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In the local newspapers

NCP down plays opposition threat of popular uprising

Al-Rai Al-Aam 17/1/11 – the NCP has downplayed ability of the opposition political parties to mobilize the people into a popular revolt, describing the opposition as “opportunist”.

“It is an opportunistic position on the part of the opposition,” Dr. Qutbi Al-Mahdi, NCP secretary for organizations, told reporters yesterday. “They want the people to act against the law and bring about change”. “They want to use the people to bring about a failed government, the people have been disillusioned,” he said.

However, Kamal Obeid, Minister of Information and NCP leader, said his party has no objection to listen to the opposition but rejected any preconditions, calling on them to cooperate with the government during the forthcoming period.

“We are keen on dialogue with other parties on the constitution which may be put for popular referendum to ensure greater consensus,” Haj Majid Siwar, Youth and Sports Minister and NCP mobilization secretary said.

But opposition spokesperson Mr. Farouk Abu Eissa said leaders of the opposition political parties would hold a meeting during the two coming days to agree on a specific vision on how to mobilize a popular uprising. “We do not fear death. The political parties are stronger and most popular than their Tunisian counterparts,” he told reporters yesterday in Khartoum, adding that the legitimacy of the government and the constitution will come to an end in July. “We oppose the NCP’s call for joining a broad-based government and we also reject a patched constitution,” he said.

UNMIS welcomes agreements between Dinka-Ngok and Misseriya

Al-Sahafa 17/1/11 – UNMIS has welcomed the agreements reached between leaders of the Dinka and the Misseriya on 13 January, assisted by key government leaders, considering the agreements as crucial for peaceful co-existence in the Area.

UNMIS applauded the wisdom, vision and courage demonstrated by the leaders and their commitment to move away from conflicts towards the resolution of their

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differences. It is hoped that these agreements will also provide positive momentum for meeting in Kadugli between the federal interior minister and GoSS interior minister which will focus on security issues.

[In the International websites](#)

XINHUA : Interview: UN to continue support Sudan peace in transition period: UNMIS spokesman

<http://www.sudan.net/completenews.php?nsid=260&cid=1>

JUBA, Jan. 14 (Xinhua) -- The UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) will continue to support Sudan's north and south to negotiate all the post-referendum issues to achieve a peaceful future, UNMIS spokesman told Xinhua on Friday. The south Sudan referendum has been going peacefully and in a good manner, which is a strong proof that both parties in northern and southern Sudan are willing to work for a stable and prosperous future, spokesman Kouider Zerrouk said. "This is a positive trend. We are optimistic about the situation in the upcoming half-year transition period," he said, noting "only peace can provide durable development to both sides."

CNN: Obama commends Sudan on peaceful balloting

<http://edition.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/africa/01/16/sudan.election/index.html>

(CNN) -- President Barack Obama on Sunday congratulated those in Southern Sudan on their weeklong referendum, saying the peaceful and orderly vote "was an inspiration to the world." Ballot counting began Saturday after the vote -- the results of which could split Sudan in two. Balloting was monitored by local and international observers. Nearly 4 million people were registered to vote in the referendum to determine whether Southern Sudan should declare independence from a government based in the north. The United States congratulates the Sudanese people, the government of Sudan and the government of Southern Sudan on the end of their historic, weeklong referendum on the future of Southern Sudan," Obama said in a statement released by the White House.

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The New York Times: In Sudan, Early Results Strongly Lean to Secession

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/17/world/africa/17sudan.html?_r=1&ref=africa

The referendum, held last week, was the capstone of decades of civil war in Sudan, which pitted Christian and animist rebels in the south against Arab rulers in northern Sudan. All indications show the weeklong referendum passing and the south forming its own country.

BBC: South Sudan leader Kiir urges forgiveness for civil war

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-12201063>

The South Sudanese leader has urged his people to forgive the north for killings during a civil war that lasted more than 20 years. Salva Kiir made the appeal from the pulpit of a Catholic Cathedral in Juba. Early results from Southern Sudan's referendum indicate the region has voted overwhelmingly to split from the north and form a new country. Full results of the poll are not due until next month, but the region is widely expected to choose to secede.

