

**UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN****UNMIS****Media Monitoring Report, 9 September 2007**

(By Public Information Office)

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Highlights

UN/Agencies

Ban Ki-moon concludes visit to Sudan

(*Al Rai AlAam, SUNA*)- UN Chief Ki Moon concluded Thursday a five-day official visit to Sudan during which he had had talks with President Albashir and other senior government officials.

Following a meeting with President Albashir, Moon pledged in the visit's final communiqué, UN's keenness to work together with the government to deploy in the hybrid forces Darfur in the appropriate time.

The communiqué expressed hope that all parties to the conflict in Darfur to fully cooperate with the UN-AU to wrap up talks in a fastest way.

The government, according to the communiqué, committed to spare no effort to realize comprehensive peace, solve the various pending issues, conduct fair elections by the year 2009, contribute positively to Darfur negotiations, improve relations with rebel factions, participate effectively in the talks and coordinate with UN-AU to facilitate the deployment of the hybrid forces.

On his part, Foreign Minister Dr. Lam Akol stressed the government acceptance for the admission of any logistical equipment pertinent to the hybrid operation considering the political solution was the key for solving Darfur issue. Minister of Interior Prof. Al-Zubeir Bashir Taha vowed to provide the full security protection UN-AU troops.

As regards the international reaction to Moon's visit, China hailed the efforts being exerted by Moon to end the agony of Darfur calling for investing the coordinating mechanism among the government and the UN-AU to push forward the political process in a balanced manner and improve the humanitarian situation in Darfur.

National Assembly Speaker and MPs meet Ki Moon

(*Alwan*) Speaker of the National Assembly Ahmed Ibrahim AL-Tahir and MPs briefed on Saturday UN Chief Ban Ki Moon on laws ratified by the Assembly, the government performance as well as the progress of the CPA implementation.

In a closed-door meeting and under tight security measures, the two sides discussed a report submitted by AL-Tahir and reached a joint formula on all Sudan's problems.

Following the meeting, the Speaker told reporters that he drew the attention of Ki Moon to the behavior of UNMIS's employees for exceeding their jurisdictions

indicating that the UN's employees were selected from elements who are hostile to the government's policies.

Al-Tahir said that he informed Moon on the violations committed by the UN employees in Darfur, the South and Khartoum as regards presenting false reports, which he added, lead to many complicated problems. He emphasized the government's keenness to implement the SC Resolution No. 1769 commending the efforts being exerted by the UN-AU Missions in Sudan for containing Darfur crisis.

Dismissed employees submit memo to UN Chief

(AlIntibaha) The Executive Committee of the dismissed employees and military officers urged on Thursday Ki Moon to interfere for ending violations of human rights practiced by the government against the citizens.

In a memo the committee submitted on Thursday to Moon, the Committee's Chairman Awad Alkarim Babikir said that the memo came in the context of escalating the issue of the dismissed persons adding that the Acting SRSG, who received the memo, promised to hand it to the UN Chief before his departure. He noted that they resorted to the UN for missing hope on the committee set up by the government to look into their grievances.

Ki Moon receives memo from opposition demanding democratic transformation

(AlRai ALAam) Democratic transformation, abolition of laws restricting freedoms, implementation of the CPA and the release of political detainees loomed high in Thursday's meeting between the UN Secretary General and the opposition leaderships.

A part from the demands submitted jointly by the Umma and PC parties, the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) proposed during the meeting a vision based on the necessity of finding out internal solutions to Sudan's problems, upon which the government and the opposition should agree.

Following the meeting, DUP Leading figure Tajelsir Mohamed Salih stated that the DUP's vision was in the frame work of the reconciliation initiative presented earlier by President of the DUP.

UN Chief says South Sudan funds not diverted to Darfur

(Khartoum Monitor, Sudan Tribune.Com) United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki Moon said today that the crisis in Darfur did not cause any reallocation of funds from Southern Sudan.

"No money pledged for the development of South Sudan is going to Darfur" Ban Ki-Moon told UN radio Miraya FM in Juba in interview.

The UN top official stressed that (UNMIS) is "a billion dollar peacekeeping operation, designed solely to support the parties in implementing the CPA."

The Minister of Information in the semi-autonomous GoSS, Dr Samson Kwaje, claimed last month that money pledged for Southern Sudan by the international community was going to Darfur.

