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By Public Information Office

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## **Highlights**

### **Main News**

#### **UN SC delegation meets Kiir, says keen to end Abyei unrest**

**(Al Ray Alaam, Sudan Tribune)**-The UN SC delegation, currently visiting Sudan, Tuesday said it was keen to push Sudan's partners to find a peaceful solution to the disputed Abyei area, reported Sudan Tribune on Wednesday.

The Head of the delegation, which is on a four-day visit to Sudan Ambassador John Sawers said the SC remains committed to the full implementation of the CPA.

The delegation met FVP Salva Kiir where they discussed number of issues including the forth coming general elections, 2022 referendum and the recent violence in Abyei.

On his side, Kiir reaffirmed that the SPLA forces would not fight SAF although they were reinforcing their troops on the ground.

Meanwhile, Al Ray Alaam said that Kiir called for conducting dialogue with the Federal government to contain Abyei crisis, ruling out renewal of violence in the area.

#### **US special envoy extends stay in Sudan despite talks suspension, Dr. Nafie rejects linking relations normalization with Abyie issue**

**(ST, Al Ray Alaam)**-US Envoy to Sudan Richard Williamson announced surprisingly the suspension of dialogue on normalization of relations between Sudan and US, attributing the move to the unwillingness of the NCP and SPLM to compromise on Abyie issue, reported Al Ray Alaam on Wednesday.

Williamson said that this at this stage the leadership of the NCP and the SPLM were not interested in meaningful peace, adding that he would not be part of a peace that could not contribute in changing the situation of the Sudanese people.

He noted that the US had nothing to do, since the two parties were not interested in meaningful peace. "I exerted my utmost effort and I depart disappointed. Our dialogue is suspended at present", he stressed.

In the meantime, President Assistant Dr. Nafie Ali Nafie said that the government's stand was constant since Rome agreement, adding the process of normalization was progressing well, but he added the US side suspended the dialogue.

He described Williamson linkage of the continuation of dialogue with Abyei as “unjustifiable”

Nafie said this position did not reflect Williamson’s convictions but, he was dictated to convey it to the government.

Joel Maybury, an American embassy official, told Associated Press that no date has been set for a new round of Khartoum-Washington talks.

Williamson is expected to report to US president Bush on the outcome of his talks. However it remains to be seen what strategy Washington would take with Sudan in an elections year.

Last month the US envoy told Darfur advocated in a conference call that tougher sanctions remain an option on the table if the US president Bush deems them necessary.

### **Eliasson says UNSC appointed Darfur mediator**

**(Al Ray Alaam)**-UN Special Envoy to Darfur Ian Eliasson has called on the parties to the conflict in Darfur and Abyei to exercise self-restraint and avert resorting to violence.

Following his meeting with President’s Assistant Dr. Nafie Ali Nafie, Eliasson told reporters Tuesday that dialogue was the best option to handle pending issues.

He indicated that the postponement of the round table negotiations on security arrangements was not useful; saying the situations in Darfur necessitated urgent talks.

He called on the various rebel movements to take part in unifying the visions of the armed movements in a bid to make the up coming round of talks decisive.

Eliasson expressed hope that the newly-appointed mediator would be given more jurisdictions in order to be able to perform his duties efficiently, noting that the SC finalized his nomination.

He affirmed the necessity of activating the peace process in Darfur, saying that thawing the chilled relations between Chad and Sudan constituted the key-factor for solving Darfur problem.

Eliasson appealed to the rebel movements to shoulder their responsibilities and distant themselves from military solutions to realize peaceful solution to Darfur dispute.

President’s Advisor Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismael urged Eliasson on the importance of warning Chad to halt its negative interference in Darfur issue, commending the role being played by Eliasson and his African Union counterpart Salim Ahmed Salim.

He said the government would discuss with the visiting SC delegation the vitality of boosting the UN-AU initiative in a bid to attain success on the ground.

## **JEM leader accuses Arab nation for neglecting Darfur agony**

(Aljazeera)-a Chief of Darfur rebel movement has accused the Arab countries for neglecting the victims of violence in Darfur.

Speaking at a TV show on Tuesday over Al Jazeera JEM Chief Khalil Ibrahim said that the Arab League was preoccupied with the situation in Lebanon, turning deaf-ear to what was happening in Sudan and Somalia.

"Isn't Somalia a member of the Arab League?" Ibrahim inquired.

