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Media Monitoring Report

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Headlines

- Presidential advisors sworn in (**Al-Ahdath**)
- Egypt to grant South Sudan \$300 m for projects (**Reuters**)
- Khartoum to host international consultative meeting on Sudan's issues (**SUNA**)
- 183 pieces of arms seized in Sudan's twin city (**Dailies**)
- US envoy Gration to visit Sudan on Friday (**Al-Sudani**)
- Khartoum rejects Ethiopia's proposal on Darfur (**Al-Akhbar**)
- Guards seized truck at Sudan-Libya border (**Akhir Lahza**)
- Qatar sends humanitarian assistance to Darfur (**ST**)
- Darfur violence kills 221 in June – UNAMID (**Reuters**)
- Sudanese primary school expels HIV+ student – report (**ST**)
- Uganda bombings kill 23 as World Cup fans targeted (**Reuters**)
- Spain wins World Cup (**AP**)

Pre-referendum Watch

- Opposition to campaign for unity in the South (**Al-Sahafa**)
- Security Council calls for preparation for Sudan's referendum (**Al-Ayyam**)
- Political parties have mixed reactions on post-referendum talks (**Miraya**)
- FM Karti and SRSG discuss unity and peace issues (**Al-Sahafa**)
- Taha and Machar discuss ways to strengthen partnership (**Al-Ayyam**)
- Referendum commission to name secretary General (**Al-Ahdath**)

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Highlights

Presidential advisors sworn in

Al-Ahdath 12/7/10 – The newly-appointed presidential advisors were sworn in yesterday before President Al-Bashir. Addressing the swearing-in ceremony President Al-Bashir described the forthcoming stage as “Sudan’s most crucial phase”, urging his advisors to work hard for unity and resolution of the Darfur issue. In press statements, the advisors pledged to do their utmost to keep the country united.

Egypt to grant South Sudan \$300 m for projects

Reuters 11/7/10 - Egypt said on Sunday it would give the government of South Sudan \$300 million for water and electricity projects as it seeks to build goodwill among countries along the Nile.

"In continuation of Egypt's successful move towards Nile Basin states, especially Sudan, the Egyptian government has allocated over \$300 million as a non-refundable grant to the South Sudan government," Water Resources and Irrigation Minister Mohamed Nasreddin Allam told Reuters.

The grant will be used for building potable water complexes, drilling 30 wells for underground water, setting up river ports and upgrading electricity and water networks, he said...

Khartoum to host international consultative meeting on Sudan’s issues

SUNA 11/7/10 - Khartoum will host Saturday an international consultative meeting on Sudan’s issues with participation of neighbouring countries, the United States, regional and international organizations, representatives of the Security Council permanent members and the international envoys to Sudan.

A senior government official said in a statement to SUNA that the meeting would discuss all Sudan’s issues including the CPA implementation and the issue of Darfur.

183 pieces of arms seized in Sudan’s twin city

Dailies 12/7/10 – Khartoum state police, acting on a tip-off, raided a residence at Umbada Locality in Sudan’s twin city of Omdurman, seizing 183 pieces of different light arms. Reportedly, one man was arrested in the residence and is being investigated.

US envoy Gration to visit Sudan on Friday

Al-Sudani 12/7/10 – US envoy to the Sudan Scott Gration is due to arrive in the country on Friday on several-day visit for talks with Sudanese Government officials on a range of issues. Gration will participate in a consultative meeting on Sudan’s issues in Khartoum and will also visit Darfur.

Khartoum rejects Ethiopia's proposal on Darfur

Al-Akhbar 12/7/10 – sources close to UN-AU mediator Dijibril Bassole revealed a move by the joint mediation to involve Egypt, Libya, Ethiopia and Eritrea in the Doha forum on Darfur under Qatar's leadership. Reportedly, Ethiopia communicated the proposal but informed sources said Khartoum had rejected the move, saying Doha would be the sole and last external forum on Darfur.

In a related development, **Al-Akhbar** 12/7/10 reports that the Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM) spokesperson revealed that their movement, currently negotiating with the Sudanese Government in Doha, has initially demanded a rotating presidency but after the NCP's rejection it lowered its demand to the posts of two vice presidents with credible powers to participate in the decision-making process. He said the movement also demanded the post of the first vice president of the Republic should the South secede in addition to Darfur as one region.

Guards seized truck at Sudan-Libya border

Akhir Lahza 12/7/10 – Guards at Sudan-Libya border chased four trucks which attempted to cross the border into the Sudan. According to informed source, the Sudanese border guards succeeded in seizing one truck but the three others fled back into the Libyan territory. Reportedly, preliminary investigation revealed that the truck was carrying spareparts and food items for JEM.

Qatar sends humanitarian assistance to Darfur

Sudan Tribune website 11/7/10 - Qatar said Sunday it has sent humanitarian assistance to the war affected region of Darfur in western Sudan.

According to the Qatar News Agency, the 50 million Qatari riyals (, \$13.7 million) batch of assistance, is part of efforts of the oil rich state for Darfur's stability and reconstruction.

