



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

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## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

### **United Nations\***

#### **DSRSG da Silva is not sincere, says state minister for humanitarian affairs**

The State Minister for Humanitarian Affairs has criticised DSRSG da Silva over recent statements on Darfur, reports *AllIntibaha*.

State Minister Ahmed Haroun said that DSRSG da Silva is not sincere and not truthful and is trying to hide the truths to serve some special agenda.

He pointed out that the DSRSG, to serve some special agenda, did not want to mention [*presumably on the recent statements reported by the AP and covered in the MMR of 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. '06*] the violations committed by the NRF in Darfur.

The state minister was speaking at a forum titled, *What Next After the Extension of the AU Mandate*, and was organised by the National Centre for Media Production.

The head of the Sudan Bar Association also spoke at the forum and reaffirmed their position that the African Union's mandate should not have been extended and that these forces should have left by the 30<sup>th</sup> September date.

#### **Sima Samar reports continued rights violations in Sudan**

(*AlSahafa/ agencies* – 28<sup>th</sup> Sept. **Geneva**) Human Rights Special Rapporteur to Sudan, Sima Samar, said that the vows for a political reform in the Sudan are yet to translate into improvements in the human rights situation in the country.

Samar who was speaking before the UNHRC in Geneva yesterday said that violations that could have been avoided are left to continue in most cases and that the rights situation in Darfur has worsened and the resumption of fighting has brought with it killings in the IDP camps and villages by armed men in horse or camel back.

She also pointed out that the emergency laws are still in place in Darfur, eastern Sudan and even the capital Khartoum.

The Special Rapporteur underlined the need for cooperation on human rights issues between the GoNU and the international community and added that peace and security in Sudan will contribute to peace and security at the national, regional and international levels.

*\* AlAyaam publishes the full text of an interview with WFP chief, Kenro Oshidari. Details of the interview will follow in the next MMR..*

### **United Nations/ AU-UN transition debate**

#### **US tells Sudan: cooperate or expect confrontation**

**Reuters - Sept 27, 2006 (WASHINGTON):** U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice told Sudan in firm terms on Wednesday it must choose between "cooperation and confrontation" with the rest of the world and accept a U.N. force for Darfur.

Khartoum's new military offensive in the western region of Darfur makes international pressure all the more urgent, Rice told the Africa Society in a speech.

"We are not going to sit by and watch this kind of death and destruction continue and we will use whatever tools are necessary, through the U.N., to be able to stop that" she said, without specifying what these tools might be.

Rice called for an immediate cease-fire between government forces and rebels and said if rebel groups continued to refuse to sign onto the May Darfur peace deal, they would face targeted U.N. sanctions.

Rice did not indicate what she meant by "confrontation." U.N. member nations, particularly those offering troops, have made clear they do not want to shoot their way into Darfur, where about 7,000 African Union troops are battling to keep the peace in an area the size of France.

When asked what Rice meant by this, U.S. special envoy for Sudan, Andrew Natsios, also declined to provide specifics, saying it was more diplomatic to leave the consequences vague.

"But we never make idle statements," said Natsios, who plans to travel to Sudan in the next few weeks.

Aside from the threat of punitive action, the United States has begun dangling the carrot of incentives if Sudan agrees to a U.N. force, including the promise of reconstruction funds and improved bilateral ties.

"If the government of Sudan chooses cooperation — if it works with the United Nations and welcomes the U.N. force into Darfur, then it will find a dedicated partner in the United States," said Rice.

***Meanwhile, Sudan's defence minister*** says the deployment of an international force to Darfur would amount to a declaration of war, *AlSahafa* reports.

The minister who was speaking at a press conference in the Jordanian capital yesterday said that any state that would send troops to Sudan without the consent of the Sudanese government and under the provisions of UNSCR 1706 would be considered as having declared war against Sudan especially since the government and the country's parliament have both rejected UNSCR 1706.

Should a deployment take place, the Sudan will have no option but to confront these international forces, the minister added.

***On the other hand, London-based The Guardian says the US Administration is seriously considering cutting aid to Egypt*** for its rejection to a United Nations troop deployment in Sudan.

The paper says Egypt's fears stem from their concerns over the Nile waters and that Sudan may turn into a new terrorist arena that could constitute a threat to its national security.

### **GoSS Legislative Assembly to discuss UNSCR 1706**

The GoSS Legislative Assembly discusses later today the implementation of the CPA and the issue of the deployment of international forces to Darfur, reports *AllIntibaha*.

Deputy Speaker Tor Deng told the Sudan Media Centre that the issue was proposed for deliberation by some MPs but the National Congress Party bloc in the GoSS assembly has decided to boycott the session.

The National Congress Party legislators say they took the decision to boycott because the issue has been proposed for discussion at a time when 25 of their members are not present.

## **GoNU**

### **HAC calls on relief agencies to notify authorities of their stores**

(*AlAdhwa*) The Humanitarian Aid Commission in South Darfur has notified all agencies operating in the health and humanitarian domains to immediately inform the commission of any foodstuff or medicine in their stores.