He attacked the government for not paying attention to the sufferings of the population in Darfur, saying that more than 300,000 persons were killed, more than 4,000 villages were burnt down and more than 6 million persons were either displaced or took refuge in neighboring countries. Where is the Arab League?" he asked.

## **UN/Agencies**

### **ICC prosecutor says Sudan in denial over Darfur “suffering”**

(ST)-The prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) Luis Moreno-Ocampo accused the Sudanese government of being insensitive to the “Sudanese people in Darfur”.

“Crimes being committed today in Darfur cannot be denied, or minimized. Decisions to commit crimes, to deny crimes, to disguise crimes are taken at the highest level. Denial of crimes, by the authorities that vowed to protect Darfurians, is an additional harm to the victims” Ocampo said in his report obtained by Sudan Tribune.

The ICC prosecutor will submit his semi-annual report to the UN Security Council (UNSC) next Thursday on the progress of the investigation of Darfur war crimes.

In his report Ocampo provided more insight into two cases his office is currently investigating with one of them expected to be completed next July.

“The second case focuses on the pattern of repeated attacks on civilians, in particular the Fur, Massalit and Zaghawa.....the third case is focused on the targeting of AU and UN peacekeepers, aid workers; it is centered on the September 2007 rebel attack on Haskanita” he said.

The judges of the ICC issued their first arrest warrants for suspects accused of war crimes in Sudan’s Darfur region in early May.

The warrants were issued for Ahmed Haroun, state minister for humanitarian affairs, and militia commander Ali Mohamed Ali Abdel-Rahman, also know as Ali Kushayb. Sudan has so far rejected handing over the two suspects.

Ocampo indicated his intention to pursue Sudanese officials at a higher level than Haroun in his upcoming case before the judges in the coming weeks.

## **UNMIS celebrates International Peacekeepers Day**

(**Alsudani**)SRSG Ashraf Qazi has emphasized that the UN recruited and trained more than 110,000 persons from 120 countries in a bid disarm the ex- combatants, protect women from sexual violence and abuse and promote gender balance.

Qazi, who was addressing on 29 May, the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the International Peace Keepers Day, said the advance troops of the hybrid operation were deployed in Darfur, commending India, Bangladesh and Nepal for contributing half in the UN peacekeepers.

He paid tribute to the martyrs of the war, saying that the UN lost about 2400 persons within the past six decades.

Head of the Media Special Campaigns at the PIO Jordan Dakamseh said that the challenges confronting the peacekeepers in Abyei was the shrinkage of the military observers movement,

He added that disagreement over reaching political solution between the NCP and the SPLM would complicate the mandate of the peacekeepers in Abyei

Deputy National Assembly Speaker Atim Garang commended the role being played the UN in Sudan, urging the UN to complete its role in Sudan.

## **GoNU**

### **South-North Borders demarcation committee suspends activity during rainy season)**

(**Al Ray Alaam**)-The Technical for the demarcation of the 1/1/1956 borders between the North and the South has announced that the work on the demarcation of the border line dividing the North and the South is suspended due to the rainy season.

Chairperson of the committee Prof. Abdalla Alsadik said the committee went so far in classifying the documents and maps, saying that the committee would submit its initial report to the presidency within the few up coming weeks

### **Sudan says ready for talks with Darfur rebels but not with JEM**

(**ST**)-Sudanese Presidential Adviser, Mustafa Osman Ismail, today stressed the readiness and preparedness of the government to move forward in the peace process for achieving security and stability in Darfur with the parties that are ready for peace and a peaceful solution.

However Mustafa, reaffirmed what can be defined as new political line of his government in the peace talks and ruled out talks with the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM). He told the UN envoy for Darfur that Khartoum considers rebel JEM as a terrorist movement and therefore they would not negotiate with.

Mustafa said that Sudan is still committed to the UN-AU peace initiative. But he added that there is a need to some progress on the ground in this direction. He further said that there are responsibilities on the international community, major countries and armed movements in Darfur to reach to settle this five years conflict..

Mustafa expressed hope that the rebel movements show greater flexibility and respond to peace proposals. He also expressed regret in this regard over the position of Abdel-Wahid Mohamed al-Nur, who despite all contacts and envoys did not show any readiness to participate in peace process.

The Presidential envoy is expected to fly in the coming days to press the French government to put pressures on the SLM

### **President Al-Bashir accuses Chad of dishonoring agreements**

**(Alsahafa)**-President Omer Al-Bashir criticized Chad for dishonoring agreements signed between the two countries and specially issues pertinent to the protection of the joint borders.

