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(By Public Information Office)

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IN THE NEWS TODAY:

- **UN**
 - New UN secretary-general envoy makes "first" visit to Sudan *Suna website; BBC Monitoring*
 - Sudan: UN envoy hopes for solution to Darfur crisis *Suna website; BBC Monitoring*
 - UN prepares for the deployment of 2100 military and police personnel in Darfur. *Alshafa*
 - UN SC to discuss today deployment of international troops along Chadian borders. *AlSudani*

- **CPA**
 - Bashir and Kiir exchange accusations in Juba in regard to implementation of the CPA, *SUNA*
 - Kenya to appoint envoy to monitor CPA. *Sudan Tribune*
 - Demarcation of 1956 north-south borders Commission continues work *Akhbar Al-Yom*

- **GoNU**
 - Parliamentary investigation committee begins visits to Darfur States. *Rai AlShaab*

- **Darfur**
 - Government of South Darfur issues number of resolutions to avoid escalation of violence in Darfur. *AlHayat*
 - Wali of South Darfur denies involvement of border intelligence in clashes between Tarjam and Rizeigat in south Darfur. *Rai AlShaab*
 - Presidency denies acceptance of international troops to Darfur *AlHayat*
 - 97 killed, injured in fighting between SLA Minawi and the Mima tribe *Rai Al-Shaab*

- **Other Developments**
 - Chinese President to visit Khartoum in February *AlHayat*

IN THE NEWS TODAY:

UN

The text of SUNA below is published in most Sudanese newspapers in their today's edition.

New UN secretary-general envoy makes "first" visit to Sudan

Suna website; BBC The envoy of the United Nations secretary-general, Jan Eliasson, arrived to Khartoum evening Tuesday in his first such visit, since he has been appointed as envoy of the UN secretary-general to Sudan, for meetings with Sudanese and United Nations officials on ways to achieve peace and the role of the United Nations therein.

In a statement to Suna, Mr Eliasson pointed out that he has come to the Sudan with a message of solidarity with the Sudanese people and that he was in Sudan representing the United Nations and the entire international community. He said his visit to the Sudan should be looked at as solidarity with the Sudanese people for life and for peace.

The envoy pointed out that realization of peace in Sudan is primarily carried out by the Sudanese people and the parties to the conflict from which Sudanese people suffer and he as envoy is to help with the process.

He said his visit to the Sudan comes within the context of the revival of the political process with the different parties with the view to create suitable conditions for the political process.

He said it was through talks, discussions and negotiations that people would create the suitable condition for achieving their objectives and goals and not through fighting.

He expressed hope that peace would be achieved in cooperation with the Sudanese leadership for the benefit of the Sudanese people, the region and the whole world.

He thanked the government for the warm welcome he found upon arriving and said he might probably be meeting with senior Sudanese leadership as well as with UN staffers in Khartoum.

The UN official is also expected to visit the town of Al Fashir, North Darfur state. Jan Eliasson, who early in the 1990s, served as coordinator of the Sudan Lifeline Operation.

The UN official is due to meet with Foreign Minister Dr Lam Akol as well as a number of officials on Wednesday.

He was received at the airport by the Director of the Peace Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

* The text read by the news anchor was the text of SUNA. The only addition is Ambassador el Magli statement

El Magli said that Mr. Eliasson's visit "marks a new positive and constructive spirit of the international community to lend a hand to Sudan and its people. It demonstrates the solidarity of the international community with the people of Sudan and Darfur. The rebel groups should heed the message of the international community that Mr. Eliasson brings with him".

* The 10 PM Sudan TV journal featured the visit of SP Eliasson as the second item of the main news. The first item was dedicated the celebration of the CPA 2nd anniversary.

Sudan: UN envoy hopes for solution to Darfur crisis

BBC Monitoring; Sudanese radio on 10 January, The UN envoy to Sudan, Jan Eliasson, who arrived in Khartoum last evening on a three-day official visit, has said the international community strongly supports the cooperation with the Sudanese government in order to reach a final solution to the Darfur crisis.

Eliasson said he would hold contacts with the concerned parties in order to implement the mechanisms of international support for the AU.

For his part, the permanent representative of Sudan to the UN, Abd al-Mahmud Abd al-Halim, said Eliasson's visit to Sudan was aimed at strengthening the peace process in Darfur, and stressed his hope for a stronger UN cooperation with Sudan.

UN prepares for the deployment of 2100 military and police personnel in Darfur.

AlSahafa The spokesperson for the French Foreign Ministry said his country remains convinced that international presence at the Chadian borders will contribute to stability in the region and will help finding solution to the Darfur issue. This statement was made after the UN Secretary General has presented a report on 22nd December 2006 to the Security Council. The report includes information on possible threats to deploying international troops at the Chadian border.

UN SC to discuss today deployment of international troops along Chadian borders.

AlSudani The UN peacekeeping department held a meeting on last Monday with the troops contributing countries. The purpose is to seek approval of these countries to send international forces to Darfur. This part of phase 2 of UN support package to UNMIS.

CPA

Bashir and Kiir exchange accusations in Juba in regard to implementation of the CPA, SUNA

In a televised speech from Juba, during the celebration of the second anniversary of the signing of the CPA on 9 January 2005, the president and the first-vice president traded accusations on the delay of the peace deal implementation. However the two officials reiterated their commitment to implement the agreement.

* Al-Bashir has said that the Sudan People Liberation Movement was to blame for **delays in the implementation of the CPA**. Al-Bashir urged the joint commissions on the implementation of the peace deal to continue working together so that they mitigate the retard.

