



## UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN

### UNMIS

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(By Public Information Office)

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# Highlights

## UN/ Agencies

### **UN rushes aid to thousands in flood-stricken northern Sudan**

([www.scoop.co.nz](http://www.scoop.co.nz)) The United Nations is rushing vital emergency supplies – including plastic sheeting, blankets, cooking sets, jerry cans, sleeping mats and mosquito nets – to thousands of people affected by flooding in northern Sudan.

Government efforts to respond to the floods have been bolstered by the Common Pipeline system, which is an operation managed by the UN Joint Logistics Centre with support from the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the non-governmental organization (NGO) CARE.

Approximately 1,000 families in Kosti in White Nile state have received relief aid, while supplies have been delivered to 85 households in Geissan in Blue Nile state with assistance from local authorities and the UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS).

In Kassala state, UNICEF has provided plastic sheeting for 1,000 families in immediate need through the NGO GOAL, while the Common Pipeline has supplied 3,000 jerry cans.

“In times of emergency, the ability of different agencies to work together quickly and effectively is critical,” said Jonathan Veitch, UNICEF’s Chief of Field Operations in northern Sudan, speaking on behalf of the Common Pipeline’s partners.

The partnership, established in 2004, “demonstrates that we can get essential supplies to the most vulnerable families with the minimum of delay, lightening the burden on those already experiencing great hardship and loss,” he added.

To respond to additional requests for assistance, the Common Pipeline has prepared emergency supplies for up to 500 families in Kosti, 1,000 households in Kassala and 4,000 families in high-risk areas in Khartoum.

“This joint effort in support of the Government of Sudan will ultimately ease the plight of those affected by the floods and ensure that those living in high-risk areas can be provided with timely assistance should they need it,” noted Mr. Veitch.

In addition to this joint assistance, UNICEF has delivered much-needed medicines to health centres in flood-impacted areas to meet the needs of 80,000 people for one month. The agency has also provided chlorine powder and tablets to treat water supplies for roughly 50,000 people.

### **UN Secretary-General Ki-moon says hybrid forces will start in Darfur next year**

(*AlWihda*) UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon says solutions to the situation in Darfur is of great importance and a major item in his agenda. He said the UN is closely monitoring the development in the situation there.

He said that UN troops for the hybrid operation in Darfur would be deployed from next year.

### **GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)**

#### **Kuwait suspends economic cooperation with Sudan amid strained relations**

(*SudanTribune.com*) Kuwait has suspended economic cooperation with five nations including Sudan in retaliation to political stances of these countries the daily Al-Watan newspaper reported.

The Deputy Prime Minister of Kuwait Prince Mohamed al Sabah told the parliament last week that the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development has suspended loans and funding of projects in Yemen, Tunisia, Jordan, Libya and Sudan.

Unidentified official sources told Al-Watan that Kuwait is “displeased with the policies of these countries.

The official revealed that Khartoum have accused Kuwait of supporting the US stance on the Darfur crisis. He stressed that Sudan has overlooked “Kuwait’s keen interest in Sudan as an Arab country and preserving its territorial integrity”.

However a senior Sudanese official speaking to the daily Al-Sahafa expressed surprise over the report and noted that relations with Kuwait is currently “at its best”.

Kuwait has provided more than \$300 million dollars to Sudan over the last forty years to fund agricultural, transportation and energy projects.[*Follow the link to the full text [Kuwait suspends economic cooperation with Sudan amid strained relations](#)*].

#### **Sudan, Ethiopia, Egypt Monitor Nile Flood**

(*Sudan Vision; Reuters*) The Sudanese-Egyptian Joint Nile Water Commission would convene, next week, in Khartoum, under the chairmanship of the Sudanese Minister of Irrigation, Kamal Ibrahim to monitor the position of the Nile flood and calculate the adverse effects that might inflict Sudan in case of flood.

On his part, in a press statement, the Egyptian counterpart, Mahmoud Abu Zaid was quoted to have said that Egypt has undertaken the precautionary measures against any unexpected rise in the Nile water levels, though no rise before the High Dam was reported.

Abu Zaid noted that he is on daily contacts with Sudanese and Ethiopian Irrigation Ministers for the sake of monitoring water levels up the Nile and coordinating efforts to face cases of

emergency. He further revealed that signal from the Flood Forecast Centers in Sudan and Ethiopia reads that, this year, the Nile flood would be above average.

On the ground, flash floods across central and eastern Sudan have killed 20 people and destroyed 15,000 houses, the head of the civil defense authority said on Tuesday, predicting worse weather conditions to come.

