



## UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN UNMIS

Media Monitoring Report, 8 February 2007

(By Public Information Office)

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## **HIGHLIGHTS :**

### **UN/ Agencies**

#### **UN denies having warned of *AlQaeda* threats on western interests in Sudan**

(*AlWihda*) UNMIS Spokesperson Radhia Achouri acknowledges the UN had sent out a security advisory to its staff warning them of possible threats targeting interests of a number of western states in Sudan.

She pointed out however that contrary to media reports, the advisory did not make any mention of a threat from *AlQaeda*.

**Rejoinder:** *The Office of the Spokesperson points out that the newspaper is misquoting statements by UNMIS Spokesperson to other newspapers in response to a question whether the UNMIS Security Advisory cited AlQaeda and that the answer given was “No”.*

*The Office of the Spokesperson, UNMIS, wishes to clarify that the Spokesperson did not give a statement on this issue to AlWihda daily.*

#### **Justice ministry criticises UN rights council on forthcoming visit of delegation**

(*AlSahafa*) The Minister of Justice says he believes a conspiracy is in the making against the Sudan based on the composition of the UNHRC delegation soon expected in the country.

He pointed out that four of the members of that delegation have known hostile positions against the Sudan, in addition to Special Rapporteur Sima Samar who is also open in her hostility against the government.

## **Suleiman Jamous goes on hunger strike**

(*AlSahafa*) SLM figure Suleiman Jamous is on a hunger strike at Kadugli Hospital where he has been under UNMIS custody for the last 7 months.

His attorney, Baroud Sandal, reports that he had sent a memorandum two weeks ago for the release of Mr. Jamous but is yet to receive a response from the UN. He says the UN will stand to blame for any harm that he may come to him.

Sandal points out that Mr. Jamous' family had requested the UN that the ailing SLM figure be transferred to another country for treatment.

## **The Transition Debate**

### **UN Secretary-General says pegs visit to Khartoum on the Eliasson-Salim report**

(*AlSudani; AlAyaam*) UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon says he will first receive the report to be compiled by Jan Eliasson and Salim Ahmed Salim in their forthcoming visit to Sudan before himself travelling to Sudan.

The Secretary-General was holding discussions with the Sudan's representative in New York.

On the other hand and at a closed door meeting of the Security Council last Tuesday, the Secretary-General said he was still waiting for a green light from the Sudan government for the third phase of the UN support package to the African Union.

He expressed concerns over the slow pace of the process and said that unjustified delays on the issue are not acceptable.

### **El-Khalifa says Sudan prepared to cooperate on a hybrid operation ... not force**

(*Allintibaha*) Briefing yesterday a visiting US delegation, Presidential Advisor Majzoub el-Khalifa said that the GoS has accepted the light and heavy support packages and a hybrid operation and not a hybrid force.

He said the government is ready to cooperate with the international community in order to attain peace in Darfur.

### **US Bush approves sanctions drive against Sudan**

(*AFP/ST*) President George W. Bush has approved plans for wide-ranging financial and other sanctions against Sudan if Khartoum does not follow through on a deal to deploy UN-led peacekeepers to its troubled Darfur region, a senior US official said.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, also accused Sudanese President Omar el-Beshir of pressuring fellow African leaders not to contribute troops to the 20,000-strong African Union-UN force that should be sent to Darfur under a UN-brokered agreement.

The Bush sanctions package is part of a three-tiered "Plan B" of coercive steps that Washington has repeatedly threatened to launch if Beshir's Arab-led government does not halt a campaign of repression unleashed to halt an ethnic African rebellion that has left 200,000 dead and 2.5 million homeless in Darfur since 2003, the official said.

Under the plan, first reported in The Washington Post newspaper, the US Treasury would block US commercial bank transactions connected to the Sudan government, including those involving oil revenues — a delicate diplomatic issue given that China buys some 75 percent of Khartoum's oil exports, the official said.

The aim would be to discourage foreign governments and companies from doing business with Sudan, which has a largely dollar-based economy.

The package would also put pressure on Darfur rebel leaders who have refused to participate in peace talks with the government.

*Click on the link below for more on this AFP story*

[US Bush approves sanctions drive against Sudan](#)

### **Pronk says influence of extremist elements stronger than UN pressures**

(*AlSahafa*) Former SRSG to Sudan, Mr. Jan Pronk, believes the leadership in Sudan will not respond to UN demands for the deployment of a hybrid force in Darfur because there is a struggle for power within the regime.

He said it has turned into a "police state" after having been an "Islamic fundamentalist" regime with an extremist wing with a stronger influence on government than the UN or the West.

Pronk who was speaking over the UK's Five Live said that the only way to pressure government into accepting such a force was through more diplomatic and non-diplomatic pressure so that these become stronger than the pressures exerted from the extremist circles on the government.