He also accused the SPLM of **hindering the implementation of some clauses**.

Al-Bashir also accused the SPLM of **hindering the establishment of Customs Service on the border with Ugandan and Kenya**. He also said that the SPLM delayed the North South border demarcation.

On the Protocol of Abyei, Al-Bashir said that Committee of Experts on Abyei area failed to respect its mandate. He said that the committee adopted the borders of 1965 contradicting the provisions of Abyei Protocol that stipulate demarcation of the borders of 1905. He added that the committee could get a new mandate from the two peace partners before it issued its assessment.

On the issue of militias in Southern Sudan, he reiterated his commitment to dismantle the pro-Sudanese army militias. He disclosed that the total of the members of armed militias is 40, 000 adding that 30, 000 elements are dissolved. Regarding the remaining 10,000, he directed to move them to the north and for those who refuse to be redeployed in the north they will be dismissed.

Regarding the Ugandan rebel Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), he denied strongly any support to the LRA. He expressed his readiness to arm the Joint forces and the armies — without elaboration — to fight this rebel group. He said this is why he permitted the Ugandan army to enter to Sudan before the signing of the CPA. Al-Bashir further added “in our point of view there no solution for this [LRA] forces except to defeat it militarily or to expel them to their country to make peace with their brothers there”

Regarding the delay of the withdrawal of the SAF from the oil-rich areas of W. Upper Nile. He said that the SPLA also violated the CPA because they have a presence in the area while the peace deal stipulates that only the joint forces should stay there. He pointed out to the government compliance with outcomes of the committee on borders' demarcation between the north and south Sudan on January 1, 1956.

* While Kiir, **blamed the ruling NCP for delays in the implementation of some clauses of the CPA**

Kiir *accused Khartoum of violating the peace deal* "The continued military support from the Sudanese armed forces to the various armed groups in southern Sudan, including the Uganda rebels, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) is still alarming," he said.

Kiir also raised concerns over the disputed oil-rich Abyei zone, the demarcation of borders between north and south, and the sharing of oil-resources, all of which are sticking points in the implementation of the deal.

Kenya to appoint envoy to monitor CPA.

Sudan Tribune The people and Government of Southern Sudan yesterday celebrated the 2nd anniversary of signing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). This year celebrations have been marked by the absence of regional representation of key figures in the region, excepting the Vice President of Uganda, Gilbert Ukenya, and Foreign Ministers of Kenya and Ethiopia who honoured the occasion. Yet the celebration missed the participation of the UN, AU and IGAD representatives.

The occasion was addressed by President Bashir, V.P Kiir and also by the Foreign Minister of Kenya, Rafael Eugu, who extended his felicitations to the Juba populace and his best wishes on the 2nd anniversary of signing the CPA, intimating the President of Kenya has decided to appoint an envoy to be based in Sudan to monitor the implementation of peace in Sudan as has been previously scheduled. Eugu then disclosed that the IGAD Conference will shortly be held in Kenya for the purpose of reviewing the CPA to keep it on track.

Demarcation of 1956 north-south borders Commission continues work

Akhbar Al-Yom reports that the Demarcation of 1956 north- south Sudan borders committee is continuing its field work by sending an exploratory team to Upper Nile State, White Nile State, Sinnar state and Blue Nile State. The team will gather information about these areas and submit the needed reports for the facilitation of the work of Demarcation Committee.

GoNU

Parliamentary investigation committee begins visits to Darfur States.

Rai AlShaab The Parliamentary Investigation Committee, formed by National Assembly, begins its visits to the Darfur three states today to investigate the security situation there. The committee will hold meetings with the tribal leaders, the governments of the state, the legislative assemblies, Sudanese Armed Forces, police forces and the UN and AU missions in the region.

Darfur

Government of south Darfur issues number of resolutions to avoid escalation of violence in Darfur.

AlHayat Following the deterioration of security situation in S.W Nyala, the Government of south Darfur has issued a number of resolutions to avoid escalation of violence in Darfur. A joint SAF and riot police force has been sent to the area to prevent clashes that may occur.

Wali of South Darfur denies involvement of border intelligence in clashes between Tarjam and Rizeigat in south Darfur.

Rai AlShaab Governor of S. Darfur State Dr. Farah Mustafa denied the involvement of border intelligence forces in last clashes between Tarjam and Rizeigat tribes W. Nyala. Dr. Farah stressed that the security and humanitarian situation is stable in the state. He added that the Government has taken a number of procedures to improve the security of the area.

Presidency denies acceptance of international troops to Darfur

AlHayat Presidency of the Republic has refuted media reports over the Sudan acceptance of international troops in Darfur. The Presidential advisor for press Mahjoub Fadul Badri said that the Government of Sudan has not accepted the deployment of international troops in Darfur but the UN support for the AU troops in the region.

97 killed, injured in fighting between SLA Minawi and the Mima tribe

Rai Al-Shaab An SLM-Minnawi armed group has attacked the Mima tribe in a village North of Darfur killing 35 and injuring 6 people. Eye witnesses said the SLM- Minnawi group had attacked the village using 30 Land cruiser vehicles. They also said that 43 SLM members were killed in the attack.

Other Developments

Chinese President to visit Khartoum in February

AlHayat Reports that the Chinese President Jan Taw will visit Sudan on the 2nd of February 2007. The visit is the first of its kind since 1964. The Chinese President will hold talks with Bashir regarding the Sudanese Chinese bilateral relations. He will also open a number of Chinese oil institutions in Sudan.