Khartoum - UNMIS welcomes the reported decision by President Omar Al-Bashir to lift censorship on Sudanese newspapers with immediate effect.

This decision will advance the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and is an important step towards creating an appropriate environment for the multi-party elections scheduled for April 2010.

UNMIS hopes that the implementation of this decision along with other measures under consideration will enable all Sudanese to freely exercise their rights of franchise and expression.

The UN Mission reiterates its commitment to stand by and support the efforts of the parties to implement the CPA.