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Highlights

UN Assistant SG for Appreciates Electoral Registration Success

Sudan Vision reports that UN Assistant Secretary General for Peacekeeping appreciated the significant success of the electoral register which exceeded 14,000,000 million expressing his surprise for the mass turn out in Darfur. The UN official was briefed during the meeting on the latest incidents in Khartoum with regard to the opposition demonstrations, according to NCP political secretary Prof. Ibrahim Ghandour. He said that the UN official was also informed about the agreements reached by the two partners concerning ratification of a number of laws. He indicated that the UN official has expressed his appreciation to the government efforts in playing an active role in implementing the CPA. He reiterated the commitment of the government to protect the international forces in Darfur. Presidential assistant Nafie Ali Nafie also received yesterday Mr. Mulet. The meeting discussed the current political and security developments in Sudan, the implementation of the CPA and Darfur.

SRSQ Qazi: Current political development an adverse implication on CPA

Khartoum Monitor carries the statement by SRSQ Qazi expressing his concern over the incidents following Monday's demonstration. Mr. Qazi said that these developments could have adverse implications for the implementation of the CPA. The Chairman of the Assessment and Evaluation Commission (AEC), Sir Derek Plumbly also expressed grave concern at recent events and called for restraint. Every effort must be made to ensure that the elections were free and fair and went forward peacefully.

Opposition could not overthrow the regime through chaos - Nafie Ali Nafie

Al-Khartoum daily reports NCP Deputy Chairman Nafie Ali Nafie affirmed that the opposition could not overthrow the regime through creative chaos because the government is able to reveal their plots. He stressed that the opposition aimed at toppling the government through the demonstration.

Opposition will change the regime through peaceful processions - Al-Mahdi

Al-Khartoum adds that the National Umma Party leader Al-Sadiq Al-Mahdi asserted on his part that opposition will change the regime through peaceful processions if the government abstained from amending the laws. Speaking to a public gathering at his party's premises, Al-Mahdi said the government is now exposed to the international community as an oppressive state and the NCP is not serious in achieving democratic transformation. He called on the political forces to exert more pressure on the NCP in order to have successful elections.

On his part, the Senior Presidential Assistant Minni Minnawi criticized the government saying that it has not implemented the peace agreement. Minni announced that his movement would coordinate with the Juba forces to attain democratic transformation requirements.

The coalition moves Thursday's rally to Monday for more mobilization

Al-Ayam reports that the Juba forces alliance agreed on resuming peaceful struggle to preserve the rights of citizens. The SPLM Secretary General and rapporteur of the alliance, Pagan Amum announced that they postponed tomorrow's demonstration to Monday in order to mobilize more people. He added that the alliance would meet tomorrow Thursday to decide on the next moves.

NEC announces tomorrow final registration statistics

Local dailies report NEC would release the final registration statistics on Thursday. A source at the commission's Chamber of Operations stated that by 8 December the number of registered people in all the states of Sudan reached 14,757,443. The number of people registered in Khartoum State reached 1,932,783. Other states, according to the report, are as follows: 1,500,228 in Al-Jazeera (84%), 637,161 in the Red Sea (91%), 433,872 in River Nile (77%), 427,121 in Unity (145%), 186,887 in Western Bahr El-Ghazal (112%), 370,087 in the Northern State (105%), 345,157 in Upper Nile (71%), 336,168 in West Darfur (51%), 609,960 in North Darfur (58%), 813,693 in Northern Kordofan (56%). Abroad, Saudi Arabia registered the highest figure of 57,722. **Sudan Tribune website** reports that the NEC announced Southern Sudan as the leading region in voter registration with 82% describing it as highest number in the country.

Salva Kiir says CPA reaches critical stage

Al-Rai Al-Aam reports the First Vice President would arrive in Khartoum today. Kiir addressed yesterday Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly saying the CPA reached a critical stage due to NCP's setback. On his part, Pagan Amum said Kiir would meet with the leaders immediately after his arrival to discuss the recent incidents. Pagan said what happened was a conspiracy against SPLM. Deputy Secretary General of the movement Yassir Arman pointed out to an undeclared state of emergency in the country and affirmed that his movement opted for a peaceful democratic action. He noted that 126 people had been arrested in Wad Medani (Al-Jazeera State).

