan Ashraf Qazi, the President of the Republic of the Sudan Omer al Bashir affirmed his commitment to implement the CPA and remove all obstacles that hinder its implementation. The President welcome the new SRSG and pledged to facilitate his mission in the country. SRSG Ashraf Qazi said in a statement following the meeting “it is an honour for me to be received by HE President al Bashir who welcome me and the role of UNMIS in implementing the CPA in Sudan”. “It was an opportunity for us to discuss the situation in Sudan and the latest developments which the Sudanese political arena is witnessing especially Sirte talks in which the UN is keen to see all parties participating and to see also that the peace talks are comprehensive so as to discuss pending issues in order to achieve peace in Darfur”, said SRSG. SRSG said he would be visiting Juba soon to meet the First Vice President and discuss with him the implementation of the CPA.

Below is a similar report by the BBC Monitoring service:

#### **Al-Bashir meets new UN envoy to Sudan**

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

BBC Monitoring Service-- Khartoum, 29 October: President of the Republic Field Marshal Umar al-Bashir has affirmed commitment of the Government of National Unity to the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA).

Receiving the new special representative of the UN secretary-general in Sudan, Ashraf Qadhi, at the Guest House Monday [29 October], President Al-Bashir expressed welcome to the UN official, affirming that all facilities will be extended to him for the success of his mission in the country.

In a statement to Suna following the meeting, Qadhi said President Al-Bashir expressed warm welcome to him and the role of the United Nations Mission in Sudan in implementation of the CPA. He added that the meeting was an opportunity to discuss the situation in Sudan and the latest developments, especially Sirte negotiations on peace in Darfur,

*Source: Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in English 29 Oct 07*

### **UN Security Council holds session to extend UNMIS mandate**

(*AlSudani*) The UN Security Council began close-door consultation meetings on extending the UNMIS mandate. Sudan Ambassador to the UN Abdelmahmoud Abdelhalim told AlSudani that UNMIS mandate ends by end of this month.

### **UN envoy says committed to support Sudan CPA implementation**

(*Sudan Tribune.com – 29 Oct. KHARTOUM*) The United Nations reiterated on Monday its commitment to helping the signatories of Sudan's 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) to implement it.

This came in a meeting between the special representative of the UN secretary general for Sudan, Ashraf Qazi, and Sudanese President Omer al-Bashir, according to a statement issue by the UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS).

"Qazi assured al-Bashir of the commitment of the UN to assist the parties in the implementation of the CPA, emphasizing that the CPA constitute the corner stone of sustainable peace and stability in Sudan and a major achievement for the country and its people," the UNMIS statement said.

Qazi arrived in Khartoum on Tuesday to assume his post as head of the UNMIS.

Al-Bashir reiterated the fullest cooperation of his government in the fulfillment of Qazi's mandate. Al-Bashir also stressed the importance of the CPA and his government's commitment to its full implementation.

He hoped that dialogue and direct consultations would continue to characterize working relations between the Sudanese government and the UN, as they have proved their effectiveness in resolving several issues. UNMIS was established in Sudan in 2005 and supported by a 10,000-strong UN peacekeeping force to help implement the CPA.

### **UN shows concern over forced relocation of Darfur displaced**

(*Sudan Tribune.com – 29 Oct. NEW YORK*) John Holmes, the U.N. undersecretary general for humanitarian affairs, expressed concern over forced relocation of displaced in South Darfur. He further said that it represents a violation of accords signed with Khartoum.

"I am alarmed about the reports of forced relocation last night from Otash camp in Nyala, South Darfur, both about the manner in which the relocations were apparently carried out and the possibility that such action could contribute to more violence," said Holmes.

"We have had many meetings with the Government of Sudan, stressing that that any relocation should be voluntary and should adhere to the guiding principles of internal displacement," Holmes added. "Given that security forces were threatening the displaced with sticks and rubber hoses at Otash camp, the involuntary nature of this

relocation is clear, and is contrary to agreements with the Government,” he emphasized.

Tensions remain high between various groups throughout camps in Nyala. Kalma camp, the largest camp for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Darfur, was recently the scene of clashes that claimed the lives of three civilians. Those IDPs just relocated from Otash had sought security there approximately one week ago, after fleeing violence in Kalma. Otash camp is home to over 60,000 IDPs.