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

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

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. After what was widely hailed as a smoothly run election earlier this month, votes are now being tallied to determine if the South will indeed secede from northern Sudan, where the capital and political power has rested in this east-central African nation. If the majority supports the referendum, Southern Sudan could become the world's newest nation as early as July.

BBC: Sudan President Bashir insists elections will be fair

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/8610235.stm>

Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir has insisted that the forthcoming elections will be "free and fair". In a speech on the campaign trail, Mr Bashir said the poll would be

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clean as it was "a religious duty". Sudan's elections were intended to be the first multi-party polls since 1986, and pave the way for real democracy in Africa's largest country.

Globe and Mail : Abuses of South Sudan police raise questions about Canadian training

<http://www.sudan.net/completenews.php?nsid=267&cid=1>

It was a proud moment for the Canadian police who were training the elite of southern Sudan's fledgling police force. At a mid-December ceremony, after nearly a year of training, more than 5,000 recruits graduated from a new police academy, pledging to build peace to their land. But 10 days after the graduation ceremony, trouble began. Dozens of new policemen were issued with scissors and ordered to enforce a conservative dress code in Juba, the capital of southern Sudan

FARS NEWS: Iran, Sudan Ink Agricultural Deal

<http://www.sudan.net/completenews.php?nsid=259&cid=1>

TEHRAN (FNA)- Iranian and Sudanese Ministers of Agriculture on Sunday signed a \$44mln contract on the supply of electro pumps to Sudan by Iran's private sector. The contract was signed by visiting Sudanese Minister of Agriculture Abdel Haleem Ismail el Mutaafi and Iran's Agricultural Jihad Minister Sadeq Khalilian here in Tehran today. Iran also agreed to extend help and assistance to Sudan's planning for 160,000 hectares of its farms and fields.

XINHUA :China welcomes end of south Sudan referendum: FM spokesman

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-01/16/c_13693067.htm

China welcomes the end of the week-long polling period of the south Sudan referendum, Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said Sunday. Hong made the

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remarks when responding to a question concerning China's view on the end of the referendum. "Through the joint efforts of north and south Sudan and the international community, the south Sudan referendum proceeded smoothly," Hong said. Hong said China welcomes the end of the referendum, calling it an important step in fulfilling the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA).

AP: S. Sudan early returns show big vote for secession

<http://news.oneindia.in/2011/01/17/ssudan-early-returns-show-big-vote-forsecession-aid0126.html>

Juba (Sudan), Jan 16 (AP) Southern Sudan's president today offered a prayer of forgiveness for northern Sudan and the killings that occurred during a two-decade civil war, as the first results from a weeklong independence referendum showed an overwhelming vote for secession. Exhausted poll workers who counted ballots overnight and deep into this morning posted returns at individual stations, and an Associated Press count of a small sample showed a 96 per cent vote for secession.

Jimma times Poll: Does South Sudan secession benefit Ethiopia?

http://www.jimmatimes.com/article/Specials/Weekly_Poll/Poll_Does_South_Sudan_secession_benefit_Ethiopia/33874

Both past Ethiopian leaders Emperor Haile Selassie and Colonel Mengistu Hailemariam supported the separatist Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) against the central government of Sudan. Now decades later, the SPLM is in full control of southern Sudan and its people are voting in a referendum for independence. There are some positives and negatives for Ethiopia in regards to the Southern Sudan situation. An independent Southern Sudan could give Ethiopia a new economic partner, a friendly neighbor and a better future alternative for a source of energy (oil). Southern Sudan is also likely to support Ethiopia in its case for a bigger share of the Nile river against Egypt. However, South Sudan's secession can open up new sources of border dispute for Ethiopia as well. Several anti-government groups can also find a new home in Juba, the capital city of Southern Sudan. If current and future Ethiopian governments can not balance their relations between Juba and Khartoum, rebels could use the new country as a base.

