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# Media Monitoring Report

United Nations Mission in Sudan/ Public Information Office

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# Highlights

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## **Some 6,000 officials to participate in voter registration - NEC**

National Elections Commission (NEC), Abel Alier, said yesterday that some 6,000 officials would participate in the voter registration process starting early November this year, ***Al-Sahafa*** reports. Addressing a training session on elections reporting for media practitioners in Khartoum, Alier pointed out that the course is intended to educate the electorate on the electoral process. He said the course is important due to the complex nature of the forthcoming elections. He also called on political parties to inform the public of their platforms to enable the electorate decide

Al-Hadi Mohamed Ahmed, a prominent member of the NEC, also told the session that the IDP camps in Darfur have been listed as geographical constituencies.

## **NEC confirms it received note from FVP Kiir rejecting use of census results**

The NEC has confirmed it did receive a letter from FVP Salva Kiir Mayardit expressing his rejections to the use of the census results for the demarcation of geographic constituencies, ***Akhir Lahza*** reports.

According to NEC Deputy Chairman, Abdallah Ahmed Abdallah, FVP Kiir said in his letter to the NEC that he did not trust the results of the census. Abdallah pointed out that the NEC's position was based on the fact that it did receive the census results from the Presidency on 6 May this year.

## **HAC says some 80% of funding for logistic support has been secured**

**SUNA** 01/09/09 - The Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid, Hassabo Mohamed Abdurrahman has revealed that 80% of the funding requested for logistic support for the humanitarian aid in the country has been secured through the joint plan between Sudan and the UN.

In a press statement Tuesday, the Commissioner denied any indications of famine in southern Sudan. He also noted that the Sobat River corridor has been reopened to allow the delivery of food items to the affected areas in Jonglei State.

## **Norway says will resume assistance to GoSS if corruption is put to an end**

Norway and a number of other donor states from Europe say they would resume aid to the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS) if it clamps down on graft, reports ***Al-Intibaha***. Informed sources have revealed that representatives of these donor states met with SPLM representatives in Washington last July and agreed to request the UN to monitor GoSS compliance to requests to end corruption.

The representatives were also said to have agreed that secession would not be in the interest of southern Sudan, the sources add.

## **Sudan's SPLM reinstates two former officials**

**Sudan Tribune website** 1/9/09 — "We welcome you back to the SPLM that you have served with commitment and sacrifice during the twenty-one years of our struggle," were the words SPLM SG Pagan Amum said as he officially welcomed Telar Deng and Alue Ayieny back to the folds of the SPLM membership.

Telar Ring Deng the former state minister at the Sudanese Presidency, and Aleu Ayieny Aleu,

the former State Minister for the Interior had their membership of the SPLM revoked in late 2007 on the grounds of a report by an investigation committee to probe Telar's statements in which he accused some SPLM members of plotting to topple Salva Kiir and Ayieny's repeated statements in which he accused the Ugandan government of complicity in the death of the SPLM's former leader, John Garang. ([read the full story](#))

### **Sudan to bail out southern bank hit by "careless" loans**

**Reuters** 1/9/09 - Sudan is to bail out the largest private bank southern Sudan for the second time in two years after officials said it was hit by a raft of bad loans. Southern Sudan's finance minister said SDG102 million (\$42 million) would be spent on rescuing Nile Commercial Bank (NCB), the first private bank set up in the region after the end of a two-decade north-south civil war.

Finance Minister David Deng Athorbei told Reuters late on Monday the bank had been careless in handing out loans, and many of its customers, including civil servants and merchants, had defaulted.

"The reason the loans were not paid back is that there were no assets put against the loans so there was no carefulness in spending the money," said Athorbei, adding the cost of the rescue would be split equally between The Central Bank of Sudan and the GoSS. "Those who actually got away with loans had bank accounts ... these usually tended to be government officials and merchants."

The failure highlighted the financial fragility of landlocked south Sudan, which is preparing for a referendum on whether to become an independent country in January 2011. ([read the full story](#))

### **Armed man raids Ivory Bank in Aweil and holds workers hostage**

An SPLA soldier stormed into the Ivory Bank in Aweil, North Bahr-el-Ghazal State, yesterday. **Al-Sahafa** reports that the gunman held the bank employees hostage and demanded SDG3,000 in ransom for their release.