### **CPA**

#### **Over 1,000 militia join SPLA forces in Wau**

(*Juba Post*) Last week, over 1,000 former Khartoum- aligned militia, The popular Defence Force, defected to the SPLA in Wau.

Approximately 1,638 former Khartoum-backed Popular Defence Force (PDF) soldiers have joined the SPLA. In Wau SPLA Headquarters two ceremonies were held to mark the events. The reintegrated former PDF forces are under command of AlTom AlNur who has now joined the SPLA. The majority of the new SPLA recruits are women, with few male soldiers.

According to a report by the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) the former PDF forces are now waiting for verification by the SPLA which is expected to take place in the near future.

## **GoNU**

### **Sudanese Customs Police accuse African Union of smuggling alcohol**

*(AlRai AlAam)* Sudanese Customs Police have accused some elements of the AMIS and some diplomatic missions not named of using their customs exemptions in smuggling alcohol and other things into Sudan.

Customs has also complained of the increase in alcohol smuggling through all sea, land and air ports of entry to the country.

### **Police wants crime prevention with AU**

*(Juba Post)* There is a need for a Crimes Prevention Committee in the Ministry of interior in collaboration with the African Union.

This is the recommendation of a joint seminar of the Ministry of Interior and the African Union Police, United Nations Police, Voluntary Organizations, Sudanese Government, UNDP, International Union, and the Netherlands embassy.

Police Lieutenant General Omer Gaffer Mohammed Osman, Deputy Director General, promised to implement the recommendations and decisions.

According to state minister of International affairs in Khartoum, Alio ajang, has the security police been instrument “in promoting unity”.

### **Three committees to monitor implementation of the 3 three peace agreement**

*(AlAyaam)* The States’ Council has formed three committees to monitor implementation of the CPA, the Darfur Peace Agreement and the ESPA.

The Deputy Speaker of the States’ Council affirmed their commitments to face the challenges that face implementation of these peace agreements.

### **Anti-terrorism experts in Khartoum**

(*AlRai AlAam*) Sources report that a delegation of experts in legal affairs and international law have arrived in Khartoum as part of preparations by the Sudanese authorities to reactivate cooperation with the international community in the fight against terrorism.

The sources say that the delegation is in the country at the request of the Sudan government to discuss issues pertaining to sanctions on persons proved to be implicated in or of having contributed to acts that could be termed as terrorism.

The source also says it is high time that the Sudan “reaps the harvests” of its cooperation in this area.

### **Southern Sudan/ GoSS/ SPLM**

#### **Salva Kiir travels to Abyei today**

(*Allntibaha*) Informed sources have revealed that VP Silva Kiir will travel to Abyei today.

The sources said that the visit is in order to calm down the tensions in the wake of the SPLA seizure of the administrative unit in the area.

#### **GoSS opens liaison office in Washington**

(*Khartoum Monitor*) The GoSS’ Minister of regional Cooperation has opened a liaisons office in Washington.

The minister said that this was in accordance with the provisions of the CPA.

On development funding, the minister pointed out that nothing was forthcoming of the 4.9 billion US dollars pledged in Oslo for development of southern Sudan and pointed out that this was because half of that amount had been diverted to Darfur for humanitarian purposes. He said that there is only US\$5 million with the Multi-Donor Trust Fund what has already been committed to projects.

#### **Assembly says ministries must justify 2007 budgets**

(*Juba Post*) The Chairman of the committee for Development, Economy and Finance, in the Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly SSLA, Professor Barri Wanji, states that the 2007 budget carries major reforms to ensure mistakes in last year budget are not repeated.

Hon. Wanji says the 2006 budget exposed a lot of weaknesses. “A good number of Ministries lack the capacity I utilise the money given for them. But on further analysis we found that also the main blockage was caused by the Ministry of Finance, who did not hand them the Money allocated to them in the right time,” he explains. He also says the Ministries failed to present their plans of action to the Parliament.

Speaking on the important aspects of the 2007 budget, Barri Wanji says the introduction of the Constituency Development Fund (CDF), will speed up equal development in the states. “We are allocating 114,000 thousands USD to each member of Parliament (MP). “There is no way an MP can embezzle this fund because it is the people in the Counties and Payments who will sit and form their own committees, and select their own projects. They will be helped by the units of the Ministry of Finance” he explains. Professor Wanji says this special fund, in the Kenyan experience, has helped Kenya to develop evenly.

### **South Sudan govt urged to refund 18m dollar**

*(SRS/ST)* “You have one month to return \$18 million U.S. to the treasury or face the Southern Sudan Constitutional Court.” That is the warning the Southern Sudan Democratic Forum has for the SPLM leadership.

