

Media coverage on the referendum

Mid-day report

Day 10

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[In the local newspapers](#)

Security meeting on Abyei strikes deal on migration, returns

Al-Sahafa et al Khartoum; Kadugli, 18/01/11 – Following a meeting of the security committees of Southern Kordofan State, Unity State, Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal State and the Abyei Area Administration, Interior Minister Ibrahim Mahmoud Hamid said that the meeting agreed to open and secure return routes to southern Sudan. Participants also agreed that the SAF and the Sudan police would provide escort for returnee convoys to southern Sudan up to the borders with southern Sudan from where the task would be handed over to their southern Sudanese counterparts.

The parties also agreed that the additional police forces from southern Sudan in Abyei would have to be replaced by JIUs and that the UN monitor and support implementation of that agreement. They also agreed to access to the migratory routes.

Referendum monitors differ in their assessment of the polling process

Al-Ayyam Khartoum, 18/01/11 – International monitors have differed in their assessment of the referendum polling process for the south Sudan referendum on self-determination. The Carter Centre said at a press conference in Khartoum yesterday that the process to date was “successful and up to international standards”. The EU observer mission also yesterday announced that the process was peaceful and sound.

In contrast, the Association of World Citizens doubts the process was credible. The Association says it has noted a number of gross violations of the process. [*Full text of the EU Observer Mission Press Release: <http://www.eueom.eu/sudan2011/home>*]

SPLM violating country’s foreign policy – Foreign Ministry

Al-Ahdath Khartoum, 18/01/11 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Khaled Musa Ali asserts that the SPLM is violating the country’s policy directives by dealing with Israel. Sudan, he points out, is still one country.

In a separate but related story, the paper also reports that FVP Salva Kiir denied reports that the GoSS has bought Israeli arms and combat aircraft. He accused parties he did not name of trying to sow hatred between the people of southern Sudan and the Arab world. Kiir says such parties have to be brought to trial.

[In the International websites](#)

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The New York Times: Sudan: Secession Likely, Monitors Say

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/18/world/africa/18briefs-sudan.html?_r=1&ref=world

Election observers in southern [Sudan](#) said on Monday that the region's referendum on independence last week was transparent and credible and that southern independence was likely. "The referendum process to date is broadly consistent with international standards for democratic elections," said the [Carter Center](#) of Atlanta, based on election monitoring. On Sunday, early polling results released in the capital, Juba, showed voters choosing independence from the north by an average margin of over 95 percent, with a 95 percent voter turnout. Southern independence would take effect July 9.

BBC: Sudan opposition leader Hassan al-Turabi 'arrested'

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-12212585>

The Sudanese Islamist opposition leader, Hassan al-Turabi, has been arrested by security forces at his home, his party has said. His secretary, Awad Babiker, told the Reuters news agency that armed offices had arrived in several vehicles. The security forces also arrested a member of Mr Turabi's staff after he clashed with them, Mr Babiker said. On Sunday, Mr Turabi warned of a "popular uprising" if the government did not reverse new austerity measures.

India Blooms News Service: UN satisfied with

[pollinghttp://w.indiablooms.com/ForeignDetailsPage/foreignDetails170111a.php](http://w.indiablooms.com/ForeignDetailsPage/foreignDetails170111a.php)

New York, Jan 17 (IBNS): The United Nations panel tasked with monitoring the referendum on the future status of Southern Sudan on Sunday welcomed Saturday's conclusion of polling, saying the process was well organized and enabled the people of the region to express their will freely. The panel congratulated the people of Sudan for ensuring that the process took place on schedule and proceeded peacefully, giving credit to the Southern Sudan Referendum Commission (SSRC) and the Southern

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Sudan Referendum Bureau (SSRB) for overcoming serious time and resource constraints to carry out the referendum successfully.

BBC: Could Abyei dispute reignite Sudan war?

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-12208399>

Recent clashes in Sudan's disputed oil-rich border region of Abyei highlight the biggest danger to the south's drive to independence following years of north-south conflict. Abyei is home to the Dinka Ngok, a subsection of the south's largest ethnic group, the Dinka. The Misseriya, who are northern nomads, travel through the region as they take their cattle to greener pastures in the south.

BBC: The musicians bridging Sudan's deep divisions

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-12172453>

Despite the distinctive musical styles of north and south, the artists say their music can transcend cultural differences. Following the week in which the people of Southern Sudan voted in a referendum which is likely to result in separation from the north, the BBC's Fergus Nicoll meets a group of musicians who despite their differences, believe their music can help connect people and even overcome the obstacles to peace. Osman al-Hadi Ahmad is a young man with a shy smile and a warm handshake. He is noticeably the quietest member of a quartet of Southern Sudanese singers who came to the BBC World Service to celebrate the referendum in song. In fact, because Sudanese living abroad can vote, all four have registered their votes for separation.