SPLM holds Bashir responsible for humiliating MPs

Ajras Al-Hurriya daily reports the SPLM Deputy Secretary General for Northern Sector Yassir Arman said in a press conference yesterday that the arrest of the movement's leaders and MPs is serious and would have repercussions. Arman called on sacking the Governor of Khartoum State and held the Speaker of the National Legislative Assembly Ahmed Al-Tahir accountable for allowing the security forces to occupy the Parliament. He warned that the Parliament would not conclude sessions without approval of the laws, and stressed that the movement would adopt new measures to bring into force democratic transformation laws. Officers rejected to abide by the orders from State Ministers of Interior and Justice which indicated that orders came from the NCP, affirmed Arman. He said President Al-Bashir bears responsibility for humiliating Ministers adding that this would have never happened without his knowledge.

Machar travels to Khartoum for talks with NCP leadership

Sudan Tribune website reports that GoSS Vice President Riek Machar Teny, traveled to Khartoum yesterday for talks with the leadership of the NCP. Machar, co-chair of the Joint Executive Political Committee with the Vice President of Sudan and NCP deputy chairman, Ali Osman Mohamed Taha, would resume the negotiations on referenda laws for Southern Sudan and Abyei, popular consultations for Southern Kordofan and Southern Blue Nile as well as national security laws needed to make democratic transformation possible in the country.

US urge restraint after Sudan unrest

AFP reported that the United States condemned yesterday political violence and arrests in Sudan and urged Khartoum to "allow freedom of expression and peaceful demonstrations." "I am deeply concerned about these developments and urge all parties to exercise restraint," said US special envoy to the country Scott Gration. "Negotiations on issues of urgent importance to all of the Sudanese people cannot proceed in an atmosphere of intimidation," he said. Washington "calls on all parties to create an atmosphere conducive to credible elections," said State Department spokesman Ian Kelly. "We condemn all acts of violence in Sudan and call for restraint and dialogue among all parties." Next year's elections are a critical component of the

fragile peace agreement, and "all parties must work to effect serious reforms" beforehand, Kelly said in a statement. "Freedom of assembly, freedom of speech, and protection from against arbitrary arrest and detention are fundamental human rights that must be respected," he added.

Sudan scholar council issues "fatwa" prohibiting demonstrations

Al-Sudani daily reports the Sudan Scholars Authority (Muslim scholars) issued *fatwa*, (a religious decision), prohibiting Muslims from joining demonstrations organized by the enemies of Islam and that the government is entitled to prevent sedition and chaos in the country. The opposition mocked this *fatwa* and considered it as an NCP view.

IDPs face food shortages in Nzara of Western Equatoria

Sudan Tribune website reports that IDPs displaced by LRA rebels from Northern Uganda are confronting food shortages and inaccessible public services in their self-identified centers. At the same time they are under growing pressure to fetch food in their villages, even though they lack necessary security to return to their native villages.

The Area chief of Sakure Payam, Sultan Tartisio James Banzimi says the IDPs "benefiting very little from current intervention by government to distribute grains," He adds that, "during the war civilians were central in contributing food to the soldiers, but why are not being protected during the end result the CPA? [We] feel unprotected."

The Ugandan Army in the region is stepping up efforts to give protection twice a week to villagers who wish to go back in search of local food.

The Area Chief is urging the government and relief agencies to focus more on the needs of the IDPs as they begin the task of settling far from their fertile villages devastated by the long and brutal rebellion of the LRA.

Many of the 600 inhabitants of that center are also running low on food. Jonathan Sambia Mazimbi was displaced from Buremanga villages, he tells me that, "it is difficult to go his home at the villages in fear of meeting LRA rebels there, as about ten people lost their lives recently while they had gone to search for food."

Meanwhile, situation of the IDPs in a nearby Nzara centre has been further worsened due to lack of transit camps. They have no proper shelter as most of the IDPs are staying under tree shades and damaged tarps.

Bashir and Kiir meet today to decide on outstanding issues - SPLM MPs to end boycott

According to *Al-Sahafa* daily, First Vice President Salva Kiir will meet this afternoon with President Al-Bashir to decide on the CPA outstanding issues and the boycott of the Parliament sessions by SPLM MPs. GoSS Minister of Presidential Affairs Luca Biang told the paper that the meeting will discuss elections, census, laws and Abyei issues, adding that in case of agreement on the laws, the bills would be introduced to the Council of Ministers before tabling in front of the Parliament. The paper reports that an advanced SPLM delegation headed by GoSS Vice President Riek Machar arrived yesterday in Khartoum and started extensive meetings with the Movement's Political Bureau. Informed sources confirmed to the paper that SPLM would request its partner to investigate on the attack against Deputy Secretary General Yassir Arman. The sources expected that SPLM MPs to end boycott of the Parliament and resume their activities as of next week.