He added that damage to property and houses was enormous with the collapse of nearly 15,000 houses.

North Kordofan and White Nile States in central Sudan, Kassala in the east and Sennar in the southeast suffered the most damage, he added.

The government has announced a state of alert in the areas affected and sent tents to help victims.

More than 200 families were left stranded on Tuesday on the raised main road near the town of Um Dowanban, an hour's drive east of Khartoum.

Mothers and children camped out on salvaged bed frames, surrounded by the few possessions rescued from their compounds as the floods hit.

The main road was their sanctuary from the floodwaters.

Down south, the *Sudan Radio Service* reports that continuous heavy rains have left many residents of Wadoko in Manyo County, Upper Nile, homeless for more than a week and more damage is expected as the downpour continues.

A representative of a local NGO has expressed fears of outbreak of water-borne diseases as a result of poor sanitation as the floods continue. He said the rains have caused schools to close.

The NGO representative appealed to the NGOs in the area to rescue the situation and help the victims in however manner they can. [*Follow the link to the related stories [Floods kill 20, destroy 15,000 homes in Sudan](#), [Rain in Upper Nile Leaves At Least 17 Households Homeless](#)].*

### **SPLM Secretary-General says “genocide” going on in Darfur**

(*SudanTribune.com*) The Secretary General of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) described the situation in Sudan's troubled region of Darfur as "genocide in its really meaning" adding that it represents a real challenge for all the Sudanese.

In a speech before the Sudanese community in Cairo on July 6, Pagan Amum the Secretary General of the SPLM said “what is happening today in Darfur is ethnic cleansing and genocide in its really meaning, and it is a real challenge before us.”

Referring to a statement by Sudanese president on the real number of Darfurians killed up to now in Darfur conflict, Pagan said "they claimed that people killed in Darfur were only nine thousand! Five thousand is considered genocide, and more than three hundred villages were burned and people are chased out of their homes, depending entirely on foreign aids!"

Pagan mocked at Khartoum's refusal for foreign troops in Darfur, by saying that the foreign troops are already there on the ground, exclaiming, what about the Rwandan or Nigerian troops, are they not foreign troops or they are Sudanese forces!

The SPLM Secretary General said that "Sudan is the only country in the region with high percentage of internal displaced people, and Khartoum is the evidential example of that with more than two million IDPs. There was no country in the entire world with ghost houses like Sudan." [Follow the link for the full text of the story [SPLM Secretary General says "genocide" going on in Darfur](#)].

The *Khartoum Monitor*, *AlAyaam* and others quote Pagan Amoum as saying at a press conference at the SPLM offices in Khartoum that the SPLM is discontented with what has been implemented of the CPA and the democratic transformation.

He said one of the major worries is the unresolved status of Abyei and cited the PoE arbitration, the Constitutional Court or the USA as possible options for arbitration on the issue.

"We are worried that we may resort to USA mediation and ask it to take over the administration of Abyei," he said.

He further pointed out that the "meager" achievements scored in the implementation of the CPA have caused frustration amongst the southern Sudanese populace and may tip the balance towards secession during referendum.

He also said that NCP-backed militias are still in areas of southern Sudan such as Upper Nile and Unity states and added that the SAF presence in oil-producing areas is unjustifiable and may lead the country to gloom.

### **Taha blames World Bank, donors for slow implementation of the CPA**

(*Sudan Vision; Alayaam*) Vice-President Ali Osman Mohamed Taha addressed at the Friendship Hall yesterday that inaugural session of the Finance Federalism Conference organised by the Ministry of Finance and National Economy and the World Bank.

In his speech, the VP attributed the delay in the implementation of the CPA to the failure of donors to honour their pledges and to bureaucracy in the World Bank system. He also stated that some international partners hinder the peace process in the country.

### **Aweil panics, SAF draws guns in Bentiu**

*(The Citizen)* The July 9 2007 deadline for the SAF to pull out of southern Sudan and for the SPLA to pull out of the Nuba Mountains came and passed with different results and moods in different areas, according to sources.

Sources say SAF soldiers distributed weapons in Bentiu and inched close to clashing with the SPLA and in Aweil people stayed home as quite descended on the town with UN workers panicking, worried that war would break out. No shot was fired, however despite the tense situation.

In contrast, Narus, in Eastern Equatoria State at the Kenya-Sudan border, and Malakal erupted in jubilation, singing and chanting as reports emerged that the SAF had handed over the command to the JIUs.