WFP dismisses reports on bad quality of Darfur food

Sudantribune.com-- The UN World Food Programme (WFP) dismissed reports that North Darfur health authorities last week had destroyed food imported by the UN body because it was improper for human consumption.

The WFP said, in a press release, it destroyed "an extremely small quantity" of damaged sorghum, in collaboration with the North Darfur authorities, last week. It further said that it undertakes such measure when food is damaged by rain or during transport from Port Sudan.

The WFP was criticized by some daily newspapers saying it import food improper for human consumption. It was said that health authorities last week decided to destroy WFP food after discovering that the date of validity is expired.

Observers say such reports aim to distort the image of the UN humanitarian aid and to incite the internally displaced persons to leave the IDPs camps in Darfur.

The WFP said it is normal that some of food may occasionally become damaged during transport. The damaged food recently destroyed in El Fasher was collected since the beginning of 2007.

"All WFP food is tested by Sudanese government authorities at Port Sudan and receives all necessary clearances and is deemed to be fit for human consumption before it arrives in Darfur." The WFP said.

GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)

Opposition criticizes Political Party's Law, asks for meeting with Constitutional Review Commission

(AlKhartoum) The Constitutional Review Commission (CRC) as it has disclosed that it conducted debates with the opposition political forces on the draft law of the elections; the political forces categorically denied their participation in formulating the draft law.

They said that the draft was contrary to the visions of the opposition parties, adding that the law was not agreed upon.

CRC member Ghazi Suleiman dismissed any variation in the view points confirming that the CRC members reached a joint understanding.

He underscored that the CRC set up a sub-committee, which discussed with the different political parties all items and attained consensus saying that CRC would do its level best to bring about collective consensus on various articles.

He pinpointed that the CRC was not looking for consensus between the NCP and the SPLM only, but with all political forces in the country.

Suleiman revealed that the law allocate % 25 as comparative representation to the women in the parliament, indicating that % 60 out of the parliament seats would be geographical constituencies distributed among the different states in accordance with the population density.

End of SPLA element's crisis in Mujlad

(*SudanTribune.com, AlRai AlAam*) The joint ceasefire committee of SPLA and the Government of Sudan (GOS) successfully resolved the issue of 61 southern troops besieged by Sudanese army in Southern Kordofan.

Both sides agreed that the SPLA forces will withdraw from the region no later than a week with restrictions in the interim.

The siege threatened to escalate into a standoff thus jeopardizing the fate of the Comprehensive peace agreement (CPA) that ended the 21-years North-South civil war.

Under the deal, the south formed a semi-autonomous government and was allowed to maintain its army, together with the north's Sudan Armed Forces, and both armies were required to withdraw to their respective sides of a 1956 north-south border.

However, reports indicated that the troops did not move from the South but were in fact militias from the Arab tribes of Missereiya and Zereigat that chose to be part of SPLA. This triggered the Sudanese army to consider them in violation of the CPA.

Al-Dirdiri Ahmed and Paul Myom the joint chairpersons of the ceasefire committee from the SPLA and Sudan government respectively reached agreement on the issue yesterday.

Under the agreement SPLA troops would move to the EL-Deeb area in Southern Kordofan and remain there for a week before redeploying to the areas considered to be part of Southern Sudan since the independence in 1956.

The committee decided that the SPLA troops are to move to EL-Deeb area with no weapons and in plain clothes. The UN was given to move to the area and monitor the implementation.

The SPLA and the Sudanese government exchanged accusations over the last few months on the redeployment of troops from the oil rich areas in the south. Both sides accused the other of failing to fulfill its obligations under the CPA.

Interior Ministry issues identity documents to Sudanese in USA

(*SudanTribune.com* – 8 Sept. KHARTOUM) A delegation from the Sudan's Ministry of Interior is expected to leave to Washington on Monday 10 September, to issue identity

documents for thousands of Sudanese nationals living in the USA without official documents.

The Sudanese chargé d' affaires in Washington, John Akwoj, said that the delegation will be composed of two police officers and three officials from the expatriates affairs administration.

He explained that the Sudanese embassy has started negotiating the issue with the government since last January.

Akwoj further said the delegation would issue documents including passports and other identity documents to applicants.

Thousands of Sudanese living in the USA have no identity documents but with the perspective of the 2008 general elections and the 2011 referendum most of them wish to participate in these important political events.