Ex Darfur rebels detain men over peacekeeper killing

Reuters reported yesterday that former Darfur rebel leader Minni Arcua Minnawi told the news agency that his forces launched an investigation and arrested three men suspected of killing two Rwandan peacekeepers in a shoot-out in Shangil Tobay last Saturday. Minnawi's forces

had agreed to hand over the suspects to Sudanese authorities in Shangil Tobay later on Tuesday, said UNAMID communications chief Kemal Saiki. "Minnawi's forces said the men had been engaged in criminal activity, trying to snatch vehicles," he said. "UNAMID human rights officers will monitor the handover."

Egyptian authorities prevent Presidential Assistant Musa from visiting Halayeb

Al-Sahafa daily reports the Egyptian authorities prevented the Presidential Assistant and Chairman of the Beja Congress Musa Mohamed Ahmed from entering the Halayeb triangle. Musa informed the paper that the visit aimed at assessing people's conditions, ensuring sovereignty of the state and providing assistance to the members of the Sudanese Armed Forces seized in the area since the beginning of the occupation. He added that Halayeb is part of Sudan.

Malwal urges SPLM to ensure freedom of expression in South Sudan

Sudan Tribune website reports that the leader of South Sudan Democratic Forum (SSDF) Bona Malwal urged the southern Sudan ruling party to ensure freedom of expression before the upcoming election. The Presidential adviser was recently in his homeland Gogrial County, Warrap state, to participate in the celebration of anniversary of a sultan but he was prevented by the SPLA from addressing a tribal event. The southern Sudan figure complained yesterday in Khartoum of the lack of public freedoms in the south adding that the SPLM could not fight for these constitutional rights in the north while they are inexistent in the south. Malwal said the SPLM has failed to establish the rule of law in southern Sudan giving indications for failing to prepare citizens for a referendum. He further said he would lodge a complaint to the Constitutional Court in this regard. **SUNA** reports that Bona Malwal pointed out that south Sudan can not call for the referendum if the elections were not held. Malwal said that there are prerequisites that should prevail before holding the referendum for self-determination of south Sudan, top of them is the rule of law, adding that the SPLM tended to give indicators on its failure to prepare the citizens for the referendum instead of providing the requisites for the referendum.

Ugandans killed in Southern Sudan over Khartoum support

(Afric.com) 9 November - Five Ugandan businessmen have been killed in violent clashes between police and protestors in Rumbek. The protests started on Monday when SPLM supporters took to the streets to protest the arrest of three party officials in Khartoum. Chairman of Uganda traders in Rumbek town, Joachim Mukasa said "three of the Ugandan businessmen were shot dead in Rumbek market on Monday when riots broke out. The other two were killed in subsequent skirmishes." He said because of the tense situation in Rumbek, Ugandan businessmen are now planning to relocate to other parts of southern Sudan. According to Mukasa, the reason behind the attack and harassment of Ugandan traders is because southern Sudanese believe Ugandans support the Khartoum government.

Police crosses red-line to Bakhita Radio premises

Khartoum Monitor reports that yesterday noon a group of about 20 presumed South Sudan Police Service personnel stormed in the premises of Bakhita Radio in Juba and attacked one female staff member. According to Radio Bakhita, the police were in full gear and entered through a gap in the fence while the gate was locked. At least five men were beaten trying to help their colleague. The police violently dragged the lady on the ground and pushed her into a ditch, where they threatened to burry her. After interventions and discussions the police left using the same gap in the fence where they came from. Bakhita radio said that broadcast was maintained and the radio will continue to be on air.

Journalists seek investigations on detentions; denied entry to ministry for indecency

The Citizen reports that the Sudanese Journalist Network seeks investigation on detention and alleged abuse of five reporters including confiscation of their recorder during Monday's demonstration. The Network urged the Press and Publication Council to take issue at reporters being arrested on duty. The paper reports also that the two female reporters of *the Citizen* were forbidden yesterday of entering the Federal Ministry of Finance because of their clothing.