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Highlights

Al Bashir to IGAD Summit: Southern Kordofan Atrocities violation of law, merits accountability

Sudan Vision – President Omer Al Bashir told the IGAD's Addis Ababa Summit that the atrocities committed in Southern Kordofan were violation of law and those responsible for them should be brought to justice.

The President said that issues remaining from the CPA that are related to Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan regions, these can be implemented through the Security Protocol that determines how these forces can be absorbed according to the armed forces law.

In addressing the 18th session of the IGAD Extraordinary Summit in Addis Ababa which started its meetings yesterday, the President said the relation between North Sudan and South Sudan will be peaceful one and will be one of exchange of benefits.

He said all the pending issues could be solved, welcoming the agreement reached between the two partners in Addis Ababa on Abyei.

President Al Bashir said the government is prepared to support South Sudan government in all fields if such support is requested.

Meanwhile, the IGAD Summit called on donor countries and international financing institutions to relieve Sudan external debts and the removing of Sudan name from the U.S.'s list of states sponsoring terrorism

In its 8th Summit which took off yesterday in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa the Summit affirmed that it will continue to support Sudan and that all the IGAD's states will cooperate with North Sudan and South Sudan and that peace and stability in Sudan would mean peace and stability for the entire region.

On his part, the UN Secretary General's Special Representative for the Sudan, Haile Menkerios, lauded the two partners for their agreement and called on them to continue the dialogue for resolving all pending issues in the same spirit describing their stance as courageous.

New Map for Sudan

Al-Raay al-Am - The Ministry of Information and the Survey Department revealed the official new map of the Sudan after separation of the south. Professor Abdallah al-Sadig, Director of the Survey Department said the new map is beautiful and its shape is attractive. The Ministry of Information on its part said that the new map has been distributed to Sudanese missions abroad, ports and airports. The Minister of Information, Dr Kamal Obeid, reiterated the intention of the state to proceed forward in adopting policies conducive to the achievement of good relations that sustain security and stability which make our country the breadbasket of the whole world. Dr Obeid said, during the inauguration by his Ministry of the new book “Sudan; the land of opportunities” and the revelation of the new map in the Friendship Hall yesterday. He also said that there is no return to war and conflicts after July 9th and reiterated the ability of the regime to all kind. He further added: “we will not reverse the cycle of history and we shall not swim twice in the same river”. He also emphasized that the Sudan will become the land of opportunities and will go forward with a strong will backed by the will of Allah and the strong belief of the Sudanese people. “The Sudanese people will complete the building of their new state based on the guidance of the Holy Quran and the traditions of Prophet Mohamed” he says, adding that an annual Sudan book (containing all facts about Sudan) will be published regularly.

On her side Sana Ahmed al-Awad, the State Minister for Information, expressed the intention of

the Sudan to proceed forward with achieving the principles of peaceful coexistence, the importance of mutual and cultural respect, the rule of law and the respect of rights and freedoms. She also mentioned that the new map has been distributed to embassies. Professor Abdallah al-Sadig, Director of the Survey Department, said the Sudan has lost, as a result of the separation, about 25% of its area which was 2,256,000 sq km to become now 1,881,000 sq km. He said Sudan will now be having no boarders with Kenya, Congo and Uganda and its boarders with Ethiopia will now be reduced from 1605 km to only 725 km and with Central African Republic from 1070 km to only 380 km. All in all Sudan's borders with its seven neighbors will now be standing at 8600 km.

Disputes delay arrival of NCP for Addis talks

The Citizen – the round of talks scheduled to be held yesterday between NCP and SPLM-North Sector on Security arrangements on Southern Kordofan and the Blue Nile was put off due to non-arrival of NCP for the talks because of differences over the agreements and presence on the head of NCP delegation, Dr. Nafie Ali Nafie, in UK while the SPLM delegation, led by Malik Agar, has already arrived in Addis Ababa. Sources close to the Congress party said that the talks weren't resumed yesterday because the NCP representative didn't arrive. They ascribed the delay in the talks to the emergence of differences within the party after the signing of the framework agreement between NCP and SPLM.

An American Group expects an international conflict between the North and the South

Akhir Lahza - In a paper presented by an activist group entitled "Activists' vision of the peace between the Sudan's two states", an American group expects an international conflict between north and south Sudan. In its report, the group told the US administration that Khartoum Government is responsible for the incidents in Abeyie and Southern Kordofan State and called for sanctions against what it called them as those undermining the peace by committing war crimes, violating agreements and promoting violence.

UN: [CPA] Parties ready to overcome pending issues

Al-Sahafa - Officials revealed that leaders from north and south Sudan agreed yesterday to continue negotiations over disputed issues after the independence of the South on July 9th. This agreement would disappoint diplomats looking forward to quicker solution. The two parties are yet to agree on issues including borders and oil revenues.

The IGAD summit, convened in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa, concluded yesterday and issued a final communiqué welcoming the framework agreement signed between the NCP and SPLM and reiterated its appreciation to the role played by Ethiopia in this regard.

The summit commended President Omar Al-Bashir and President of GoSS Salva Kiir for their commitment towards the CPA and for concluding a Framework Agreement to resolve pending issues after July 9th. In addition, the summit welcomed the decision to deploy Ethiopian Troops in Abyei and reaffirmed its interest in addressing the five pending issues between the two parties. The summit resolved to convene its next summit; The IGAD 19th Summit, in Khartoum during coming November.

