



## United Nations Mission In Sudan UNMIS

13 April 2005

### SRSG

The UNMIS SRS, Jan Pronk is today in Paris for a two day working visit. He is expected to meet with senior French officials, including the Minister of Foreign Affairs, as well as senior officials from the Presidency, the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Cooperation and Development. Mr. Pronk's visit is part of a series of visits he is undertaking to European capitals, in order to mobilize support for the AU Mission in Sudan as well as UNMIS.

On 11 and 12 April, Mr Pronk attended the Oslo Donors Conference. In his speech to the conference the SRS emphasized the urgent need for a political settlement in Darfur, as well as highlighting the humanitarian and development priorities which faced the country. Chief amongst these is the need for support to more than 3 million IDP and refugee returnees. UN activities to assist this group will focus on immediate relief and reconstruction. On the issue of security, all countries attending the conference agreed that a more robust AU presence in Darfur was required.

On the second day of the conference, the SRS met with EU representatives to mobilize EU support to the AU, as well as meeting with Robert Zoellick the US Deputy Secretary of State. They discussed US support for the AU's efforts in Darfur.

### Oslo Donor Conference

At the Oslo donor conference on Sudan, the parties to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement presented the results of the Joint Assessment Mission. This outlined a total cost for the first phase (2005-2007) of \$7.9 billion. Of this, donors have been asked to cover an external financing requirement of \$2.6 billion.

In addition to this amount, the UN and its partners have identified urgent needs – humanitarian and recovery – of some \$1.5 billion for 2005.

As a result, needs **identified to date** amount to some \$4.1 billion. This figure does not include the needs of the African Union mission in Sudan, humanitarian assistance requirements for 2006, and 2007, Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration or debt relief.

At the Oslo conference, participants **pledged a total of some \$4.5 billion** for 2005-2007, out of which at least \$2 billion is for recovery and development assistance and counts against the requirements of \$2.6 billion under the JAM.

### Political

SRS, PDSRS, Zerihoun, and FC Akbar met with an SPLM delegation that is part of the advance team that has arrived in Khartoum. The same team along with the

Police Commissioner also met with a GoS inter-ministerial committee charged with evaluating the Security Council resolutions (1590, 1591, 1593) and reporting to the Council of Ministers. The Government team was led by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. In both meetings, discussions covered the UNMIS mandate and deployment issues, the Status of Forces Agreement, freedom of movement and notifications, security in critical areas, and the return of IDPs

### **Security Issues:**

North Darfur: On 6 April, a truck hired by a WFP cooperating partner joined a WFP convoy travelling to Malha. The convoy was stopped at Cindi, between Mellit and Malha en route to Malha. All WFP marked vehicles were allowed to continue, however, the hired vehicle and driver were detained. The vehicle was loaded with 25 metric tonnes of consumables. Another convoy of 16 WFP and commercial trucks were also stopped by SLA in Mado area, between Malha and Mellit, on 11 Apr

On 4 April, Jebel Si and Dali IDP camps near Tawilla reported heavy gunfire in their areas. Reportedly one child was killed and two people were wounded. As a result of the attack, the majority of residents of both camps have scattered. AMIS is investigating.

South Darfur: There is growing concern that the departure of the GoS Army from Marla will allow rebel groups and Arab militia to engage in fighting, which would increase insecurity in the area. AMIS is expected to deploy troops in the area. Prior to any further humanitarian action into the Marla area, it was agreed that UN officials will assess the area. Meetings between groups in the area and agencies engaged in the provision of assistance will follow.

### **Protection Issues:**

North Darfur: Reportedly, 234 individuals (mostly women and children) arrived at the Galab IDP site over the last three days, following attacks in Khor Abeche. These IDPs informed that more people are expected to move from that area as a result of increased insecurity.

South Darfur: Due to the continued harassment of IDPs in Kass, it has been reported that there is a renewed movement from Kass to Kalma camp, where five newly arrived families were registered on 9 Apr.

### **Humanitarian Affairs:**

#### Food/NFIs

North Darfur: Following the failure of the headcount process at Abu Shouk camp, a meeting between all the stakeholders, including IDPs representatives, was held on 9 Apr. It was agreed that the next registration exercise would be the last one, and IDP representatives agreed to cooperate to ensure that the next exercise is a success since future humanitarian assistance would be based on the figures obtained during the exercise

## General

The situation and whereabouts of IDPs from Tawilla following recent incidents in the area is still unclear. OCHA conducted a field assessment on 10 Apr. to confirm the facts of the situation.

The demarcation for Abu Shouk II has been completed and the GoS Ministry of Planning issued confirmation that the land in question had been reserved and ready to use as an IDP camp. A task force meeting to plan concrete steps for assistance in the new site was held on 10 April.

## Healthcare

South Darfur: One INGO announced its withdrawal from East Jebel Marra until the security situation improves. Another INGO left the area in early March, leaving no healthcare in SLA-controlled Jebel Marra. Other humanitarian organizations are seeking funds to take over activities.

## Returns

South Sudan: In Juba, the movement of people on the western side of the Nile is growing. This was reflected in the HAC registration of 90 students between 4 and 6 April. The registration shows that some families have returned to put their children in schools. According to HAC, non-students returnees are not registered because the movement is voluntary and there is nothing to offer to them. It is also difficult to identify where they live or whether they are visiting relatives, or business people.

Two hundred and thirty-one returnees were registered passing through Kosti on 7 and 9 April. Another 240 passed through on 11 April, going to several locations in South Sudan.

The movement of people on the western side of the Nile River still continues. People coming from Yei on bicycles are now able to use the main road between Juba and Yei except for a small portion at 60 km where they have to go off-road to avoid land mines. However, it is difficult to identify whether these people have returned finally, or if they are visiting relatives or are business people.

A sectoral meeting on education took place on 5 April and discussed problems facing returnee students. Among the problems were lack of classrooms and slow school registration due to change of policy. It has been reported that the President has declared free education in the Sudan. Some parents refused to pay the registration fees (SD 1,000) required by school administration. Schools are now planning to call for a meeting of parents. The representative of Ministry of Education in the meeting agreed to raise the issue of returnee and refugee students with the government.

Returnees from Sennar to western Kordofan have reported to the Nuba Mountains Organization in Rebec that they have been repeatedly asked to pay tax on some of their properties at different checkpoints between Sennar and Kosti.

Returnees travelling to Bahr El Ghazal through Mayoum have expressed concern about the taxes they have to pay when crossing Mayoum's security checkpoint.