The police rushed to the scene to negotiate with the soldier and eventually managed to apprehend him.

### **SPLA seeks to open training camps in Uganda, sources say**

Media sources in Kampala report that the SPLA has requested Uganda to help it open training camps in Uganda to prepare in case Sudan slips back into war. **Akhir Lahza** reports that a high rank delegation of the GoSS and the SPLA was in Uganda recently for talks with Ugandan officials over political and military coordination between the two sides.

Sources also say that the SPLA has requested the formation of an intelligence dragnet with the participation of Ugandan forces to clamp down on LRA activities and to curb insecurity in the region.

### **Cooperation with UNAMID has had a positive impact on Darfur – Al-Bashir**

Speaking before a session of the AU Extraordinary Summit in Libya yesterday, President al-Bashir said that the situation in Darfur has improved, **SUNA** reports. He attributed these improvements to the good coordination between Sudan and UNAMID.

### **JEM leader Khalil Ibrahim renews commitments to continue with Doha track**

The Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) has expressed willingness to continue for a just solution to the Darfur problem through the Doha track, **Al-Sahafa** reports. In a statement circulated to participants at the AU Extraordinary Summit in Tripoli, JEM leader Khalil Ibrahim

called upon African leaders to, through a unified will, be able to prevail upon the parties to implement any agreement that may be reached.

### **South Sudan tribal violence kills at least 1,200**

**Reuters** 2/9/09 - Tribal violence in the southern Sudanese states of Jonglei, Upper Nile and Lakes has killed at least 1,200 people this year and could mar the country's first multi-party elections in two decades if it is not stopped, the UNMIS' Regional Coordinator for southern Sudan, David Gressly, told **Reuters** over telephone.

Annual death tolls from such incidents in recent years have been about 20 people.

"At least 1,200 people have been killed since January and it's probably higher than that," Gressly said. "What is different this year is the number of deaths and in many cases women and children have been targeted."

"It is a concern of the UN and other organizations working here, that if this violence persists, it will be difficult to move election materials in some of the areas affected by the violence," he said. ([read the full story](#))

### **Bishop warns of South Sudan war**

**BBC** 2/9/09 - One of Sudan's most senior church leaders has warned that violence in the south is threatening the peace deal that ended the 21-year civil war. Archbishop Daniel Deng Bul Yak said recent clashes had been called "tribal conflicts" over cattle but were really deliberate attempts to cause unrest. Southern leaders have blamed the north - accusations denied by Khartoum.

In a rare statement, the head of the Episcopal Church of Sudan warned that the 2005 peace deal was in "grave danger" unless more is done to prevent conflict. His warning statement follows an attack in Jonglei state on Friday in which some 42 died, including two church officials the archbishop said were "shot at the altar of the church". ([read the full story](#))

### **South Sudan Speaker refutes allegations that he resigned**

**Sudan Tribune website** 31/8/09 – The Speaker of the Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly, James Wani Igga, has refuted allegations that he had resigned from his position in the Assembly. Southern Sudan Radio reported yesterday that the allegations were published in some of the Khartoum-based Arabic daily newspapers. The top representative in the Assembly refuted the allegations in his remarks to members of Church congregation in Juba. No explanation was given as a reason for the alleged decision of his resignation.

### **EXCLUSIVE: Staffers deemed unsafe at 20 UN outposts**

The **Washington Times** 1/9/09 - At least 20 UN outposts in dangerous corners of the world suffer from inadequate security despite rising threats to the organization, the UN director of security says.

Gregory B. Starr, a former State Department security specialist named as UN security coordinator a little more than three months ago, cited UN offices in Iraq and Afghanistan for particular concern.

He also classified outposts in Somalia, Sudan's Darfur region, the Palestinian territories and Lebanon as dangerous spots for U.N. international and local staff. ([read the full story](#))

### **SPLA denies receiving training on use of Russian, Ukrainian tanks**

**Radio Miraya FM website** 1/9/09 - The SPLA has denied recent media allegations claiming that it is being trained by Kenyan experts on the use of Ukrainian and Russian tanks.