On the other hand, the head of the Sudan Standards and Metrology Organisation in Darfur has revealed that the SSMO has drafted a quarterly plan for quality and standards inspection in the states of Darfur starting next week.

### **SPLM accuses the ruling party of violating peace deal**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. **Khrt.**) For the first time since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement on 9 January 2005, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement accused its partner in the government of the national unity, the ruling National Congress Party, of violating the peace deal.

This development comes after a statement made by Ibrahim Ahmed Omar, a leading member of the National Congress Party, saying if there is a military confrontation with the UN forces in Darfur, the NCP would cancel the CPA.

According to the Satellite TV al-Jazeera, Omar also condemned the SPLM stance in favour of the UN takeover from the African Union forces in Sudan's troubled region of Darfur.

### **New currency scheduled for next January would cost \$150 million**

*The Citizen* daily reports that the Sudan Central Bank Governor Dr. Sabir Mohamed Al Hassan assured that January 2007 would witness the phasing out of Sudan current currency, the Dinar, and the foreign currencies circulating in southern Sudan, to be substituted by the new currency, the Sudanese Pound. He said that there are ongoing contacts with monetary agencies in neighbouring states to stop the circulation of their currency in southern Sudan and on ways to introduce the old currency.

Dr. Sabir said printing of the new currency would cost \$150 million.

Deputy Governor Mr. Elijah Malook highlighted that the Dinar had Islamic implications and therefore the SPLM/A, in negotiating the Naivasha peace accord, called for a currency that was culturally neutral.

### **Government continues preparations to unveil Darfur Interim Authority**

(*Xinhua/ AlRai AlAam*) Sudanese President Omar al- Bashir issued on Wednesday a presidential decree on setting up an interim authority in the western region of Darfur.

The decree stipulated that a regional interim authority of Darfur should be established in accordance with the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA).

President al-Bashir also issued three other decrees to establish a committee for compensating war-affected people in Darfur, a committee to demarcate the northern borders of Darfur and Committee for Rehabilitation and Resettlement in Darfur.

All these panels are established in accordance with the DPA.

### **Sadiq el-Mahdi denies having requested for a closed talk with President Bashir**

*AlSharei AlSiyassi* reports that Sadiq el-Mahdi, Umma National Party leader denied having requested for a closed meeting with President Bashir to discuss his Party's stand regarding the international intervention in Darfur.

El-Mahdi also confirmed his support for an international intervention.

### **Khartoum State Police to open a branch of the Human Rights Coordination Council**

(*AlHayat*) Khartoum State Police is to open a branch for the Human Rights Coordination Council.

The Assistant Police Chief in Khartoum State said that the council's main role will be to spread the culture of Human Rights among police personnel and to organize lectures, workshops and seminars in coordination with the organizations working in the Human Rights field.

## **Southern Sudan/ GoSS**

### **Northern traders abducted by unidentified men in Juba Airport**

Unidentified group is being conducted 2 traders from the Juba airport, after their receiving 300.000 Dollars, *Allintibaha* daily reports.

*Allintibaha* goes on to say that the two traders work in the local Konyo-konyo market in Juba and were at the airport when abducted by unidentified men who took off to an unknown destination.

### **Ugandan army accuse rebels of violating truce**

(*AP* – 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. **Kitgum, Uganda**) More than 1,000 Ugandan rebels and one of their top commanders have left assembly points where they were to gather under a truce with the government, an army official said, describing their departure as a violation of the fragile cease-fire.

Martin Ojul, the head of the rebel team negotiating a peace deal with the government after 19 years of war, said he had no knowledge of the reported exodus. He said 2,600 LRA rebels were at the two camps with around 7,000 on the way.

Ugandan army Maj. Felix Kulayigye told journalists that the Ugandan army will launch attacks against the Lords Resistance Army fighters who left the camps in southern Sudan.

The rebels left with LRA top commander Okot Odhiambo, who is wanted by the International Criminal Court for war crimes and crimes against humanity, Kulayigye said.

The rebels weren't immediately available for comment, although they have claimed the Ugandan army was surrounding one of the neutral assembly points where they had gathered.

## **Darfur/DPA**

### **Sudan sets up interim authority in Darfur**

(*Xinhua* – 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. **Khrt.**) Sudanese President Omar al- Bashir issued on Wednesday a presidential decree on setting up an interim authority in the western region of Darfur.

The decree stipulated that a regional interim authority of Darfur should be established in accordance with the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA), which the Sudanese government signed with a main faction of the rebel Sudan Liberation Movement led by Minni Minawi on May 5, 2006.

The interim authority will be chaired by Minawi, who was appointed as the senior assistant of the president following the signing of the DPA, and will include governors of three states in Darfur.

Minawi will announce the establishment of the first Darfur government in the next few days, according to the decree.