Sudanese president to visit Vatican 13 September

(*SudanTribune.com* – 8 Sept. KHARTOUM) President Omer al-Bashir, will on Thursday 3 September, start an official visit to the Vatican and Italy at the head of a high-ranking delegation. He will hold talks with Pope Benedict XVI, the Prime Minister of the State of the Vatican and the Italian President and Italian the Prime Minister.

Sudanese ambassador to France and non-resident ambassador to the Vatican Ahmed Hamid al-Faki said that a number of issues would be discussed during the visit including boosting the relations between Sudan and the Vatican and issues related to the inter-religious dialogue, the official SUNA reported.

Sudan tortured accused coup plotters - Amnesty

(*SudanTribune.com* – 8 Sept. KHARTOUM) Rights group Amnesty International said Sudan had tortured five people detained since July on accusations of planning to overthrow the government, and one needed urgent medical help.

"The five men are held at Kober Prison in the capital, Khartoum, where they have been tortured," Amnesty said in a report seen by Reuters on Saturday.

Sudanese officials arrested a number of former army officers and opposition leaders in July, accusing them of a plot to overthrow the government and when that failed, of seeking to create chaos in the capital.

A Sudanese national security spokesman denied the men had been tortured but Amnesty said many of the detainees reported being subjected to brutal torture techniques while under interrogation.

59,000 from Rizeigat and Miseria join SPLA

(*AlSahafa*) A senior SPLA officer announced the joining of some 32,000 from Rizeigat tribe in Eddein locality and 27,000 from the Miseria tribe from western sector of South Kordofan had joined the SPLA.

Brig. Deng Meong said that the group were demobilized soldiers of the government-PDF and was dispatched at the Head of committee of the SPLA to absorb these forces and guarantee their withdrawal south of 1956 borders.

SPLM's Secretary-General in Eddein locality Musa Gaboura noted that the SPLA's committee in the locality finalizes the absorption of 2500 of Rizeigat forces into the SPLA.

Meanwhile, armed clashes erupted Saturday between the PDF demobilized soldiers and police forces in Eddein town, South Darfur.

NCP Leader Abdulhameed Kasha was able to reach an agreement with a large group of the PDF soldiers, who mutinied following failure of the NCP to pay their entitlements.

Obstacles hindering integration of child soldiers

(*AlSudani*) The DDR aims at disarming, demobilizing and re-integrating 750 child soldiers in Khartoum and 450 in Kassala and Gedarif States in the communities, while SAF adopted the initiative of the Child Welfare Council to set up a unit for child rights in SAF, which will pay due concern to the dissemination of the culture of child protection.

The re-integration process is reported to have confronted with obstacles represented in the long-term of financing a matter, which hinders the support supposed to be rendered to NNGOs implementing programs of re-integration.

Darfur

Darfur peace talks set for October 27 in Libya - govt, UN

(*SudanTribune.com* – 6 Sept. KHARTOUM) U.N. chief ban Ki-moon and Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir announced Thursday that new peace talks to end the 4 year conflict in Darfur will start Oct. 27 in Libya.

Ban has pressed hard during his first trip to Sudan to get the splintered rebel groups back to the negotiating table. His joint announcement with al-Bashir signaled that a date and venue have been set - but the real test will be whether rebel movements who in the past refused to join the peace process attend the Libya talks.

The Sudanese government and only one major rebel group signed the May 2006 peace deal in Abuja, Nigeria, but the agreement has not held for the war-torn western Sudanese region. The continued violence has prompted the need for deploying U.N. peacekeepers.

The European Union (EU) on Friday welcomed the announcement by the UN and Sudan on the convocation of peace talks on Darfur which are to be held in Libya on Oct. 27.

Sudantribune.com-- The EU foreign policy chief urged all the concerned parties to the Libya talks to participate constructively with a view to obtaining a truly inclusive and sustainable political settlement of the Darfur conflict. He pledged that the EU was ready to contribute to the Darfur peace process.

Meanwhile, the leader of the rebel Sudan Liberation Movement, Abdel Wahid al-Nur has rejected the date of 27 October announced by Sudan and the UN today to start new peace talks to end the 4 year conflict in Darfur in Libya.

Al Nur told Sudan Tribune that "this is a new complication set by the AU-UN mediators and the Sudanese government." He further said that the date of the talks should be fixed after consultations with all the concerned parties and not just between Khartoum and the mediators.