In Khartoum, Sudan's minister for humanitarian affairs Joseph Lual will travel on Monday to the capital of South Darfur, Nyala, to attend the delivery of the Qatari humanitarian aid...

Darfur violence kills 221 in June - UNAMID

Reuters 11/7/10 - A total of 221 people died in tribal fighting and other violence in Sudan's Darfur in June, peacekeepers said on Sunday, as the region's two main rebels groups continued to shun peace talks.

Violence has spiked in the arid western territory since the insurgent Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) suspended its participation in negotiations in Qatar in early May.

"After assessing security reports for the past month, UNAMID estimates the number of fatalities due to armed conflict and criminality in Darfur in June to be 221," UNAMID said in a statement.

Nearly 140 of the deaths had been caused by tribal clashes, sparked by long running

feuds between the rival Arab Rizeigat and Nawaiba groups, it added...

Sudanese primary school expels HIV+ student: report

Sudan Tribune website 11/7/10 - A primary school principal in Sudan's twin capital of Omdurman have expelled one of their students who is infected with HIV according to a newspaper report.

The *Akhir-Lahza* newspaper quoted Secretary General of "Light Organization" Masha'er Mohamed Badawi as saying that the unidentified private school initially agreed to admit the child despite being aware of his health status.

However, a few days later the administration pulled the student aside and asked him to leave saying they do not want to take his responsibility or have him among his peers at school suggesting that the unnamed child poses a risk to them.

Badawi described the school's action as a violation of the child's rights as stipulated in the laws and conventions.

The student has contracted the infection from his father who has passed away. There was no reaction from the education ministry on the decision by the school towards the student...

Uganda bombings kill 23 as World Cup fans targeted

Reuters 12/7/10 - Bomb blasts ripped through two separate bars packed with soccer fans watching the World Cup final in Uganda's capital Kampala, killing at least 23 people and signaling a possible link to Somali Islamists.

One American was among those killed in the bombings on Sunday and President Barack Obama, condemning what he called deplorable and cowardly attacks, said Washington was ready to help Uganda in hunting down those responsible.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the bombings. Al Qaeda-inspired al Shabaab militants in Somalia have threatened to attack Uganda for sending peacekeeping troops to the anarchic country to prop up the Western-backed government.

One bombing targeted the Ethiopian Village restaurant in the Kabalagala district, a popular night-life spot which was heaving with soccer fans and is popular with foreign visitors. The second attack struck a rugby club showing the match.

Twin coordinated attacks have been a hallmark of al Qaeda and groups linked to Osama bin Laden's militant network.

"The information we have indicates 13 people have died here at the Ethiopian Village and many others are injured and more than 10 people are reported to have died at the rugby club," Inspector General of Police Kale Kayihura told reporters.

Reveling one minute in the closing moments of the final between Spain and

Netherlands, the bombings left shocked survivors standing among corpses and scattered chairs.

"We were watching soccer here and then when there were three minutes to the end of the match an explosion came ... and it was so loud," witness Juma Seiko said at the Kampala Rugby Club.

Heavily armed police cordoned off both blast sites and searched the areas with sniffer dogs while dazed survivors helped pull the wounded away from the wreckage.

Police said it was possible those behind the attacks on the Ethiopian Village and the rugby club were targeting foreigners.

Ethiopian troops invaded Somalia in 2006 to oust an Islamist movement from Mogadishu. That sparked the Islamist insurgency which still rages.

The U.S. embassy in Kampala said one American was killed in the bomb blasts. It was not immediately known if any other foreigners were among the casualties...

Spain wins World Cup

AP 11/7/10 - Spain rules the soccer world, winning the FIFA World Cup at long, long last.

The triumph came after an exhausting 1-0 victory in extra time over the Netherlands on Sunday. Two years after winning the European title, the stylish Spaniards did even better.

This was a physical test of attrition that sometimes turned dirty — a finals-record 13 yellow cards were handed out and the Dutch finished with 10 men. In the end, it was Andrés Iniesta breaking free in the penalty area, taking a pass from Cesc Fàbregas and putting a right-footed shot from eight yards just past the outstretched arms of goalkeeper Maarten Stekelenburg.

"When I struck it, it just had to go in," Iniesta said.

For the Dutch and their legions of orange-clad fans wearing everything from jerseys to jumpsuits to clown gear to pajamas, it was yet another disappointment.

Even with their first World Cup title tantalizingly within reach, they failed in the final for the third time. This one might have been the most bitter because, unlike in 1974 and 1978, the Netherlands was unbeaten not only in this tournament, but in qualifying for the first World Cup staged in South Africa.

Soccer City was soaked in Oranje, from the seats painted in that hue throughout the stadium to pretty much everyone seated in them. Unlike when they lost to hosts West Germany and Argentina in previous finals, the Dutch were something of a home team this time.

"We have all done an incredible job," Iniesta said. "I don't think we even realize what we have done." ...