### **HRW urges Arabs to press Sudan over rights abuses in Darfur**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 29 Oct. NEW YORK) When Arab League members meet in Khartoum this week to discuss aid and development for Darfur, they should press the Sudanese government to end the massive human rights violations in the region, Human Rights Watch and 25 other organizations said today in a letter to league members (<http://hrw.org/english/docs/2007/10/26/darfur17181.htm>).

The meeting on October 30-31 will focus on humanitarian assistance, reconstruction, and development in Darfur. Human Rights Watch expressed concern that none of these goals will be achieved unless the Sudanese government ends attacks on civilians, brings the perpetrators of war crimes and crimes against humanity to justice, and facilitates the deployment of an effective international peacekeeping force.

“Development in Darfur first requires protection for Darfuri civilians who continue to face violent attacks,” said Gasser Abdel-Razek, Middle East advocate at Human Rights Watch. “Arab governments should support the 2 million people caught in Darfur’s conflict by calling on all sides to end their abuses.”

Human Rights Watch urged Arab League members to help ensure that AMIS and UNAMID have adequate personnel, equipment, technical expertise, and other resources, noting that improved security in Darfur will be contingent upon their rapid response capabilities and patrolling activities.

Arab League governments should call on all parties in the conflict in Darfur to comply immediately with their obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law. This includes ending attacks on civilians and the unlawful use on aircraft of UN and AMIS colors or markings, and stopping support to abusive militia/Janjaweed and initiating militia/Janjaweed disarmament programs.

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

### **Al Bashir addresses Arab conference on humanitarian situation in Darfur**

(*Alwan*) President al Bashir, Arab League Secretary General Amr Musa, the representative of the Saudi Arabia who is the president of the current session of the Arab League and Senior Assistant to the President will address today the opening session of the Arab League conference on the humanitarian situation in Darfur.

### **NCP and SPLM set up committee for containing crisis**

(*AlAyam*) The NCP and SPLM agreed to set up a political committee to address the problems facing their partnership. The committee is co-chaired by Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismail (NCP) and Malik Agar (SPLM). The committee is expected to discuss all pending issues and suggest solutions for them. Each party will be represented by eight members. The NCP asked for scheduling all issues raised by the two parties.

### **SAF denies accusation of bombing Jabal Moon on the Chadian border**

(*AlRai AlAam*) SAF spokesperson denied in a statement to Reuters allegations by representatives of the rebel movements accusing SAF of bombing an area at the border with Chad and, hence, violating the ceasefire which the GoS has announced at the opening session of Sirte talks on Darfur. SAF said it has no troops in this area.

### **Parliament Speaker says decision of SPLM pull out affects work of Parliament**

(*AlSudani*) The Speaker of the National Assembly Ahmed Ibrahim al Tahir admitted that the suspension of the participation of SPLM Ministers in the GoNU has affected the work of the Parliament and the Government. The Speaker said he would find it embarrassing if the MPs requested summoning a Minister who is freezing his participation in the government.

### **Miseriya asks Kiir to present documents proving Dinka Ngok ownership of Abyei area**

(*AlWifaq*) The Miseriya Higher Council appealed to SPLM Chairman General Salva Kiir to make public the documents which he believes prove Dinka Ngok's ownership of Abyei area. The Miseriya's request came as a result of statement by Kiir to Aljazeera TV in which he said they have documents proving that Abyei belongs to Dinka Ngok. Hiraika Izzeldin, the President of the Miseriya Higher Council, asked FVP Kiir to give the said documents to Abyei border demarcation committee. "We have documents from the Turkish and British colonial era proving that Abyei is located north of 1956 north-south borders.

### **SPLM keen to implement all CPA articles**

(*Khartoum Monitor*) (Khartoum Monitor) Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) members of Parliament (MPs) board asserted that the President's speech did not include negative insinuations or an aggressive spirit.

Accordingly, it has preserved the soul of partnership between the two sides .the board's statement, a copy of which has been received by **Khartoum Monitor**, mentioned that it was a routine speech which reacted to the recent vital crisis, besides, it doesn't include the Abyei Protocol, the borders demarcation, the census and doesn't point out the commencement of the national reconciliation and healing of wounds.

The Board Information Spokesman, Anuti Adigo, said that many vital document are not provided ,and that the speech doesn't mention SPLM efforts for unifying the factions in Darfur, and that the SPLM asserted its intention to implement all the CPA articles and comply with the partnership spirit.