"How they call us to join the talks from one side and do the contrary to discourage us from participation in the talks, from the other side. I invite people to meditate on this public hypocrisy." He said. He added "this is a nonsense decision and a repetition of what happened in Abuja."

The U.S. envoy to Sudan, Andrew Natsios said "Bringing those groups to the table as part of the negotiations, which are set to begin on Oct. 31 in Libya, must be a goal" he added that he is "guardedly optimistic" efforts to bring an end to the war-torn nation's civil war and resulting genocide may soon pay off.

In an editorial board meeting with Daily News staff, Natsios said the U.S. hopes to bring Sudan's government and representatives of more than a dozen tribal factions to the bargaining table this fall. "It's very complicated," said Natsios. "It's more complicated than Iraq or Afghanistan."

Darfur rebels disappointed by Ban's visit

(SudanTribune.com – 7 Sept. KHARTOUM) Darfur rebel leaders on Friday expressed disappointment with the U.N. Secretary General's visit to Sudan over the last three days and said they had low expectations for peace talks next month.

U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon and the Sudanese government on Thursday set a date and venue for talks between Khartoum and Darfur rebels to push for peace ahead of the deployment of 26,000 peacekeepers in Darfur.

But some rebel leaders said Ban, who visited a Darfur refugee camp during his trip and later met Sudan's President Omar Hassan al-Bashir, had failed to pressure Sudan to acknowledge key Darfur grievances, which they said would be necessary for the October 27 talks in Libya to succeed.

Chad to host preparatory meeting for Darfur rebels

(*SudanTribune.com* – 7 Sept. N'DJAMENA) Chad will host a preparatory rebel meeting before the start of new Darfur peace talks in Libya at the end of October, in a bid to show support to the joint African Union and United Nations efforts to end the four year conflict in western Sudan.

President Idriss Deby, speaking to reporters after his talks with U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, said he had discussed hosting a preliminary meeting for Darfur rebels to smooth out obstacles and difficulties prior to the 27 October talks in Tripoli.

Sudan's SPLM, Darfur rebel leader to meet 9 September

(*BBC*) Excerpt from report by private Sudanese newspaper *Al-Ray AlAam*

A high-ranking delegation of the SPLM headed by Riek Machar, James Kok and Edward Lino, will fly to the French capital, Paris, tomorrow in order to mitigate the attitudes of the chairman of [Darfur rebel] Sudan Liberation Movement, Abdul Wahid Muhammad Nur, regarding the negotiations and persuade him to participate in the wide-ranging meeting the SPLM intends to hold in [Central Equatoria State] Juba in order to unify the positions of the rebel groups opposed to Abuja agreement before the beginning of the negotiations with the government next October in Tripoli.

The member of the committee of implementing the SPLM's initiative to unify the [Darfur rebel] movements that was formed by the first vice-president and the president of the Government of Southern Sudan Salva Kiir Mayardit, Birsila Joseph, said the delegation was hoping to succeed in persuading Abdu-Al-Wahid to participate. He said arrangements to hold the meeting were going well and all factions had agreed to participate.

Sudan's Taha, British ambassador discuss Darfur, comprehensive peace accord

(*Suna news agency website*), The British State Minister for Foreign Affairs for African Affairs is due to begin Monday [10 September] a visit to Sudan during which he hold talks with Sudanese officials on a number of issues, ways to boost the cooperation between the two countries and the assistance that can be provided by Britain to support the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and solution of Darfur issue. Meanwhile, the vice-president, Ali Othman Muhammad Taha, received in his office Saturday [8 September] the British ambassador to Sudan and discussed progress of the bilateral relations and ways to achieve common understanding on a number of issues, especially the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), realization of peace in Darfur as well as the ongoing efforts to make the non-signatory parties of Darfur movements join the peace process. *BBC Mon*

Sudanese official holds talks with Indonesian ambassador on Darfur hybrid force

(*Suna news agency website*), Khartoum, 8 September: The state minister in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ali Karti, received in his office Saturday [8 September] the ambassador of Indonesia to Sudan and discussed progress of the bilateral relations between the two countries, besides the participation of Indonesia in the military police troops in the hybrid operation in Darfur region.

The ambassador conveyed to the minister the greetings of the government and people of Indonesia to the Sudanese government and people on the positive developments being witnessed in Sudan regarding reactivation of the political solution for Darfur issue, and the agreement between Sudan and the United Nations on the resolution of 1769 for peace-keeping in Darfur.