Speaking to Miraya FM, SPLA Spokesperson Kuol Deim Kuol said that the GoSS has invited senior Kenyan military officers for the training of non-commissioned SPLA officers in administration management. The SPLA spokesperson further said that the training will last four months starting today in Mapel County, Western Bahr-al-Ghazal state. He added that the training focuses on upgrading the SPLA into a conventional and modern army.

### **Correction: Sudan-Violence story**

**AF** 1/9/09 - In an Aug. 31 story about tribal violence in southern Sudan, The Associated Press erroneously quoted a UN official as saying the Dinka Bor tribe attacked a village of the rival Lou-Nuer tribe.

According to Spokesperson Ashraf Eissa, UN. reports say the Lou-Nuer tribe attacked a village of the Dinka.

The story should have also made clear the UN reports said there was no confirmation that 46 people were killed and 15 critically wounded.

### **IDP chiefs blast Radio Dabanga**

**Sudanese Media Centre** 1/9/09 - Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) chiefs in camps in Western Darfur State are accusing Radio Dabanga that it transmits programs in Darfurian colloquial languages of propagating ethnic disputes between components living in camps. IDP Chief Adman Hassan urged IDPs not to release information to Radio Dabanga without consulting the accredited chiefs in the camps.

### **Darfur mediator to hold all rebels workshop**

**Sudan Tribune website** 1/9/09 — The AU-UN Joint Mediator for Darfur has welcomed the formation of a new rebel group announced yesterday in the Libyan capital Tripoli. He also announced the organization of a workshop for the different rebel groups to reach joint positions before the peace talks.

Djibril Bassole welcomed on Tuesday the establishment of the new Sudan's Liberation Revolutionary Forces (SLRF) expressing hopes that this landmark deal between six rebel factions would boost the ongoing efforts to end the six-year conflict in Darfur.

Bassole, who is not directly involved in the different initiatives to reunite the rebel groups contrary to the former mediators, told Sudan Tribune that he is preparing to hold a workshop for the different rebel movements to discuss themes dealing with the demands and issues they want to negotiate with Khartoum.

This roundtable intends to gather four rebel groups: the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), the Sudan Liberation Movement led by Abdel-Wahid Al-Nur, the newly formed SLRF and the three groups that agreed in Addis Ababa last month to unite under the sponsorship of the US envoy Scott Gration.

"We will invite them in Doha to discuss issues like compensations, voluntary return of IDPs, security, and capacity building etc..." he said.

Bassole underlined that such exercise would be very positive for the rebels because they can assess where they diverge and seek to define a joint position before the talks with the government. This approach would allow the mediation to better manage future talks between the Sudanese government and Darfur rebels who have different visions and demands with regard to the solution of Darfur conflict.

The mediator said this rebel forum would take place by the end of September.

## New FC takes over in Darfur

**The New Times** (Rwanda) 1/9/09 - Lt. Gen. Patrick Nyamvumba, is today scheduled to officially take over the United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) as overall Force Commander in place of Nigerian Gen. Martin Luther Agwai.

Rwanda Defence Force spokesman, Maj Jill Rutaremara confirmed that Nyamvumba is expected to start work today September 1.

Nyamvumba who was recently appointed by the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to head the world's only joint peacekeeping force, traveled to the war torn Sudanese region of Darfur for a few weeks of familiarization ahead of today's hand over. (*read the full story*)

## Foreign Ministry receives information on release of peacekeepers

**SUNA** 1/9/09 - The Foreign Ministry has announced that it has basic information that could help in releasing the employees of UNAMID, who were abducted recently in Zalingei.

The MOFA Spokesman, Muawiya Uthman Khalid told reporters Tuesday that the authorities concerned are currently investigating this information, adding that the government has directed the Wali of West Darfur State, who was in Khartoum, to leave for Zalingei to closely follow up the situation as he heads the State Security Committee. The Foreign Ministry official reiterated the unshakable position of the government of Sudan that there would be no compromise or payment of a ransom to the abductors.



