



## UNAMIS

## UNITED NATIONS ADVANCE MISSION IN THE SUDAN

Date: 8 September 2004

## Office of the Spokesperson

## PRESS BRIEFING

**Good afternoon,**

**On the political side,**

- The Secretary-General met yesterday the leader of SPLM/A John Garang. They discussed the Naivasha process. The Secretary-general told reporters after his meeting with Garang that “ what is important is that the Government adopt a strategic approach for bringing peace and security to the whole Sudan, and that means between the North and the South and the situation in the West. Whichever is ready to be concluded, they should go ahead and conclude it. One should not wait for the other to come on stream”.
- On Darfur, the Secretary-General told reporters yesterday that he expects the Security Council to take action on his report on Sudan within the next week. He said that “we are not satisfied with the security front” and argued that “we believe that more can and should be done” on the security front.
- The Secretary-General said that his Special Representative, Jan Pronk, had made it very clear that, while humanitarian access has improved, “a lot needs to be done on the security front.”

**Abuja talks**

- The African Union mediation together with the United Nations and other partners prepared a revised draft protocol on security issues and presented it to the parties to the political talks on the Darfur crisis taking place in Abuja, Nigeria. The mediation will meet today separately with the parties to introduce to them the new text. If the meeting is fruitful, the mediation is hopeful to convene a plenary meeting with the parties in order to move forward towards what could be a viable text for all concerned.

**Turning to humanitarian and other issues,**

- West Darfur: AU monitors report that they have commenced monitoring of protected areas and confirm an increased presence of GoS security forces. The team also reported that GoS has established a military base between Seleia and Kulbus, moving closer to the Jebel Moon area where the SLA/JEM forces maintain a base.
- South Darfur: UNHCR and NRC are following up on reports of a large number of new IDPs that have arrived in Kalma camp from Yassin area, South East of Nyala. ICRC reports that there is an increase of IDPs in Gereida, approximately 95 km South of Nyala due to recent insecurities. The most recent figure of new arrivals is approximately 4,400 families.

- OCHA and WFP will be conducting a security assessment later this week on the road running east of Nyala to Muhajiriyah where there are reportedly up to 25,000 new IDPs who have fled to the area in the last month due to increased insecurity.
- West Darfur: Last week, more than 2,700 IDPs living on the Al Mustaqbal school grounds since February have been relocated to a new camp, Krinding 2, which has been founded for several thousand IDPs who have been squatting on school grounds in town.
- OCHA and Catholic Relief Services are also planning to move more than 13,000 IDPs living at Abazar School in the coming weeks. They will be relocated to Ashara Buyut, a new camp on the edge of town that is being prepared for them on land made available by the government.

### ***Food/NFIs***

- The World Food Programme (WFP) said that in August, it had been able to reach almost one million persons in Darfur with food aid, despite especially difficult and dangerous working conditions. The good news was that WFP had reached almost one million persons, but the bad news was that it had not reached its goal of 1.2 million people. The obstacles in August were particularly bad, including the rainy season, insecurity and the shortage of funds. (PRESS RELEASE IS AVAILABLE)
- North Darfur: WFP, SRCS, Spanish Red Cross and the GoS camp manager met on 5 September to discuss and plan registration and post-registration monitoring in Abu Shouk camp due to continued increases in new arrivals to the camp primarily from El Fasher town. The participants discussed possibilities of food distributions in El Fasher town prior to a new head count of IDPs in Abu Shouk to prevent further new arrivals to Abu Shouk camp.
- NFIs are scheduled to be delivered to Habasha North for approximately 1,132 households by the end of the week. This will be the fourth NFI delivery into SLA areas.
- South Darfur: ICRC plans to distribute food to IDPs in areas around Kass notably in Karende East, Gemeza Lagaro, and Brounga. ICRC is also hoping to distribute NFIs to areas around Kass including Thur, Gouba, Nyamma, Gemeiza Komera and Karende East and plans to subsequently proceed to Muhajiriya. World Vision expects to complete distributing food in Kalma camp by next week.
- West Darfur: GoS officials informed agencies of GoS plans to use Mornei camp as a model for camp management and divide the camp into 10 administrative divisions, each subdivided into five areas in order to facilitate camp management. IOM plans to work with WFP on registration and verification of numbers of IDPs.
- ICRC reports that it has carried out a second round of distribution to approximately 3,900 households in the Jebel Moon area.

### **Health**

- North Darfur: The UNICEF/WHO measles vaccination campaign for children 9 mos - 15 years in SLA-controlled territory in North Darfur began 7 September. The campaign is part of an effort to reach some 500,000 children who could not be vaccinated during previous campaign in July. The campaign will begin in West Darfur in the forthcoming days.

- A delegation from UNFPA visited the three Darfur states last week. the UNFPA Representative held meetings with the Walis and the State Ministers of Health in Darfur on the Health situation in the IDP camps and in Darfur in general. UNFPA is assessing the needs in three states in terms of reproductive health.
- The UNFPA has conducted trainings in the three Darfur capitals on Reproductive Health Management in Emergency Settings that includes how to use the RH kits and GBV clinical treatment and counselling. UNFPA is also currently implementing a Family Protection training programme aimed at organizing an extended network of family support within IDP camps to help family members in the healing process of their emotional wounds and painful memories.
- UNFPA reports that it is in the process of finalizing a countrywide data collection on Fistula, one of the most devastating pregnancy related complications in Sudan. UNFPA preliminary estimates show that around 40% of the reported cases come from Darfur. Upon finalization of the countrywide data collection, UNFPA will develop a national strategy to curb the problem by raising awareness on the danger of early pregnancies and by upgrading at least four Health Centers specialized in the surgical repair in the Darfurs, the Eastern and Southern States.

That's what I have for you today. Are there any questions?