Meanwhile, the state minister for Foreign Affairs Ministry lauded the stances of Indonesia in support of Sudan at the international forums, especially Indonesia's stand on issuance of the resolution 1769 in current shape.

Karti expressed the welcome of the Sudanese party to the participation of Indonesia in the military police of the hybrid operation in Darfur on the basis of its coordination with the United Nations. *BBC Mon*

Sudan: Arab ambassadors to visit troubled Darfur region

(*Suna news agency website*) The minister of health, Dr Tabita Butrus, has lauded the Arab countries for their humanitarian assistance to the flood-affected people in Sudan.

Addressing a dinner banquet organized by the ambassador of the United Arab Emirates in honor of the new Arab ambassadors, the minister of health said that the Arab support affirms their solidarity with Sudan.

Meanwhile, the humanitarian aid commissioner also thanked the Arab countries for their support to Sudan. The Arab ambassadors are expected to visit Darfur, prior to convocation of the Arab Donor Conference on Darfur, scheduled during 30-31 October. *BBC Mon*

China to send 150 troops to Sudan's Darfur

(*Almshaheer website*) China's special representative for Darfur Liu Guijin has said that at the beginning of October his country will send 315 Chinese troops from an engineering unit to Darfur region. Their main task will be to set up infrastructure installations for the UN peace keeping force. In a press statement from Washington, Liu Guijin said he had met a number of US legislators, who had criticized China's aid to the Sudanese government. He said he would hold talks with the US NGO Save Darfur Coalition, which is putting pressure on Beijing to change its policy towards Khartoum. Liu criticized all those who accused his country of disregarding the bloodshed in Darfur for the sake of China's economic interests in Sudan. *BBC Mon*

GoSS

Kiir warns of delaying CPA implementation

(AlSahafa) First Vice-President Silva Kiir has warned of what he described as “increasing fragile situation in Sudan” might develop to a real war expressing his fear as regards delaying of the implementation of some protocols.

The SPLM Leaders discussed last Thursday in Juba the impediments confronting the partnership with the NCP and agreed that the NCP was marginalizing the SPLM in taking vital issues.

In the meantime, the SPLM Leadership has given the Kenyan Envoy on the CPA, former Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi, a strong-worded memo warning of the collapse of the CPA.

South Sudan vice-president granted extra powers

(Sudan Radio, Omdurman) First Vice-President of the Republic and President of the Government of Southern Sudan [GOSS], Lt-Gen Salva Kiir Mayardit has issued a resolution, through which he granted more powers to his deputy Dr Riek Machar.

The powers are as follows: supervision of five-year strategic plan programme for southern Sudan, fighting poverty, supervision and monitoring of the GOSS presidential advisors' performance.

In addition to that Machar will also represent GOSS in commissions, national institutions, follow up of the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, supervision of the census, general elections, as well as the [2011] referendum. *BBC Mon*

Abyei citizens demand interference of Moon to settle dispute on Abyei

(Alwan) The Higher Coordinating Committee of Abyei citizens have appealed to Moon to involve the UN in settling the pending issue of Abyei disputed protocol between the NCP and SPLM.

The committee said, in a memo presented on Thursday to Moon that the two ruling partners failed to implement the Abyei area protocol, as stipulated in the CPA, adding that the committee submitted a number of memos to the two partners, but received no response.

The memo underlined that not implementing Abyei protocol for three years created an administrative vacuum and fertile ground for security instability, a matter, it pointed out would lead to future harmful effects.

The committee called on the international community to exercise pressure on the GoNU to implement the protocol saying that it would not allow the violation of the protocol.

High level delegation from GoSS visits Paris to discuss conflict with TOTAL

(*AlSudani*) GoSS Vice-President Dr. Reiak Machar arrived in Paris last Friday leading a high level delegation to discuss crisis between GoSS and TOTAL Company on oil exploration in South Sudan.

A reliable source at GoSS, who asked anonymity, told (*AlSudani daily*) that Machar would discuss with TOTAL authorities the crisis between GoSS, TOTAL and White Nile Petroleum Company, which is owned by a British businessman.

He said that TOTAL Company privilege was renewed by the NCP on Jonglei area, known as square (B) following suspension of its operation due to the eruption of the civil war in 1983.