Speaking to Sudan Radio Service from Canada last week, the SSDF chapter chairman Gordon Buay said that the position of the SSDF and the United Democratic Front is that the SPLM must return \$18 million US, the alleged balance of the controversial \$60 million US the former Sudan government gave to the SPLM in 2005, to the Government of Southern Sudan treasury. If this doesn’t happen, Buay said, the SSDF will demand that the courts take up the matter.

Meanwhile, the Chairperson of the Economic Committee in the Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly, Professor Barri Wanji, said that the \$60 million US in question is the SPLM’s money and does not have to be accounted for to those outside the SPLM.

“By that time, because the government had not been formed, the SPLM in our own way of looking at it was the government, so it was entitled to receive any money on behalf of the south.” He said.

Wanji said the money was correctly used on the “many things to be done, such as personnel development,” at the time. He added that he does not see any theft because the money is being deducted from southern Sudan’s share of oil wealth.

### **SPLM to hold leadership meeting in Yei**

*(AlAyaam; AlSudani)* The SPLM leadership convenes in Yei today to discuss, among other issues, progress in the implementation of the CPA and the future of relations with the National Congress Party.

The conference kicks off amidst renewed expectations of a ministerial reshuffle amongst ministers on an SPLM ticket at the GoNU and possible dismissals as a result of poor performance and corruption.

*AlSudani* daily meanwhile reports that Unity State governor, Taban Deng, is likely to be relieved of his position on the grounds of allegations of corruption and other issues.

Taban has been summoned to Juba by the SPLM leadership and flown there by helicopter yesterday.

### **SPLM *sultans* threaten to form militias**

(*Alwan*) SPLM *sultans* (traditional leaders) have threatened to form militia forces.

The *sultans* say they recognise the SAF and the regular forces but have called upon the GoNU to implement provisions of the National Interim Constitution that does not recognise the Popular Defence Forces, the Popular Police Forces and militias. Failure to do so, they warn, they will form their own militia group.

### **Lakes State enforces severe dress, bicycle codes**

(*Juba Post*) Lakes State governor Daniel Awet has placed severe social codes on local civilians, including a dress code and prevention of men riding bicycles.

A dress code for females in Rumbek resurfaced on 27 January 2007, with a local UNICEF staff member being detained at the police station for wearing “inappropriate clothing”. Men are no longer allowed to ride bicycles and are required to dismount when they pass soldiers in Rumbek.

Two local security guards were stopped on 30 January and their bicycles were seized. After negotiation by the United Nation Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) security the cycles were returned.

The Lakes State Minister of Information and Culture has expressed her deep concern about these infringements on human rights and says she will pursue this matter with her fellow Ministers and UNMIS will monitor, a UN report says.

### **Returnee Update**

(*Juba Post*) According to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, (UNHCR) repatriation of refugees to South Sudan and Blue Nile State reached 101,344 ( since 2005) this reporting week, of which 30,859 were organised and assisted self-repatriation.

The organisation estimates that 654 returnees returned to South this week, 320 of those came on their own accord from Central African Republic to Ezo and Tambura Counties.

UNHCR assisted 203 returnees during the week, out of whom 82 came from the Democratic Republic of Congo and went home to Ibba, Maridi, Nzara, aand Yambio Counties.

### **Mass measles campaign starts in Yei**

*(Juba Post)* The Counties of Yei, Lainya and Morbo including Katigri and Wonduruba Payams are to receive mass measles campaign targeting more than 90% of five million children aged 6 months to 15 years.

The campaign was announced and launched during a general meeting held last Saturday held at the Yei Commissioners office with the chairman of the campaign, Taban Musa.

According to Elly Tumwine UNICEF representative and organizer of the campaign, the operation is due to begin by the end of this month. The Executive Director of Yei County urged all the NGOs and international Organizations operating in Yei to give logistic support in terms of transport. The campaign is an initiative from government of South Sudan Ministry of Health in collaboration with UNICEF.

### **Torit Hospital: four children die from malnutrition**

*(Juba Post)* At least four children died from malnutrition in Torit Civil Hospital.

According to the report from the hospital, malnutrition is increasing in the Eastern Equatoria State. It is expected that more children have died, since not all deaths are reported to the hospital. Taking children to the hospital is very risky, due to the recent attacks by the Lord Resistance Army (LRA). But even if the children make it to the hospital, chances are they will die because the hospital lacks facilities or qualified staff.

### **Kapoeta: first of 10 new state hospitals in 200-Day plan**

*(Juba Post)* Michael Milli Hussein, Minister of Education told journalists this week that school construction was lagging progress on teacher training, especially in urban areas.

“We wanted to attract more money for training teachers, we have got to have teachers first, and then we can start maintenance and construction of the schools” said Minister of education in the GoSS.

