

12 Nov. 2009

www.unmis.unmissions.org



Media Monitoring Report

United Nations Mission in Sudan/ Public Information Office

Headlines

- Reports on gender-based violence in Darfur are “propaganda” – government (*Al-Ahdath*)
- Panel report an attempt to sabotage relations with Chad – Government (*Al-Rai Al-Aam*)
- VP Taha briefs NCP on outcome of talks with the SPLM (*local dailies*)
- Speaker urges media practitioners to help shore up unity (*Akhir Lahza*)
- SPLM calls for voter registration extension (*Al-Intibaha*)
- SPLM Political Bureau to discuss latest political developments in Sudan (*Sudantribune.com*)
- Humanitarian Affairs Ministry requests UN logistics support for de-mining (*Akhir Lahza*)
- Political parties in GoNU call for deferment of legislative elections (*Al-Rai Al-Aam*)
- Group calls for end to President Al-Bashir rule (*Rai Al-Shaab*)
- Abyei citizens to demand formation of commission on oil revenues (*Rai Al-Shaab*)
- SPLA, Shilluk clash in Malakal for second time in two days (*Al-Intibaha*)
- SPLA confiscates elections materials in Aweil (*local dailies*)
- Governor makes unprecedented visit to Attash and Direij camps in S. Darfur (*Akhir Lahza*)
- HRW calls for amendments to national security bill (*Al-Ayyam*)
- Some 75 SLM-MM soldiers integrated into Sudanese army (*Sudantribune.com*)
- LRA Joseph Kony's mother dead (*The Daily Monitor*)

NOTE: *Reproduction here does not mean that the UNMIS PIO can vouch for the accuracy or veracity of the contents, nor does this report reflect the views of the United Nations Mission in Sudan. Furthermore, international copyright exists on some materials and this summary should not be disseminated beyond the intended list of recipients.*

Address: UNMIS Headquarters, P.O. Box 69, Ibeid Khatim St, Khartoum 11111, SUDAN
Phone: (+249-1) 8708 6000 - Fax: (+249-1) 8708 6200

Highlights

Reports on gender-based violence in Darfur are “propaganda” - government

Al-Ahdath quotes **Reuters** as saying that UN and aid agencies operating in Darfur as saying that rape victims in Darfur have lost the medical and psychological support that aid agencies working against sexual violence used to provide when these agencies were expelled this year.

State Minister for Humanitarian Affairs, Abdelbaki Al-Geilani, has dismissed the report as "propaganda". He reportedly said that there was no widespread rape in Darfur and that foreigners were free to come and investigate.

Panel report an attempt to sabotage relations with Chad – Government

The Sudan Government has rejected the report of the UN Panel monitoring arms embargo to Darfur saying claim of Sudan supplying arms to Chadian opposition is an attempt to sabotage Sudan-Chad relations, **Al-Rai Al-Aam** reports. Presidential Adviser Ghazi Salah Al-Din at a press conference yesterday described the report as a subversive act.

“We are fed up with this Panel. Its report is unacceptable,” Sudanese Ambassador to UN, Abdul Mahmoud Abdul Haleem, reacted.

VP Taha briefs NCP on outcome of talks with the SPLM

VP Taha briefed yesterday members of the NCP Leadership Office on the outcome of talks with the SPLM over outstanding issues pertaining to the implementation of the CPA, **Al-Ahdath** reports.

NCP Information Officer Fathi Shella said following the briefing that the two sides have agreed on a number of issues and that their agreement would be made public once the two sides conclude the talks.

Al-Khartoum quotes Al-Dirdeeri Mohamed Ahmed, a member of the NCP-SPLM joint High Political Committee, as saying that the two sides continue consultations to resolve pending issues pertaining to the referendum, popular consultation, the draft national security bill and elections, among others.

According to **Al-Akhbar**, a resolution of the crisis between the two partners is close as the NCP has agreed to reduce the percentage needed to endorse southern Sudan independence from 66 to 60% of eligible voters.

