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(By Public Information Office)

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UN/ Agencies

Human Rights experts hail human rights in Darfur

(*AlRai AlAam*) The Sudanese government has welcomed a report submitted by a UN team of experts on human rights in Darfur, which commended the role of Khartoum in implementing the UN Human Rights' Council.

Sudan's Permanent Delegate to Geneva-based UN Mission Dr. Ibrahim Mirghani described the report as "bringing about actual shift in the relations between Sudan and the council".

Mirghani, who was speaking to Sudan's TV on Monday, said that the report renewed demanded the international community to cooperate with Sudan in a bid to finalize its program for the first time since late last century.

He confirmed that the report changed the prevailing atmosphere between Khartoum and the council when it described the government as cooperating with and/or complying with the Human Rights' resolutions.

However, the Sudanese diplomat's comments came in reaction to an interim report on Darfur presented by a group of experts, appointed by the Human Rights Council, presented its interim report to the council on Monday, September 24.

The experts' group noted that while some of the recommendations it had previously presented to the council had been partially implemented by Khartoum, other recommendations had not. As a result, the experts' group, which in December will present its final report on the situation in Darfur, concluded that it was "not in a position to report that a clear impact on the ground has been identified."

"The Human Rights Council should insist that Sudan's actions match its words on Darfur," said Peggy Hicks, global advocacy director at Human Rights Watch. "Rather than just making promises, Sudan should take steps that result in real changes on the ground."

In the briefing paper, "Ten Steps for Darfur," Human Rights Watch outlines actions drawn from the recommendations compiled by the group of experts that would contribute to improving the human rights situation in Darfur. The Sudanese government has, as described in the paper, already agreed to undertake many of the steps, but has yet to act. The Human Rights Council should call on Sudan to take these 10 concrete steps, and should indicate its intention to evaluate Sudan's implementation of these measures when the group of experts reports in December.

Find attached "10 steps for Darfur" recommended by HRC to be adopted by Sudan

Ki-Moon describes Darfur as complicated crisis

(*AlHayat*) UNSG Ban Ki Moon described Darfur crisis as a case study of a complex crisis. Moon said “ We will work to resolve the crisis as soon as possible in the region. However, we see no sign of hope on the horizon” The resolution of Drfur crisis, according to Moon, cannot be on a piecemeal basis. Instead, there must a comprehensive approach to deal with all issues”

Half a million affected by floods in Sudan - UN

(*SudanTribune.com* – 24 Sept. KHARTOUM) At least 100,000 additional people have been directly affected by the latest wave of flooding in Sudan, bringing the total of those affected this year to well over half a million, the United Nations said in a report on Monday.

Most of the new damage is located in South Kordofan State in Central Sudan where at least 15,000 homes have been destroyed or damaged, over 20 people killed and some 65 others injured, according to the report.

The latest wave of flooding, which occurred between the last week of August and the first week of September, also destroyed food stocks and essential household supplies, the report added. Most parts of Sudan have been hit by floods since the beginning of July, inflicting serious casualties and material damages.

On Aug. 28, the UN launched a "Flash Appeal" to donors, requesting 20.2 million U.S. dollars of emergency relief for the people affected by the floods. Only 1 million dollars has since been received by the UN, leaving a considerable funding gap of over 19 million dollars.

GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)

Sudan says keen to safeguard humanitarian groups in Darfur

(*SudanTribune.com* – 24 Sept. KHARTOUM) The Sudanese government reiterated its keenness and ability on Monday to safeguard international relief organizations currently operating in the war- torn western Sudanese region of Darfur.

"We are desirous and able to guarantee the security of the humanitarian organizations, and we hope that what has happened to Oxfam not to be an incentive for other organizations to leave Darfur," spokesman for Sudanese Foreign Ministry Ali al-Sadig told reporters.

Oxfam, a British aid agency, has announced that it would have to pull out of Darfur if the situation gets any more dangerous. The organization claimed that one of its staff members has been killed and some 100 aid workers taken hostage and nearly 100 vehicles hijacked over the past year.

"The Sudanese government has proposed more than once to provide protection to the international organizations, but they refused the proposal on the pretext that this will jeopardize their neutrality and impartiality," al-Sadig said.

The spokesman accused the rebel groups which refused to sign a peace deal with the Sudanese government of committing the hostility against the international organizations and humanitarian workers.

Bashir accuses EU countries of providing Nur with facilities

(*AlHayat*) President Bashir accused European countries, especially France of taking soft position towards SLA leader Abdul Wahid Nur. In an interview to Alarabiya Bashir said that Nur is respected and welcomed. Though he publicly rejects the peace process.

Nur tough position is irritating SLA field commander, who criticizes his strategy as being unaware of the reality since his move to Paris to live there.

Government and SAF increase military and security reinforcements in Wad Banda

(*Akhbar Alyaum*) The political and military leaderships have agreed to send military and security reinforcements to Wad Banda locality, North Kordofan, which raided by rebel attacks.