### **The peace crisis dominates legislative discussions**

(*Khartoum Monitor*) The recent crisis between the SPLM and the NCP dominates discussions in Legislature. The Presidency must handle the crisis wisely to avoid disputes, Margret Samuel, a member from SANU Party said. She added that the people have the right know everything about the differences between the two parties. The President's address defines peace differently from the common concept of peace, but it made it the responsibility of the people, said Jivana Luka Joseph. She added that the Legislature must not be influenced by the problem.

The speaker ended the session by confirming the fact that the SPLM Ministers absence affects the current issues that are supposed to be discussed in the Assembly ;and that they are in dilemma on what to do and who is to blame .The SPLM said it will not accept any bill discussed in the absence of Ministers.

### **SPLM lawmakers say Bashir's speech empty and monotonous**

(*The Citizen*) The SPLM lawmakers in the National Parliament yesterday called the President's speech empty and monotonous as the Speaker warned that the walkout by the southern partners would hurt Parliament.

Speaker Ahmed Ibrahim al-Tahir the absence of the SPLM lawmakers means that the lawmakers would be unable to question them when it comes to questions the cabinet over the performances of the Ministers.

### **MP challenges President's powers to sack MPs**

(*The Citizen*) The Member of Parliament yesterday tabled a motion challenging the President's powers to dismiss lawmakers from Parliament.

Richard Mulla (SPLM Mundri East) said the dismissal of some members by the president was completely unconstitutional in a motion he tabled with the office the Speaker.

The MP argued that once the president appointed members to the Assembly, and they were confirmed, the president lost the power to dismiss them.

### **Egypt sends refugees to uncertain fate in Sudan**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 29 Oct. CAIRO) Egypt has deported Sudanese refugees who were returned from Israel on the understanding they would not be expelled to Sudan where they face torture or imprisonment, a security source said on Monday.

"Some of the refugees returned from Israel were expelled to Sudan," the source told AFP, referring to 48 Sudanese refugees that Israel sent back to Egypt in August after they illegally entered the Jewish state.

The United Nations refugee agency UNHCR in Cairo said they had been seeking information on the refugees' fate "at the highest level of the foreign ministry" since they were expelled but had heard nothing.

UNHCR spokeswoman Abeer Etafah said that if it were confirmed that Egypt had deported the refugees to Sudan "it would be a serious matter."

It is illegal under international law to deport a refugee to a country where they face torture or arbitrary detention.

## **GoSS**

### **Unpaid teachers go on strike**

*(Sudan Tribune)* The secondary school teachers of Central Equatoria State yesterday went on strike, citing non payment of their salaries for the tow months of August and September this year at the time students are supposed to be preparing for examination.

The secondary school teachers who refused to be identified alleged that the Ministry of Education is deliberately refusing to pay them ,on alleging that other employees of the state have not yet been paid and the minister is said to be sick, unable to comment.

### **Uganda to train South Sudan police**

*(Sudan tribune)* Uganda has finalized arrangements to train South Sudan Police. Plans are also underway to build a railway between Gulu and Juba and improve the road.

The projects, according to internal affairs minister Matia Kasaijia, were agreed during a recent visit by Ugandan ministers to the south Sudanese capital Juba.

### **South Sudan sign contract to audit government accounts**

*(Sudan Tribune.com – 29 Oct. JUBA)* Southern Sudan government signed an agreement with a leading international auditing firm to examine the financial accounts of governmental institutions and to deliver constructive reports for management use.

The British firm is expected to shed light on possible corruption in the recently formed administration of Southern after a 2005 north-south peace deal.

In a statement issued on October 25, South Sudan Audit Chamber announced the formal signing of an agreement with PKF auditing firm to audit Southern Sudan Government institutions and provide development and capacity building support to the audit chamber.

The contract is initiated by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning the South Sudan Audit chamber and the PKF. While the World Bank and GOSS are co-funding the project.

PKF is a leading international business advisory organisation. With a global network that reaches into over 119 countries, serviced by over 380 firms.

PKF will work closely with the SSAC to prepare joint audit programs and undertake joint audits of various government agencies accounts, said the statement.

### **Lakes State minister to discuss telecommunications facilities in Juba**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 29 Oct. RUMBEK) The Lakes State Minister of Information and Communication, Adak Costa Mapuor has said Telecommunication Services should be improved in Lakes State.