## **GoSS**

### **LRA Attacks Hinder Repatriation of IDPS to Eastern Equatoria/ GOSS**

*(SMC; Gurtong.com)* The GoSS has expressed concerns that insecurity caused by Lord's Resistance Army attacks and banditry is hampering IDP returns to their villages in Eastern Equatoria.

The GoSS Coordinator for the Voluntary Returns program said that about 4 million southern Sudanese IDPs live in northern Sudan. 1,600 will be transported by air to Juba, Maridi, Yambio and Tabora, he said, but pointed out that the program faces difficulties due to fact that IDPS insist to have their luggage with them on the plane.

IRIN meanwhile reports that the LRA has said its fighters will remain in hiding even if a peace deal with the government is reached, unless indictments against several of its leaders are lifted.

"Unless and only when the matter of the ICC is settled, none of our soldiers will get out of the bush and government should forget about any signature," says Kony deputy, Vincent Otti. He said the rebels had delivered this message to the Uganda government, which, it hoped, would approach the ICC requesting the withdrawal of the arrest warrants.

Internal Affairs Minister Ruhakana Rugunda, who is also the government's team leader in the peace talks with the LRA in Southern Sudan, said he believed the ICC would only consider lifting the indictments if the issue of justice was adequately addressed under the envisaged peace agreement.

### **Lakes State releases six local leaders detained for tribal fighting**

*(SudanTribune.com)* The Acting Governor and Minister for Local Government Law reinforcement agency Awan Guol Riak released two (2) Ex-chiefs and four (4) Sub-chiefs from jail on July 7 in Rumbek town.

The six chiefs were detained for 41 days in military prison in Makoi for clashes over the control of cattle-camp.

## **Darfur**

### **EU probing fate of EUR 282 mln earmarked for AU force in Darfur**

(AP) The European Union is investigating why its multimillion-euro (dollar) contribution toward the African military force in Darfur is not reaching soldiers, leaving many without pay for months, officials said Tuesday.

The European Commission has earmarked A282 million (US\$384 million) for the African Union since November 2004, and further funds have been provided by the individual EU member states.

The AU was supposed to pay the soldiers, but a recent EU fact-finding mission to Sudan's war-torn western region met with widespread complaints from the troops, Spanish EU lawmaker Josep Borrell said.

"We're in a situation which is very embarrassing. For months they have not received their pay. Some have not received any pay at all," said Borrell, a former president of the EU assembly who led the four-day mission.

The AU mission in Sudan said the soldiers' salaries have not been paid since February, but blamed the delay on administrative problems. [Follow the link to the full text [EU probing fate of EUR 282 mln earmarked for AU force in Darfur](#)].

### ***Humanitarian:***

#### **Darfur violence overwhelms relief workers**

(UN News; Reuters) The United Nations humanitarian chief warned today that increasing attacks on aid workers in Darfur are jeopardizing relief efforts, and called for an immediate end to violence in the strife-torn region of Sudan.

"Every day, more people need our help, yet humanitarian colleagues are under increasing threat from all sides," said John Holmes, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator.

A United Nations report revealed Tuesday that violence has escalated in Sudan's Darfur region since January, throwing another 160,000 people out of their homes and forcing 4.2 million people, about two-thirds of the population, to go on relief aid.

Some 2.1 million people have been uprooted from their villages in addition to the more than 200,000 who have fled the country, mainly to neighboring Chad, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, known as OCHA, said.

Particularly worrying are attacks against relief workers, which have increased 150 percent over the past year, OCHA said. [Follow the link to the full text [Darfur violence overwhelms relief workers](#)]

## **Italian parliamentary delegation pledges assistance to IDPs in Darfur**

(SMC) An Italian parliamentary delegation currently visiting the country said it has seen the situation on the ground in Darfur and has pledged to provide assistance to help IDPs in the camps and to support the development program in the region.

The head of the delegation said that the motive of the visit was to meet with Sudanese officials and hear from them about the situation on the ground in Darfur. He said that the delegation is planning to meet non-signatory factions and encourage them on board the peace process.

### ***Political:***

## **Darfur JEM is willing to negotiate with Sudan – AU envoy**

(SudanTribune.com; Rai AlShaab; AlSudani) The African Union envoy to Darfur, Salim Ahmed Salim said here today that different holdout rebel groups expressed readiness to participate in the forthcoming peace talks with the government to end the four-year conflict in the region.

Salim told the minister that the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) was ready to negotiate with the government, saying that the IDPs and civil society organizations expressed their willingness to return back to their homes and resume their normal life if security is restored and basic services are provided.