President Omar Al-Bashir focused in his speech before the summit on the steps taken towards the implementation of the CPA during the past period and expressed preparedness of Khartoum to support GoSS in all field. "The relation between North and South will be peaceful and marked with exchange of common interests" said Bashir and added that pending issues can be resolved.

Oil minister accuses Pagan of embezzlement of million dollars

Al Sudani - The federal oil minister Lual Deng accused SPLM Secretary General Pagan Amum of violating South Sudan constitution besides embezzlement of million dollars. Lual, in response to Amum's accusations published by "The Citizen daily newspaper" in Juba, said that Pagan embezzled three million dollars into his own private account. Lual explained that Pagan sold a license to telephone company and deposited the amount into his own bank account and was not held accountable. Lual also criticized him for failing to build the headquarters of the party. Lual blamed the current crises of fuel in South Sudan on minister of Energy and Mining in the Government of Southern Sudan, revealing that the minister was given 10 million dollars to contract nine registered companies to transport fuel from North to South Sudan, instead he contracted only one company, which failed to deliver the fuel, thus creating the current shortage. Lual denied the accusations labeled against him on the sale of southern oil for July, saying he was only implementing orders from the President of the Government of Southern Sudan, Salva Kiir Mayardit.

Sudan's Bashir, UN's Ki-Moon listed as key speakers at S. Sudan independence

Sudan Tribune, 04/07/11 - Sudan's president, Omar Hassan Al-Bashir and the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon have been earmarked as key speakers at South Sudan's independence on Saturday, a programme released on Monday reveals.

On the eve of the event, according to Barnaba Benjamin Marial, the information and broadcasting minister, prayers, concerts and sports events will be conducted in the build up to the July 9 independence celebrations.

The southern government has further assured its citizens and all invited dignitaries to rest assured of guaranteed security, saying security measures are being put in place all over southern Sudan to ensure a peaceful and orderly environment.

Sudan's Bashir affirms reservations on S. Kordofan accord

Sudan Tribune, 04/07/11 - The Sudanese president Omer Hassan al-Bashir on Monday reiterated his opposition to certain aspects of the agreement signed with the Northern sector of the SPLM to de-escalate the situation in South Kordofan.

SUNA reported that during the closed summit of the Inter Government Agency on Development (IGAD) in Addis Ababa, Bashir said that while he concurred with the spirit of the agreement he stressed that the SPLM-North have yet to conform with laws on creating political parties.

The Sudanese leader said once the SPLM-North does that then they are welcome to operate in the North like other political parties already in existence after the South becomes an independent state.

Bashir also emphasized that there will be no new arrangements that are at odds with the protocols of Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan that were part of the 2005 CPA.

In a meeting with the former South African president Thabo Mbeki who heads the African Union High Level Panel (AUHIP), Bashir called for expediting the formation of the joint committees that will discuss the security arrangements in the two border states.

The IGAD summit's final communiqué called on the international community to support the peace process in Sudan for the sake of stability. It also hailed the recent agreement on the disputed border region of Abyei and extended thanks to Mbeki who helped mediate the accord.

Southerners in north Sudan without visas will be deported after separation

The Star.com - To Khartoum, southerners in the North have become personae-non-grata. Foreigners. It's stripping all of them of their Sudanese citizenship, a move that is stirring international concern. The government talked tough prior to the referendum.

“They will not enjoy citizenship rights, jobs or benefits,” Information Minister Kamal Obeid declared last fall on public radio. “We will not even give them a needle in the hospital”. More recently, Bashir ruled out any form of dual citizenship, reportedly declaring that a “northerner is a northerner and a southerner is a southerner”.

So southerners will lose their status, and will be treated like any other alien who comes to live in Sudan. If they don't obtain a visa to stay, they will be deported.

Sudanese pound falls ahead of southern secession

Reuters, 04/07/11 - The Sudanese pound is weakening ahead of southern independence on worries that north Sudan will face tough economic challenges, while the south might launch a new currency without coordination, traders said.

Hit by a U.S. trade embargo and violence in several parts of the vast country, Sudan has been struggling with high inflation, unemployment and a dependence on oil.

Several black market traders in Khartoum and the southern capital Juba said the pound has been weakening in the past weeks.

Traders in Khartoum said the dollar is now buying 3.44 pounds, well above the official rate of around 2.9. Around two weeks ago the black market rate was 3.2 to 3.3.

"There is a rising demand for dollars. People in the import business buy any dollars they can get their hands on," said a black market trader in Khartoum.

In November, Sudan effectively devalued the currency to erode the black market and pump more liquidity into the financial system. As result, annual inflation almost doubled to almost 17 percent in June, while the black market is active as ever.

Darfur Peace Agreement to be signed mid-July

Al Ahdath, 05/07/11 - The Sudanese parties plan to sign in Doha, Darfur Peace Agreement which was approved by the stakeholders' conference in Qatar last May. And it was accredited by the international community, on the middle of this month. The two parties agreed in discussions took place the day before yesterday between the Qatar state minister of foreign affairs, Ahmed ben Abdalla Al Mahmud and the two delegations of the Sudanese government and Liberation and Justice Movement, on the signing of the document of Doha for Darfur peace within the 15th and the 20th of this month.

Press sources stated that Al Mahmud ensured that the Doha document for Darfur peace is ready to be signed by the government of Sudan and the Liberation and Justice Movement. While the chairman of the Sudanese delegation, Ameen Hassan Omer ensured for the Gazira net that the agreement does not provide granting Darfur the position of Vice President, and considered it contrary to the constitution. But he returned and indicated that there are some promises for that, as recognition of the situation in Darfur considered as special case.

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