Speaking at Rumbek airstrip before her take off on Friday for Juba, Adak Costa told Sudan Tribune she would meet with Government of South Sudan's (GoSS) Minister of Telecommunication and Postal services, Gier Chuang Aluong.

She added that she would also meet with the new Ministers of Information and Social Development on issues of women empowerment.

Rumbek is one of the renowned towns in Southern Sudan where there are no telecommunications network.

People in Rumbek rely on Satellite phones for communication, which are not affordable by all.

Nevertheless Adak will meet the new appointed minister Gabriel Changson to discuss the issues of Radio Rumbek FM – 98 and gerevices of information especially the follow-up of one car that was donation by former minister of Information Dr. Samson Kwaji, including the training capacity building of Radio Rumbek FM-98 local reporters.

Pointing out that, there will be special meeting with Albino Akol Akol the new appointed minister for Culture, Youth and Sports because there were some promises of Sports and youth activities promised by former minister John Luk Jok that need to be achieved by the end of this year.

Adak is expected to be back on coming Friday to Lakes State the capital of Rumbek.

## **Darfur**

### **11 killed, wounded in Attash camp in Darfur**

(*Akhbar Alyaum*) Two persons were killed and other nine wounded in clashes with regular forces in Otash, IDPs camp south Darfur when the forces attempted to forcefully to relocate them from the camp to their villages.

SLM's official Spokesperson Altayeb Khamis told (*Akhbar AlYom* daily) that the government should relocate the IDPs voluntarily, warning the government of



disintegrating the IDPs camps, indicating that the move was considered as rejection to the peace process.

### **Nafie: Brown's threats a move to abort Sirte**

*Text of report by Qatari Al-Jazeera satellite TV on 29 October*

BBC Monitoring Service-- Doha Al-Jazeera Satellite Channel in Arabic was observed at 1015 gmt on 29 October to interview live via telephone Sudanese Presidential Adviser Abdallah Masar to comment on British Prime Minister Gordon Brown's threats to impose additional sanctions on Sudan if the peace talks being held in Libya fail.

Masar starts by saying that the Sudanese Government dispatched a high level delegation to the talks, declared a unilateral cease-fire, and approached the negotiations with an "open heart," and adds: "Despite this all, the armed groups boycotted the talks, so what is the Sudanese Government supposed to do? Is the Sudanese Government supposed to - and this is a question for the British prime minister - is the Sudanese Government supposed to negotiate with itself and sign a treaty with itself? The British Government should blame the armed groups that failed to attend the talks and should hold them accountable, and it must commend the government of Sudan."

He adds: "Such statements send extremely negative signals to the armed groups in Darfur and encourage them to be more obstinate and unresponsive." He argues that the "issue is not about the Sudanese Government, but is about Britain, the major powers, and their agendas, and these powers should place the blame on those who did not attend the negotiations." He maintains that the armed groups in Darfur were "manufactured by the Western world and have no value in Darfur, and do not want to sit down and negotiate," and says that they do not represent Darfur.

*Source: Al-Jazeera TV, Doha, in Arabic 1015 gmt 29 Oct 07*

### **Britain calls for providing facilities to the hybrid**

(*AlSudani*) The British government has called on the UN member states to provide facilities pertinent to the hybrid operation, scheduled to be deployed early next year.

The British Embassy in Khartoum said in a statement issued Monday specialized facilities of helicopters and inland transport were urgently needed, appealing to the government to facilitate the immediate deployment of the hybrid forces.

In a related development, the statement called on the international community to boost Sirte talks, urging those who were absent to join the peaceful efforts.

According to the Embassy's statement, Britain provided \$ 450 million in support to humanitarian and peacekeeping efforts.

It renewed readiness to back the economic recovery programs with an estimated sum of \$ 10 million to make available health primary care and employment opportunities, declaring to bolster post-war long-term programs in Darfur region.

### **No trend to suspend or adjourn Sirte talks, British representative to the talks apologizes for statement attributed to Brown**

(*Sudan Vision*) The AU and UN envoys, Dr. Salim and Eliasson, have affirmed that Sirte talks will go ahead with no scope for suspension or freezing. At the joint press

conference the two envoys held yesterday, Salim said that Darfur peace cannot be tied to a person or persons.

The committee on the other hand indicated its intention to send a delegation to Darfur to negotiate and take in the view of factions that were unable to appear in Sirte.

Meanwhile, the British representative to Sirte talks apologized for statements attributed to British Prime Minister Gordon Brown regarding imposition of sanctions on Sudan.