# ***Southern Sudan Media Monitoring Report***

UNMIS-PIO Juba

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## **UNMIS reinforces Security maintenance in south Sudan**

Following his recent visit to Jonglei and Upper Nile state, UNMIS regional coordinator for Southern Sudan, David Gressly said that the security situation in Jonglei state remains a concern and it requires serious response by the Government of Southern Sudan. Speaking to Miraya FM Mr. Gressly said the aim of the visit was to review the security situation in the two areas and to discuss ways to enable UNMIS to be more effective in dealing with security issues. ([read the full story](#))

## **UNICEF distributes 3000 boxes of plumpy nut to children in Jonglei**

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has distributed 3.000 boxes of plumpy'nut to Jongolei state to feed malnourished children. A plumpy nut is high-protein and high-energy ready-made package of peanut-based food, enriched with vegetable oil, powdered milk, sugar, vitamins, and minerals, and it is used in famine relief. ([read the full story](#))

## **Sudan claims part of Moyo District**

The ***Daily Monitor*** 2/9/09 - SPLA soldiers, yesterday afternoon attacked Ugandan farmers in Lefori Sub-county, Moyo District [northern Uganda], claiming the land belongs to Sudan. Seven heavily-armed SPLA soldiers ordered the farmers in Gwere Parish in Lefori to uproot their crops and leave the area which they said belonged to them, witnesses said. Lefori Sub-county Chief, Mr Saidi Sebi Makosa told Daily Monitor by phone: "The soldiers fired bullets in the air that scared children." The children, he said, ran and some got injured. Mr. Sebi, speaking after visiting the scene, reported that the contested land is about 10 kilometres inside the Ugandan territory. He accused the invading soldiers of destroying some of the crops and acting "lawlessly."

Ugandan Foreign Affairs ministry officials were unavailable for comment last evening. ([read the full story](#))

## **SPLA denies receiving training on use of Ukrainian and Russians tanks**

The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) denied recent media allegations claiming that the SPLA is being trained by Kenyan experts on use of Ukrainian and Russians tanks. Speaking to Miraya FM the SPLA spokesperson Kuol Deim Kuol said that the Government of Southern Sudan has invited Kenyan military senior officers for training of non-commissioned SPLA officers in administration management exclusively. ([read the full story](#))

## **Pagan Amum downplays Gaddafi's opposition to south Sudan's independence**

The SPLM Secretary General, Pagan Amum, has down played the statements of the Libyan leader, AU chairman, Muammar Al Gaddafi, in which he warned of the establishment of an independent state in south Sudan. Amum considered those statements as outdated, requesting countries of the world to respect the choice of south Sudan people during the referendum. ([read](#)

*the full story)*

### **SPLM leaders have become easy tools of forces hostile to Sudan – SPLM-DC**

The chairperson of SPLM-DC, Dr. Lam Akol, has described SPLM under the leadership of Salva Kiir as "a failure movement that lacks political and cultural consciousness, and that it is seeking its own vested interests". (*read the full story*)

### **SPLM accuses SPLM-DC of 'serving NCP's interests'**

SPLM Secretary General, Pagan Amum, described the SPLM-Democratic Change as a "group that serves the interest of the NCP". Speaking to Miraya FM, Mr Amum accused the SPLM-DC of arming the tribal militias in Khartoum and in the north-south borders in order to destabilize the south. The SPLM-DC continues its general conference, which started in Khartoum on Monday, chaired by its head, Dr. Lam Akol Ajawin. (*read the full story*)

### **South Sudan Speaker refutes allegations that he resigned**

August 31, 2009 (JUBA) – The Speaker of the Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly, James Wani Igga, has refuted allegations that he had resigned from his position in the Assembly. (*read the full story*)

### **Accused killer of woman, children is captured in Lakes**

August 31, 2009 (RUMBEK) – A man who killed a pregnant woman together with her four children in Makudur Payam of Wulu County of Lakes state was captured and is now facing trial investigation, a state official affirmed. (*read the full story*)