Speaking to journalists during the visit of Ulla Toernaes, Danish minister of development cooperation, to Buluk –A- School, he noted the slow progress on school construction: during 2006 GoSS failed to construct a single school.

Now with the “slack” in the education system taken up by the more than 500,000 pupils entering education last year, fresh construction has become critical.

Hussein said that teacher training sessions are already running, including courses run by Windle Trust providing intensive English lessons for Arabic pattern teachers who already have the skills and methods to be teachers, but lack the English to work in the new system.

### **Dinka leaders sign peace deal**

*(Juba Post)* Earlier this week, hundreds of Rumbek East County youths signed a peace accord at the PACT headquarters in Rumbek. Then New Sudan Council of Churches (NSCC) and Lakes State local government pushed the Dinka- Gelweng community leaders and young warriors in the state to sign a peace and reconciliation package to prevent further cattle- raiding and inter- tribal conflicts.

In the opening remarks from the State Minister of Local Government Gordon Makar said that the Lakes government has used a lot of funds to support this and other security processes.

According to the NSCC peace facilitators Agnes Liliace, the NSCC is dealing directly with facilitation of grassroots peace processes and will be facilitating youth conferences and perform the follow up on the Pacong Peace and Reconciliation Conference held in Pacong last year, July 2006.

This conference was targeting the cattle camp youths to redirect their minds and energy to focus on peace and unity. They are oriented to gainful activities that can improve their livelihood that will provide alternatives to cattle raiding and looting.

## **Darfur/ DPA**

### **Darfur peace implementation panel discusses ceasefire violations**

*(ST)* The fifth meeting of the Darfur Peace Agreement Joint Commission discussed today reports on the ceasefire violations in Darfur and condemned attacks on AU, NGOs personnel in the region.

The meeting was chaired by the Acting Special Representative of the Chairperson of the AU Commission, Mrs. Monique Mukaruliza, and was attended by the signatories of the DPA and DoC, the UN, the EU and the US as members, and Canada, France, the League of Arab States, the Netherlands, Egypt and the UK as observers.

The Sudanese government was represented by Gen. Mohamed Ahmed Al-Dabi Special Representative of the President of the Republic in Darfur.

*The full text of the press release issued by the African Union Mission in Sudan is attached separately*

### **Interim government of S. Darfur comes into being**

*(AlSudani)* Governor el-Haj Atta-el-Mannan of South Darfur has appointed four new ministers, advisers and commissioners and 26 members to the S. Darfur Legislative Assembly as part of the Darfur Transitional Authority and per the provisions of the Darfur Peace Agreement.

Among those appointed were some members of the JEM's JEM-Peace Wing.

A source says that these appointments came around following consultations between the government and certain armed factions.

## **Other Developments**

### **Child soldiers conference castigates Sudan over Darfur**

(ST) Sudan's attempt to play down the security and the humanitarian situations in the war-torn Darfur region has sparked a strong reaction from the participants at the conference on child soldiers in Paris.

The Sudanese Foreign Minister, Lam Akol, on Tuesday 6 February tried to minimize the situation in Darfur, sparking strong reactions from the participants in an international conference on children and armed conflict held in Paris.

"Nobody here understands why your government is obstinately refusing the deployment of a UN peacekeeping force in Darfur," said the vice-Premier and Luxembourg Foreign Affairs Minister, Jean Asselborn, the News Agency of Nigeria reported.

Speaking at a news conference, the UN secretary-general special representative for children and armed conflicts, Radhika Coomaraswamy, said she had noticed the situation was getting worse during her recent visit to the war-wracked region. Child — 2 "I am very concerned with the humanitarian situation there. Children are particularly facing serious difficulties that would call for the intervention of the international community," she noted.

The Chadian government delegation seized the opportunity at the conference to reiterate its "subversion" allegations against Khartoum. "Chad is a victim of the Darfur crisis, which the government of President (Omar) El Bashir is trying to export to the whole sub-region.

We have welcomed 300,000 Sudanese refugees, 110,000 internally displaced people due to lack of will by the Sudan government to solve the Darfur crisis," said Chad Foreign Affairs Minister, Ahmed Allami.

He described as "wise" the African Union's decision not to give its presidency to the Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir "while he is accused in the Darfur crisis". "We have the impression that the Sudanese government is not measuring up to the seriousness of the situation. It just accepts suggestions reluctantly but has put no effort in finding a solution to the crisis, Allami added.

The conference, attended by representatives of 58 government delegations, NGOs and UN agencies signed a nonbinding accord not to use children under 18 in wars.

The accord came at the close of a two-day conference in Paris organized by Unicef and the French Foreign Ministry. Signers included 10 of 12 countries identified by the United

Nations as places where child soldiers are used. They were Burundi, Chad, Colombia, Congo, Ivory Coast, Nepal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Uganda.