President al-Bashir also issued three other decrees to establish a committee for compensating war-affected people in Darfur, a committee to demarcate the northern borders of Darfur and Committee for Rehabilitation and Resettlement in Darfur.

All these panels are established in accordance with the DPA.

### **Minnawi briefed on arrangements for DDR commission**

(*AlAdhwa*) Senior presidential aide, Mini Minnawi was briefed yesterday on the activities of the DDR commission for northern Sudan.

In talks yesterday with the head of the DDR commission for northern Sudan, Minnawi said he was prepared to seek political and financial support for the program.

The head of the DDR commission told the press following their meeting with Minnawi that they also discussed the formation of the DDR structures as stipulated in the security arrangements of the Darfur Peace Agreement.

## **Other Developments**

### **Sudanese communist party to re-issue Al-Midan newspaper**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. **Khrt.**) The Sudanese Communist Party (SCP) is taking practical steps towards issuing its newspaper, Al-Maidan, after SCP Sec-Gen Mohamed Ibrahim Nugud received the go ahead from the National Press Council.

The SCP has rented an imposing building for the newspaper's HQs in Al-Amarat behind Khartoum 2 market.

A number of meetings taking place chaired by Al-Tijani al-Tayib and attended by a number of journalists.

Al-Maidan is not revealing the names of those in its team but says a great journalistic surprise is in store involving a number of distinguished writers, including two from Al-Ray al-Amm newspaper.

All efforts have apparently failed to persuade Al-Maidan's former chief editor, AbuBakr al-Amin, to take on the position because of a disagreement with the party's traditionalists. However, the SCP leadership was keen to provide Al-Maidan with excellent facilities including cars, communication equipment and advanced technologies which would allow the paper to compete in the race for the newspaper market.

Al-Midan is founded in 1946. The daily newspaper had been closed after the Islamist coup d'état that brought President Bashir to power but has been publishing underground in the last sixteen years.

## **Commentaries**

### **Foreign NGOs**

Editorial, AlSharei AlSiyassi (Fri. 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept.)

The paper's editorial says there is much talk of late on excesses committed by foreign organisations operating in the Sudan.

It refers to recent official reports that these foreign organisations are exempted from customs and other levies and granted many other facilities in order to ease their activities in the humanitarian domain but then some of them turn to non-humanitarian activities while others divert relief items meant for the IDP camps to rebel camps. It goes on to say that a third group has been noted as supplying the holdout groups with fuel, modern communications equipment and military information.

The paper cites the recent reports that authorities found millions of rotting relief foodstuff in a warehouse operated by one of these NGOs as one of the most dangerous of these excesses.

The paper goes on to request the government to open up an official investigation into these excesses that affect the lives of the very people that these NGOs claim they are here to assist. "They claim that they are here to give these people life while in fact they are here to give them death!" it says.

It also requests the government to review the permits issued to these foreign NGOs "especially since it has clearly been brought to light with irrefutable evidence that there are some particular NGOs that operate against the Sudan and its people and use the suffering in Darfur for its own agenda and have no respect for the regulations governing humanitarian organisations".

The paper also calls for tough monitoring measures and inspection of the stores of these organisations.

The editorial concludes by saying that while the government is busy fighting against an international intervention, it should also fight against the international intervention that comes in the form of these NGOs that do nothing but “add poison to a good meal”.

### **SPLM shows weaknesses in three fronts**

Editorial, Khartoum Monitor

September 26, 2006 — The SPLM dominated Government of South Sudan (GOSS) is undergoing a very serious test, known or not. It is besieged from all sides. It begins with its own lack of experience in running a government. Everybody knows it is transforming from a guerrilla movement into a conventional political party to be reckoned with at the national level. The SPLM must understand that none of its adversaries is going to sit there with hands folded while it transforms peacefully. If this is what the SPLM believes, it has missed the point. An evolving political party in the Sudan, as it were elsewhere, must always prepare for the worst. It must also aim too high, just to borrow the favourite expression of Dr John Garang, in order to achieve more.

The adversaries are interested, and this is natural, in its failures or weaknesses to capitalize on. There are credible signs to that effect already. The most terrible mistake the SPLM is making is to ignore or underestimate the expertise of the south Sudanese cadres who had all along been in the capital during the war years. These cadres understand the mind of the adversaries as well as their plans. They should have constituted a valuable resource for the growth of the SPLM. This is a serious weakness and it derives from a serious lack of trust.

Another weakness is the unspoken but widely practised nepotism and negative tribalism. The residual consequence from this practice is the group of discontented people who are effectively marginalized. What do we think they would do? This is a welcome group into the beautiful court of the adversaries. They are going to become the next group of useful fools to destroy the CPA.

The other weakness of the SPLM is refusal to come to terms with realities such as failure to attend to urgent developmental issues, suspicion over advice from elders, insensitivity towards strategies for the future and many others. These are valuable cards in the hands of the adversaries. If the adversaries succeed, the victims will be the very marginalized people for whom the SPLM/A waged a war, and struggled for more than a decade. Wake up SPLM!