Pre-referendum Watch

Opposition to campaign for unity in the South

Al-Sahafa 12/7/10 – The NCP announced that the ongoing negotiations on post-referendum arrangement would be limited to the two CPA partners, saying other political forces would never be involved. “Post-referendum talks will be confined to the NCP and the SPLM, opposition forces will not be involved,” NCP leading figure, Prof. Ibrahim Ghandour, said.

However, the opposition political forces have protested their exclusion from the ongoing negotiations on post-referendum arrangement, saying they would push for their participation in the negotiations on the assumption that their participation is a national right, adding they would dispatch their leaders to the South to campaign for unity.

Opposition alliance leading figure Kamal Abdul Salam told reporters yesterday that the opposition forces held a meeting yesterday for debate on ongoing post-referendum negotiations between the NCP and the SPLM. “The opposition will not standby while Sudan’s destiny is being decided by the two partners,” he said.

According to **Al-Ahram**, SPLM Secretary-General Pagan Amum has welcomed the proposed visit by the political forces’ leaders to the South as part of efforts to make unity attractive.

In a related development, **Sudan Tribune website** 11/7/10 reported that presidential adviser Mustafa Osman Ismail criticized the position of the opposition forces on the issue of 2011 referendum saying they do not join government efforts and campaign to preserve Sudan’s unity.

Ismail, who is also External Relations Officer in the ruling National Congress Party (NCP) criticized the position of opposition political parties towards the unity of Sudan, blaming them for not undertaking serious work in favor of the unity and visit the southern states to preach unity.

Osman who was speaking in a forum sponsored by the Arab League held in Khartoum about the "Challenges of unity and risks of separation" said the only visits paid by the opposition leaders to southern Sudan aimed to plot against the ruling party.

He further slammed the international community for failing to meet aid pledges to southern Sudan recovery and development.

International donors pledged some \$4.5 billion for Sudan in 2005. They also pledged \$4.8 billion during the second Oslo conference in May 2008 to support development efforts for the period 2008-2011.

Atem Garang, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly and SPLM leading member said unity would not be attractive through "developmental bribery" but by sincere and

hard work aiming to lay out new bases for Sudan's unity.

The SPLM official said that democratic transformation in the country is one of the basics of unity, stressing that unity is facing several obstacles including the lack of national reconciliation, lack of uniform media policy to address issues of unity, and the tough atmosphere during which the provisions of the CPA are implemented.

Security Council calls for preparation for Sudan's referendum

Al-Ayyam 12/7/10 – The Security Council called for preparations for the southern Sudan referendum scheduled for January. The SC fifteen members stressed the need for planning for process in southern Sudan and Abyei.

Political parties have mixed reactions on post-referendum talks

Miraya FM 11/7/10 - A number of Southern and Northern Sudan Political parties had mixed reactions towards the post-referendum talks, launched by the CPA partners on Saturday. The Southern Sudan Democratic Forum has welcomed the negotiations between the National Congress Party and the SPLM.

SSDF Secretary-General Andrea Kong said that these negotiations would reduce the risk of conflict in case of separation.

However, he said that the negotiations should be based on the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.

Meanwhile, the Political Secretary of the Popular Congress Party, Kamal Ali Omer, has called on the CPA partners to include the other political parties in the post-referendum negotiations because it concerns all the Sudanese people.

However, the National Congress Party and the SPLM have agreed to continue to discuss issues of citizenship, the joint border, foreign debt, and the fate of the joint integrated forces in Juba later this month.

FM Karti and SRSG discuss unity and peace issues

Al-Sahafa 12/7/10 – Foreign Minister Ali Karti and SRSG Haile Menkerios yesterday discussed current challenges facing Sudan as well as peace and unity issues. Karti described the relations between the Sudanese Government and the UN as excellent, saying the Government would continue its support to the Mission and would extend the necessary facilities to enable it to carry out its mandate.

According to **SUNA** 12/7/10, Karti explained that the UN existence in Sudan during this period is healthy, stressing that participation of African leaderships in the ongoing discussion on the referendum would help much in the arrangement for the post-referendum stage.

The SRSG briefed Karti on the most important recommendations included in the report submitted to the recent sitting of the Security Council on the work of UNMIS. He pointed out that he is working closely with the special envoys of the regional organizations to Sudan to create favourable atmosphere for peace and stability.

Taha and Machar discuss ways to strengthen partnership

Al-Ayyam 12/7/19 – National Government VP Ali Osman Taha and GoSS VP Riek Machar yesterday discussed efforts to promote partnership between the NCP and the SPLM in various areas. Reportedly, their meeting also tackled a range of CPA issues including development in the South.

Referendum commission to name secretary General

Al-Ahdath 12/7/10 – the Southern Sudan Referendum Commission, which embarked on preparing its work plan and building of its structure, will name its secretary general tomorrow. Commission Rapporteur Tariq Osman said the Commission was also preparing to launch an office in southern Sudan to be headed by the commission's deputy chairman.

According to **Ajras Al-Hurriya**, the SPLM has voiced reservations on the proposal for the Referendum Commission's structuring, urging delay of discussion on this matter until after Thursday's consultations in Juba.