Wad Banda Commissioner Suleiman Balah told (SUNA) that the State Government contacted the concerned federal officials with the aim to securing the locality as it is bordering the State of North Darfur. He said that the authorities responded to our demands aimed to reinforcing the military and security presence in the areas of Wad Banda and Alsafi.

US Charge d` affairs calls on Darfur rebels to abandon private agenda, Natsios visits Khartoum tomorrow

(*AlRai AlAam*) US Peace Envoy to Sudan Anthony Natsios will arrive here on Wednesday on a 10-day visit to discuss the issue of Darfur. The Sudanese News Agency said that Natsios would discuss with the Sudanese officials implementation of the comprehensive peace process in the south and the Darfur issue in light of outcomes of the previous UN General Assembly meeting in New York.

The agency added that Natsios would also discuss the ongoing preparations for the start of negotiations between the government and rebels in Tripoli, Libya on October 27. Natsios will also visit south Sudan and Darfur region.

Meanwhile, Washington called on Darfur armed groups to sacrifice their personal aspirations and agenda against finding out durable solution to Darfur crisis, which would hopefully end the sufferings of the refugees and the IDPs.

US Charge d` Affairs in Khartoum, who was speaking at a Ramadan Breakfast ceremony organized by the Embassy on Monday, said that the up-coming talks between the government and the rebel movements, scheduled for 27 Oct., in Tripoli requires from the international community: - "wisdom and exercising pressure on who rejects to take part and that our concern should be focused on tangible support for development and rehabilitation".

He added that the government should show considerable exercise of flexibility along with maintaining a level of honesty and self-criticism to eradicate the vicious cycle of marginalization and revenge.

The US diplomat appealed to the rebel movements to be faithful first with each other and with Darfur people whom they claim they represent and admit that Darfur issue could be solved politically.

On the other hand, Washington calls on all parties to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement to implement as quickly as possible all elements of the accord that ended 21-years of civil war between the North and the South. Despite impressive progress, including the return of about 1.2 million displaced people/refugees in Southern Sudan and the creation of many commissions mandated by the Agreement, the U.S. is concerned about the slow pace of the Agreement's implementation.

Challenges facing the Agreement include: the failure of the two sides to redeploy armed forces on schedule, the continued presence of troops in the country's oil areas, delays in funding and administering the national census in advance of the general elections, and failure to implement the protocol on the Abyie region.

GoSS

Kiir condemns attempts to undermine peace

(AlRai AlAam) The president of the government of southern Sudan who is also the first vice president of the republic of the Sudan, Salva Kiir Mayardit on Sunday lashed out at what, he termed, violators of the CPA and pledged to fight for self-determination.

Kiir, speaking following Sunday prayers, said that his responsibility was to guarantee the participation of the southerners in the referendum which would be conducted in the year 2011 on self-determination.

He criticized the police campaigns conducted to collect illegal weapons which, he added, included the SPLM's premises saying that the SPLM premises were closed for 24- hour, but later on they were re-opened.

He revealed that Defense Minister avoided meeting him on the inquiry about the detention of 55 SPLM soldiers in Muglad saying that he later on met with President Bashir and his Deputy on the issue and they were freed.

New S. Sudan front resolved to contribute to peace implementation

(SudanTribune.com – 24 Sept. KHARTOUM) The South Sudan United Democratic Alliance and South Sudan Democratic Forum together with prominent members of the civil society have merged yesterday creating the South Sudan Democratic Front (SSDF).

The founding members of the SSDF said this new political party will allow them to contribute to the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement signed by

Sudan's government and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement on 9 January 2005.

The SSDF members had signed Khartoum /Fashoda Peace Agreements in 1997 with the ruling NCP, a deal that stipulate the self determination of the southern Sudan people. "Since the CPA is an extension of the Khartoum /Fashoda Peace Agreements of 1997, the SSDF and its rightful political wings have, therefore, decided to contribute in the implementation of peace and democratization of Sudan." said the statement.

Find attached the full text of Declaration for the formation of South Sudan Democratic Front (SSDF)

Kenyan Airline Company expands flights to South Sudan

(SudanTribune.com – 24 Sept. NAIROBI) A Kenyan airline, East African Safari, is set to expand its operations with the launch of scheduled daily flights to the Southern Sudanese city of Juba at the end of the week, The Nairobi based Buisness daily reported.

Its entry into the route increases to four the number of Kenyan airlines flying to the Sudanese town that has become the centre of activity in ongoing reconstruction of the war torn region. Other Kenyan airlines operating scheduled flights on the route are Jetlink, African Express Air and Marsaland.

Juba, with its growing number of humanitarian agency and business travellers has become a fertile hunting ground for airlines wishing to grow their revenue.

Darfur

Three relive workers detained in west Darfur

(AlAyam) Three relief employees working for the Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) were detained by Arab camel herders and set condition for paying blood money (Dhyia) in return of three youth from the tribes, killed last Sunday by unidentified gunmen.