BBC: President of Southern Sudan calls for forgiveness

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-12203595>

The President of Southern Sudan, Salva Kiir, has urged his people to forgive the mainly-Muslim north of the country for the killings that took place during two

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decades of civil war. Mr Kiir was speaking publicly for the first time since voting ended in the week-long referendum on whether southern Sudan should become a separate state. Turnout was high for the poll - full results are due in February. The BBC correspondent James Copnall is in the border region of Abyei, from where he sent this report.

MMD Newswire: UN Secretary-General Welcomes End of Polling Period in Southern Sudan Referendum, Calls for Patience until Final Result Is Announced

<http://www.mmdnewswire.com/secretary-general-welcomes-end-of-polling-period-in-southern-sudan-referendum-calls-for-patience-until-final-result-is-announced-17999.html>

17January2011 The following statement was issued on 15 January by the Spokesperson for UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon: The Secretary-General welcomes the end of the polling period for the Southern Sudan referendum. He commends the work of the Southern Sudan Referendum Commission in Khartoum and its Bureau in Juba, and of the two parties to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. He extends his gratitude to all donor countries whose contribution has facilitated the process and his appreciation to the observer groups that travelled throughout Sudan and overseas to assess the situation.

AFP: International monitors endorse referendum in southern Sudan

http://www.gulf-times.com/site/topics/article.asp?cu_no=2&item_no=410556&version=1&template_id=37

Foreign observer missions yesterday endorsed the credibility of south Sudan's landmark independence vote to the delight of the region's ruling party although it held off on declaring victory.

Poll observers from both the European Union and the six-nation east African bloc that helped broker the 2005 peace deal which provided for the week-long referendum said it had been "credible."

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The Arab League mission and the Carter Centre foundation of former US president Jimmy Carter said the vote on partitioning what is both Africa's and the Arab world's largest nation had broadly met international standards.

The Carter Centre, which has the largest foreign observer mission, added that a vote for secession was "virtually certain" based on early results posted by polling stations, which were wrapping up their counts yesterday.

CNN: Hope, uncertainty as people flock back to Southern Sudan

<http://edition.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/africa/01/17/sudan.returning.home/>

Juba, Sudan (CNN) -- For years, in some cases decades, they survived persistent and intense violence, lived in often squalid refugee camps or tough cities and were treated as second-class citizens in what -- at least for a few more months -- has been their country. But soon, hundreds of thousands of people from Southern Sudan could have a new country -- and with it, new hopes, new challenges and new uncertainty.

In the Radio

Radio BBC: Sudan opposition leader Hassan al-Turabi 'arrested'

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-12212585>

The Sudanese Islamist opposition leader, Hassan al-Turabi, has been arrested by security forces at his home, his party has said. His secretary, Awad Babiker, told the Reuters news agency that armed offices had arrived in several vehicles. The security forces also arrested a member of Mr Turabi's staff after he clashed with them, Mr Babiker said.

Radio Miraya: SSRB : Preliminary results being aggregated

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http://www.mirayafm.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4903:ssrb-pronounces-announcement-of-results&catid=85:85&Itemid=278

The Southern Sudan Referendum Bureau (SSRB) reiterated that returns from the different polling stations are being collated at County headquarters for subsequent aggregation into the preliminary results

Radio Miraya: UNSG Panel on Referenda in Unity State

http://www.mirayafm.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4904:secretary-generals-panel-of-referenda-visit-unity-state&catid=85&Itemid=278

A high-level delegation of the UN Secretary-General's Panel on Referenda in Sudan visited Unity state on Monday to monitor the referendum process. The head of the delegation, Bhojraj Pokharel told Radio Miraya they were visiting to observe how the referendum results were being processed and managed.

In the Television

Al Jazeera TV:

History of a Broken Land

Can be seen from Wednesday, January 5, at the following times GMT: Wednesday: 0300, 1900; Thursday: 1400; Friday: 0300; Saturday: 2200.

Crossroads Sudan: A question of identity

<http://english.aljazeera.net/programmes/crossroadssudan/2011/01/20111178117700490.html>

Can be seen from Monday, January 11, at 1730GMT, with repeats airing at 0030GMT, 0530GMT, and 1130GMT the next day.

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People & Power can be seen from Wednesday, December 29, at the following times GMT: Wednesday: **0630, 1230**; Thursday: **0300, 1930**; Friday: **0630, 0830**; Saturday: **2030**; Sunday: **0730**; Monday:

The LRA and Sudan can be seen from Wednesday, January 5, at the following times GMT: Wednesday: 0630, 1230; Thursday: 0300, 1930; Friday: 0830, 1630; Saturday: 2030; Sunday: 0730.

Al Arabiya News Channel's:

<http://www.alarabiya.net/english.html> and
<http://www.alarabiya.net/default.html>

Currently Al Arabiya has a daily one hour show on the referendum at 14 GMT, plus special coverage on all its bulletins.

The main bulletins are at 6 GMT, 7 GMT, 9 GMT, 13, 14, 15, 18, and 20 GMT
Panorama is a daily current affairs programme at 19 GMT along the lines of BBC's Newsnight or ABC's Nightline.

BBC TV:

Bulletins every hour

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