Foreign Ministry's Spokesman Ambassador Ali al-Sadiq said the two sides, the government and the AU, agreed that the venue of the negotiations between the government and Darfur rebels, holding out of Abuja Agreement, will not be a problem as they will agree to meet in any where in Africa.

Salim met yesterday with the Sudanese Foreign Minister Lam Akol and the presidential advisor Mustafa Osman Ismail.

He told the press he informed the Sudanese officials of the outcome of his visit to Darfur and the meeting he held with Chairman Khalil Ibrahim, civil society organizations and representatives from the IDPs.

Further he discussed with the foreign minister Dr Lam Akol the arrangements being made to begin a political process and negotiations between the government and Darfur rebels opposed to Abuja Agreement.

Salim held a meeting with the leader of the rebel JEM Khalil Ibrahim in the area of Kariarii, near the Chadian border on July 8. They discussed the ongoing preparation for the peace talks expected to start by the end of August.

On the other hand the AbdulWahid Nur faction of the SLM has called for the deployment of UN peacekeepers to Darfur, adoption of the oil-for-food program in Sudan and non-recognition of



the splinter factions of the SLM as fundamental conditions to be met in order that he participate in the envisaged talks under African Union-UN brokerage.

The movement's Coordinator for Humanitarian Affairs, Mohamed AbdelKareem said that the proposed talks in Tripoli or Tanzania are not more than symbolic gestures that will not realise the breakthrough required for the realisation of peace. He further pointed out that the concessions that some non-signatory groups have given while claiming to seek means to ease the humanitarian problem in Darfur does not serve the cause.

### **Darfur IDPs give African Union's Salim Ahmed Salim conditions for their return**

*(The Citizen; AlSahafa)* The Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs told the press yesterday that African Union Special Envoy for Darfur, Dr. Salim Ahmed Salim, held a meeting with Sudanese foreign minister Dr. Lam Akol as part of a routine coordination effort to prepare for the forthcoming Tripoli meeting to resolve the Darfur conflict.

Ambassador Ali el-Sadig added that Dr. Salim also briefed the foreign minister about his visit to Darfur and his meetings with the leader of the JEM, representatives of the IDPs and representatives of civil society organisations who all assured the African Union envoy of their wishes to return home and go on with their normal lives if security is provided.

The Spokesperson further said that the GoS has agreed that the venue for negotiations on Darfur would not be a problem since it is going to take place in Africa. On the Darfur dossier, the ambassador said that the Presidency will soon appoint a person to succeed late Majzoub el-Khalifa on the dossier.

El-Sadig said that they have also had contacts with SLM leader AbdulWahid Mohamed Nur.

Meanwhile, representatives of the IDPs in Kalma speaking over the phone said that they told the African Union envoy that the following conditions should be met to make the environment more conducive for negotiations on Darfur:

1. That international peacekeepers be deployed to stop the genocide; without them there would be no security,
2. The deployment of UN peacekeepers should be implemented to protect the IDP population,
3. The disarmament of the Janjaweed and other government militias in Darfur,
4. Compensation be granted, without discrimination, for the people affected by the war in Darfur,
5. The government of Sudan must remove all those communities that have been newly resettled in the indigenous peoples' homelands evacuated by the displaced communities.

### **Differences over deputy governorship of N. Darfur referred to the SLM-MM Revolutionary Council**

(*Rai AlShaab*) The SLM-MM has referred the contested issue of the mandate of the deputy governor of North Darfur to the SLM Revolutionary Council for arbitration.

SLM-MM press advisor, elTayeb Khamis, told the *Sudan Media Centre* that the Revolutionary Council will hold a meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> July following failure of the parties to resolve the issue of the mandate of the Deputy Governor of North Darfur State.

### **Miscellaneous:**

#### **Prosecutor-General to study report of commission of inquiry into the violence in the Kajbar Dam area**

(*AlRai AlAam*) The Minister of Justice says his ministry received yesterday the report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Kajbar incident in which a number of people lost their lives last month and immediately sent it to the Office of the Prosecutor-General for perusal.

He said he did not go through the contents of the report.

Meanwhile a delegation of the Sudan Lawyers' Association visited Kobar Prison last Monday and visited those detained in connection to the violence in the Kajbar area as part of its efforts to guarantee their release. The association says its delegation listened to the statements of those detained and their version of the circumstances that led to their detention and also assessed the humanitarian and health conditions of the detained which they described as sound.

Colleagues of detained reporter Mujahid Abdalla have stepped up campaigns to push for his release. His relatives have issued a press statement calling for his release or trial before a court of law.