Speaker urges media practitioners to help shore up unity

National Assembly Speaker Ahmed Ibrahim Al-Tahir called on practitioners at a forum for media practitioners in Kordofan to contribute to support the unity option, reports **Akhir Lahza**. He underlined the need for the realisation of security and stability for the sake of sustainable development.

SPLM calls for voter registration extension

SPLM Deputy SG Ann Itto has called for extension of the voter registration duration for at least two weeks, **Al-Intibaha** reports. Itto said the SPLM was determined to lodge a complaint against the NEC for failure to provide adequate funding for voter registration in the South, adding the registration in some area has not even started.

Meanwhile, **Sudan Tribune website** 11/11/09 reported that the highest organ of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), the Political Bureau, will hold a meeting in Juba beginning

on Thursday to discuss the latest political developments in the country.

In a press statement shortly after his arrival from Khartoum on Wednesday, the party's Secretary General, Pagan Amum Okech, said the party's Chairperson, Salva Kiir Mayardit has called for the meeting.

Amum said the CPA was at a critical stage, but assured that the SPLM was ready for the elections.

The meeting, he explained, would dwell on a number of issues associated with the upcoming elections, contentious census results, referendum for the South and Abyei as well as respective popular consultations for Nuba Mountains and Southern Blue Nile.

Amum said there was danger of the South losing one-thirds representation in the national parliament if the 2008 census results, which he described as "fake," were to be applied in redistribution of power sharing in the National Assembly.

"...According to the use of census results where Southern Sudan loses nearly one-third of its seats because of the fake census results; losing 54 out of 150, and the South will be remaining with only 96 seats," he said.

He urged potential voters to turnout for voter registration to vote for the right leaders.

SPLM Political Bureau to discuss latest political developments in Sudan

Sudantribune.com Juba, 11/11/09 – The highest organ of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), the Political Bureau, holds a meeting in Juba beginning on Thursday to discuss the latest political developments in the country.

In a press statement shortly after his arrival from Khartoum on Wednesday, the party's Secretary General, Pagan Amum Okech, said the party's Chairperson, Salva Kiir Mayardit has called for the meeting. He said that the CPA was at a critical stage, but assured that the SPLM was ready for the elections.

The meeting, he explained, would dwell on a number of issues associated with the upcoming elections, contentious census results, referendum for the South and Abyei as well as respective popular consultations for Nuba Mountains and Southern Blue Nile.

Amum said there was danger of the South losing one-thirds representation in the national parliament if the 2008 census results, which he described as "fake," were to be applied in redistribution of power sharing in the National Assembly.

"...According to the use of census results where Southern Sudan loses nearly one-third of its seats because of the fake census results; losing 54 out of 150, and the South will be remaining with only 96 seats," he said.

He urged potential voters to turnout for voter registration to vote for the right leaders.

Humanitarian Affairs Ministry requests UN logistics support for de-mining

Humanitarian Aid Commissioner Hassabo Abdulrahman says that land-mines remain a major challenge in post-war Sudan. According to **Akhir Lahza**, Hassabo has called on UN partners to help provide the necessary logistics support for de-mining operations to help clear Sudan of landmines before 2015.

Political parties in GoNU call for deferment of legislative elections

With the elections drawing close, political parties represented in the Government of National Unity have revealed intentions to request a deferment of the legislative elections, **Al-Rai Al-Aam** reports. Following a meeting of these parties yesterday, Mudawi Al-Turabi, a prominent

member of the group, said that they intend to request the parties to the CPA to allow a deferment of the legislative elections but added that the Presidential and executive elections at all levels should be held as scheduled (*the paper cites no reason for the request*)*.

* *Editor's comments in parenthesis*

Group calls for end to President Al-Bashir rule

An unidentified group of people yesterday distributed leaflets in Omdurman urging people not to vote for the incumbent President Al-Bashir and his party come the elections, **Rai Al-Shaab** reports. An NCP official told London-based **Al-Sharq Al-Awsat** that the group is made up of communists and other leftist elements.