The British representative explained to Sudan's head of delegation, Dr. Nafi Ali Nafi, that the news reports were not true and that they never intended to make statements to that effect. He thanked the Sudanese government for announcing the ceasefire, and once more stressed that they have not called for imposing sanctions on Sudan.

Dr. Nafi said in press statements he made that they accept the apology though they still demand official circulation of the apology through the media.

At the deliberative session held yesterday with the negotiating team, Sudan's delegation discussed the news reports aired by Al Jazeera TV on the statements of the British Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

### **SPLM pledges to play positive role in Darfur peace (Khartoum Monitor) Darfur mediators to engage dialogue with recalcitrant rebels**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 29 Oct. SIRTE, Libya) Delegations from Darfur peace joint mediation will leave to Darfur and Southern Sudan in a bid to convince the recalcitrant rebel groups to join in the ongoing peace talks in Libya.

Ahmed Fawzi, the joint mediation spokesperson and AMIS spokesperson Nouredine Mezni confirmed to Sudan Tribune that delegations will go to Darfur to meet Khalil Ibrahim the chairman of Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) and Abdalla Yahya, the leader of Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) Unity Faction.

The two rebel leaders on Friday October 26 said in a joint statement that the mediation had failed to identify the true representatives of Darfur blaming the mediation for inviting splinter groups and some groups without real presence on the ground, they said. They also said the AU-UN mediation team didn't consult them in the preparations of the talks.

However the mediation says they implemented the outcome of Arusha meeting held last August.

"We respected the time table fixed in Arusha (two or three months) and the choice of the venue (in countries of the regional initiatives)" the spokesmen said.

According to the spokesmen, another delegation will fly to Juba in order to convince other rebel groups as SLM-Ahmed Abdelshafi, and SLA – Unity Command and some other commanders.

### **Arab League supports Darfur humanitarian situation**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 29 Oct. KHARTOUM) Arab League (AL) Secretary General Amr Musa affirmed on Monday Arab countries' support and assistance for improving the humanitarian situation and realizing peace in the restive western Sudanese region of Darfur. Musa told reporters following a meeting with Sudanese Vice President Ali Osman Taha that the support and assistance would be extended "in coordination with the African Union and the United Nations."

He also said Arab countries would participate effectively for success of the Arab Conference for Humanitarian Support to Darfur, which is slated for Tuesday in Khartoum. The AL chief arrived in Khartoum on Sunday to attend the conference, which will weigh the best way to provide Arab donations and assistances to encourage the conflicting parties in the region to make peace.

### **Sudan rebels warn oil workers: leave or be targets**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 29 Oct. KHARTOUM) Darfur rebels holding five oil workers hostage warned all companies working in Sudan's budding crude industry to leave the region, or become military targets of the insurgents.

Mahamat Bahar Ali Hamadein, a senior commander for the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) named the five oil workers, four of which work for the world's largest oil services company Schlumberger and one for part-owned Malaysian Petroned.

"We already gave all the companies working in the oilfields one week to leave," said Hamadein. "If they do not leave they will all become targets for us just as the Sudanese military is because they are supporting our enemy."

The attack was last Tuesday on the Defra oilfield in Block 4. Blocks 1, 2 and 4 are a Chinese-led concession called the Greater Nile Petroleum Operating Company (GNPOC), which also includes Indian's ONGC and Malaysian Petronas.

It is in South Kordofan, an area bordering Darfur, where rebels have extended their attacks in the past year.

He named one Iraqi engineer Ahmed Hayman Mohamed, an Egyptian engineer Joseph William Samuel, and two Sudanese working for Schlumberger as well as one other Sudanese technician, Khaled Dirar Ahmed, working for Petroned.

### **Darfur Civil society groups demand role in peace talks**

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 29 Oct. SIRTE) Civil society representatives from Darfur have called for a greater role in ongoing peace efforts and uniting the parties to the conflict in the western Sudanese region as talks continued on 29 October in the Libyan town of Sirte.

"We are happy to be here as representatives of civil society although our status is still uncertain," Safaa Al-Aagib Adam, the secretary-general and gender advisor of the Community Development Association, told IRIN. "We need a more conducive environment."

"The [rebel] movements need to realise that re-unification is important and that we have a role to play in this," Adam added. "For those who are boycotting the talks, the civil society can play a big role in getting them to come aboard. If the mediators want us to play this role, we are ready and willing."