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EU satisfied with conclusion of southern Sudan referendum

<http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90777/90853/7263126.html>

The European Union (EU) on Sunday expressed its great satisfaction with the successful conclusion of the referendum in southern Sudan. In a statement, EU foreign affairs chief Catherine Ashton hailed the referendum as "a historic event and a major milestone." "I commend both Sudanese parties to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), for their leadership and for their pledges that the safety and security of all peoples in Sudan will be respected throughout this process," said Ashton. "I also commend the Southern Sudan Referendum Commission and the South Sudan Referendum Bureau for their efforts to make this referendum happen despite numerous challenges," she added.

Reuters: South Sudan independence vote credible: observers

http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20110117/wl_nm/us_sudan_referendum

South Sudan's independence referendum was credible and well organized, European observers said in their first official judgment on the poll on Monday, moving the region a step closer to secession. Early results from the week-long vote suggest an overwhelming vote to split away from the mostly Muslim north after decades of civil war.

Reuters :Sudan opposition threatens protests over price hikes

<http://www.theusdaily.com/articles/viewarticle.jsp?id=1315849>

KHARTOUM (Reuters) - Sudan's opposition threatened on Sunday to take to the streets if the government did not remove its finance minister and dismantle parliament over the decision to raise prices on a range of goods. Khartoum announced emergency measures earlier this month to redress its budget deficit, including a reduction in subsidies for petroleum products and hikes in the price of sugar. The price increases have sparked student protests in the country's northern agricultural heartland.

UN: Insecurity, logistical challenges affecting southern returnees

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<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900sid/KKAA8D7874?OpenDocument&RSS20&RSS20=FS>

Plans by the southern government and its development partners to address humanitarian needs of thousand of southerners returning home still face serious logistical and humanitarian challenges, George Charpentier, the UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Sudan said Saturday.

AFP:Count gathers pace in south Sudan nationhood vote

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20110117/wl_afp/sudanreferendum_20110117063436;_ylt=Agb.73QATNsWXvWLNjqcUcGQOrgF;_ylu=X3oDMTJuN2ZocWV1BGFzc2V0A2FmcC8yMDExMDExNy9zdWRhbnJlZmVyZW5kdW0EcG9zAzEwBHNIYwN5bl9wYWdpbmF0ZV9zdW1tYXJ5X2xpc3QEc2xrA2NvdW50Z2F0aGVycw--

Organisers pressed on with the marathon task of collating the verdict of south Sudan's independence referendum Monday after partial results from polling stations showed a landslide for secession. The two largest foreign observer missions, the European Union and the Carter Centre foundation of former US president Jimmy Carter, were to give their assessments of the conduct of the week-long polling.

In the Radio

Radio Miraya: UN ready to monitor Abyei referendum if asked by CPA partners

http://www.mirayafm.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4894:-un-says-it-is-ready-to-observe-abyei-referendum-if-asked-to-do-so&catid=85:85&Itemid=278

The UN Secretary General's Panel for Referenda in Sudan is ready to monitor the Abyei Referendum, if requested by the Sudanese partners to the CPA, Panel Chairman Benjamin Mkapa told Radio Miraya. He said he believes that both CPA partners have, "the political will and also the wisdom to see the necessity of finding a solution urgently."

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Radio Suna: Sorting of Votes on South Sudan Referendum Results in Gezira, Gaddarif, Dongola, Merowe Announced

<http://www.sudan.net/completenews.php?nsid=268&cid=1>

South Sudan Referendum Commission (SSRC) announced Sunday the results of sorting and counting of voters in Gezira State in all centers of the state with its seven localities. The initial counting explained that 120 southerners have voted for separation and 60 voted in favor of unity in Bentiu center of Al-Kamleen, in textile workers center of Al-Hasshissa 81 southerners voted for unity and 195 voted for secession, in Tabat center of Al-Hasshissa eight southern citizens voted for unity and 22 voted for separation, and in Al-Geneid center in eastern Gezira State 56 southerners voted for unity while 107 others voted for the separation of south Sudan. In Water Corporation voting center

In the Television

Al Jazeera TV:

History of a Broken Land Al Jazeera maps the turbulent history of a country on the verge of a momentous decision. Can be seen from Wednesday, January 5, at the following times GMT: Wednesday: 0300, 1900; Thursday: 1400; Friday: 0300; Saturday: 2200.

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

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:

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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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