The NEC has however denied knowledge of such a group but warned that such behaviour is an act of sabotage.

Abyei citizens to demand formation of commission on oil revenues

Local leaders and citizens of the Abyei Area are determined to send a request to FVP Salva Kiir Mayardit to relieve the Area's finance and infrastructure ministers and would also demand the formation of a commission to monitor the 2% oil share the CPA provides for the Dinka-Ngok, reports **Rai Al-Shaab**.

But Abyei Finance Minister Deng said he is not aware of such a request from the community. He pointed out that the Area Administration operates on the basis of the Protocol on the Abyei Area as stipulated in the CPA as a reference. He said anyone who talks about requests for the formation of a commission should come up with a sound basis for that argument.

SPLA, Shilluk clash in Malakal for second time in two days

Al-Intibaha reports that SPLA elements yesterday attacked some Shilluk tribesmen in the Jonglei Canal area killing four and wounding two.

MP Aniyuti Adegü has called on GoSS to rein in the SPLA soldiers.

SPLA confiscates elections materials in Aweil

Local dailies report that GoSS security authorities have impounded an aircraft at the Aweil airfield in Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal yesterday. According to **Al-Rai Al-Aam**, the plane was carrying equipment and devices belonging to the NCP but the cargo was confiscated and the crew was ordered back to Khartoum after interrogation.

NCP spokesperson Fathi Shella has deplored the incident and rejected the SPLM claim that the plane was carrying arms.

However, **Al-Intibaha** reports that the plane was carrying NEC voter registration facilities, adding that the SPLA also prevented civilians in Wau from registering.

Governor makes unprecedented visit to Attash and Direij camps in S. Darfur

South Darfur Governor Ali Mahmoud Mohamed has revealed that the government has constructed some 6,000 residential plots for IDPs who are willing to settle in Nyala or Kass, **Akhir Lahza** reports. The IDPs would not be required to pay for these plots, he said. In unprecedented visits to the Attash and Direij IDP camps, the Governor told IDPs that the government will play its full role towards the provision of security and basic services to those who wish to return to their villages.

The Governor toured the two IDP camps where he also visited voter registration centres to assess progress. He called on the IDPs to register and exercise their full rights as citizens and donated SDG15,000 for the camps and a vehicle for the police in each camp and an ambulance.

HRW calls for amendments to national security bill

Al-Ayyam reports that Human Rights Watch has urged Sudanese lawmakers to limit the broad powers of arrest, detention, and search and seizure; and to include key safeguards such as the right to be informed promptly of any charges, the right to be brought promptly before a judge, and the right to be tried within a reasonable time.

"Sudanese lawmakers should pass a bill that upholds the right to a fair trial as guaranteed in the Sudanese constitution," said Gagnon. "They should also remove legal immunities so that human rights violators may be prosecuted for their crimes."

Some 75 SLM-MM soldiers integrated into Sudanese army

Sudantribune.com Khartoum, 11/11/09 – Some 75 members of the Mini Minnawi faction of the SLM have been integrated into the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF).

Minnawi had for a long time resisted Khartoum's request to disarm his troops and to integrate them into the Sudanese army.

"The moment of the integration and unity has come," said Minnawi in a speech he delivered during the ceremony that saw 75 SLA members graduate from the military academy.

LRA Joseph Kony's mother dead

Daily Monitor Kampala, 11/11/09 - The mother of Joseph Kony, commander of the Lord's Resistance Army rebels, has died. Relatives say Nora Anek Oting, who was being cared for by government, passed on at a hospital in Kampla, Uganda, on Tuesday night.

She had been unwell for a while, say family members. Her ailment is thought to have been complicated by weakened immunity due to aging.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[Http://unmis.unmissions.org](http://unmis.unmissions.org)

United Nations Mission In Sudan - Public Information Office

Address: UNMIS Headquarters, P.O. Box 69, Ibeid Khatim St, Khartoum 11111, SUDAN

Phone: (+249-1) 8708 6000 - Fax: (+249-1) 8708 6200