HAC Executive director in West Darfur Ismael Adam said the assassination of the three youth occurred near the warehouses of NCA by unidentified gunmen. Meanwhile, the Sudanese Red Crescent Society said three UN relief workers wounded in an ambush on their convoy in Darfur, adding that an armed group at Abu Shouk in North Darfur State carjacked a vehicle affiliated to the society.

Nur rejects to meet Minnawi`s envoy

(AIRai AIAam) SLM' Nur has rejected on Sunday to meet envoy of Senior Assistant to the President and Chairperson of Darfur Regional Transitional Authority (DRTA) Mini Manawa who was carrying a message from Manawa to Nur dealing with Nur's participation in Tripoli talks.

Head of Paris-based SLM Office Anwar Adam said that his movement informed Chairperson of SLM's (Free Will) Dr. Abdurrahman Musa that it would be fruitless to meet with Nur. He noted that his movement adopted a clear-cut and declared position

which was represented in the deployment of the UN-AU troops, disarming the Janjaweed and compensation of the refugees and IDPs.

China sends 250 tons of aid materials to Darfur

(*SudanTribune.com* – 24 Sept. KHARTOUM) A special train carrying 250 tons of aid materials donated by the Chinese government left the Khartoum Railway Station on Monday for Sudan's restive western region of Darfur.

The aid materials, including generators, water tankers and medical equipment for 30 water stations and 25 rural hospitals, is expected to arrive in Nyala, capital city of the South Darfur State, in five days.

This is one part of a total of RMB 80 million Chinese support to the Darfur region, which have been delayed by anti-government riots and tribal clashes since February 2003. Besides the humanitarian assistances, a Chinese engineer unit consisting of 315 soldiers will be deployed in Darfur region in early October, to take part in a hybrid peacekeeping operation run by the United Nations and the African Union.

Egypt, Libya coordinate efforts for success of Darfur peace talks

(*SudanTribune.com* – 24 Sept. TRIPOLI) Egyptian and Libyan leaders met today here to discuss ways to coordinate their joint action in order to ensure success of the forthcoming peace talks between Sudanese government and the rebel groups next month.

Talks held on Monday by visiting Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and leader of the Libyan leader Muammar Gadhafi had mainly dealt with the current conditions in Sudan's western region of Darfur, said Egyptian presidential spokesman Suleiman Awad.

The two leaders also discussed continued consultations between the two countries to render the negotiations to be held in Tripoli on 27 October between the Sudanese government and Darfur leaders a success, he said. The Tripoli meeting aims to broaden the Darfur peace agreement (DPA) signed in May 2006 between Khartoum and the main Darfur rebel movement to include those groups which did not sign it.

Egypt to deploy 2100 peacekeeper in Sudan's Darfur

(*SudanTribune.com* – 24 Sept. CAIRO) Egypt will deploy two thousand soldiers to a joint U.N.-African Union peacekeeping force in Darfur, a semi-official daily newspaper reported Sunday.

"Egypt offered to provide this force with more than 2100 soldiers, policemen and observers, in a step which reflects President Mubarak's deep interest in maintaining stability in this Sudanese province," said Ambassador Maged Abdelfatah, the Egyptian permanent representative to the United Nations in statements to Al Ahram. He added that Egypt would also take part in the command of the force operations.

United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki Moon has selected a Nigerian commander of the force, adding the United Nations is expected to select a suitable number of the

Egyptian soldiers in appreciation of Egypt's African position and her keen interest in the key issues preoccupying the African Continent. Egypt has deployed 78 troops to join African Union peacekeepers in Darfur in last May.

No Darfur solution without arrest of minister: ICC

(*FOCUS News Agency* – 25 Sept. The Hague) There will be no end to the conflict in Darfur if Sudanese minister Ahmed Haroun is not brought to justice over alleged crimes against humanity, the International Criminal Court prosecutor said Monday.

"I think there won't be a solution in Darfur if Haroun remains as minister of humanitarian affairs," prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo said at the ICC's headquarters at The Hague. "Haroun, then minister of interior, planned to use the Janjaweed militia to force millions of people into camps. There's no solution in Darfur without justice because today, Ahmed Haroun is the minister of humanitarian affairs, so he's in charge of the same people he displaced." (*AFP*)

Sudan: UN workers injured in attack on Darfur convoy

(*SUNA website*) The Sudanese Red Crescent Association has said three UN humanitarian employees were injured during an attack on their convoy in Darfur. Meanwhile, a group from the Abu-Shawk camp in Northern Darfur State hijacked a vehicle belonging to the Red Crescent Association, which was in front of its pharmacy and escaped with it to an unidentified destination.

A source from the association told Suna today that they had not identified the group which hijacked the car at three in the afternoon, pointing out that the car was later discovered over turned in Abu-Shawk Region.