Al-Bashir, who was speaking at a press conference on Tuesday in Arosha, Tanzania, said that the relation between Chad and Sudan was a relation of one people divided between two countries, saying Sudan was keen to maintain “distinguished” relation with Chad as, Sudan believes that the solution of Darfur issue could be difficult without this relation.

He added that the government exerted strenuous efforts to solve Darfur conflict and attain peace, indicating that the general elections of next year would determine who would govern Sudan

Al-Bashir noted that the government, in collaboration with the UN and AU, was attempting to include non-signatory Darfur rebel movements to join the peace process, saying that 90% of Darfur population were enjoying security and leading normal life.

### **SAF send further troops in Abyei – Kiir says, SAF denies the accusation**

**(ST, Al Ray Alaam)**-The leader of Sudan’s troubled south called Tuesday on President Omar al-Bashir to pull back government troops in a contested oil-rich area on the boundary between north and south Sudan and said more northern troops were heading there.

Salva Kiir, who also serves as Sudan’s Vice President, said the southerners were not looking for a new war. But his comments were the first confirmation that Khartoum has sent in reinforcements to Abyei, where the two sides clashed last month.

Kiir was asked about reports of new government troops heading south after a meeting with a visiting U.N. Security Council team. "The troops are coming down from Khartoum to Abyei," he said, but dismissed the notion of fighting them, saying the south wants talks.

"The troops that are coming to Abyei are known by the president of the Republic and I have already called upon him to intervene, to order his military commanders to pull out their forces from Abyei area," Kiir said. "We are not going to fight them."

Sudan's U.N. Ambassador Abdalmahmood Abdalhaleem Mohamed said, however, there were "no troops" moving south.

## GoSS

### **GoSS oil revenue share for March-April \$ 412.43 m**

**(Sudan Vision)**-GoSS total oil revenue share for the month of March stood at \$465 million of which GoSS received \$200.47 million while the central government's share was \$264.97 million. Total revenues of crude oil used in local refineries reached \$115.59 million with GoSS share reaching \$36.67 million out of that amount while direct remittances to GoSS during March were \$252.62 million.

Undersecretary in the Ministry of Finance, Dr. Al-Tayeb Mustafa Abu-Ganaya stated at the meeting of the joint committee for calculating oil revenue shares that GoSS received its share for March at a surplus of \$15.48 million for meeting previous arrears, noting that the productive states' share for March totaled \$11.86 million, and the total amounts remitted to them totaled \$14.40 million at a surplus of \$2.54 million.

Details of productive states are broken down into \$6.23 million for the Unity State, \$5.35 million for Upper Nile State and \$2.82 million for South Kordofan State.

Abu-Ganaya revealed that surplus of remittances was used to meet previous remittances.

Meanwhile, total oil exports for last April reached \$506.44 million of which \$294.48 million were the share of the central government and \$211.96 million for the Government of the South.

Revenues of locally consumed crude on the other hand reached \$16.31 million with \$5.13 million as GoSS share and \$11.18 million for the central government.

Abu-Ganaya further explained that direct remittances and expenditure on the Government of the South for the month of April added up to \$262.40 million and the GoSS net revenues for March and April have been remitted at a surplus of \$57.94 million, adding that GoSS arrears, which now stand at \$28.37 million, will shortly be dealt with.

He reiterated that productive states share was \$10.67 million while total remittances to those states have reached \$17.55 million, at a surplus of \$6.88 million. Remittances, he said, were broken down as follows: \$8.58 million for the Unity State, \$5.94 million for the Upper Nile State and \$3.03 for South Kordofan State.

For his part, GoSS Undersecretary for Finance, Agrrey Tisa, affirmed accuracy of the above figures and praised the high level of coordination among members of the joint committee and their commitment to transparency. He further expressed his satisfaction at the high surplus rates in the remittances of GoSS and the productive states.

### **SPLA accuses government of supporting LRA (Alsudani)**

The SPLA has accused Khartoum of assisting the forces of the Lord Resistance Army of crossing the borders to the Democratic Republic of Congo.

SPLA's Chief of Staff Gen. Deng Ajack, who is currently attending a conference of senior military officers of the Lake area's states in Uganda, said that the LRA was massing thousands fighters to attack Uganda, Congo and Sudan

### **Darfur**

#### **Arab League calls on Darfur rebels to show more flexibility (ST)**

The Arab League called on Darfur rebel groups to commit themselves to the peace process and show more flexibility in order to end the five year violence in the troubled region.

Arab League Assistant Secretary General for African Affairs Zeid al-Sabban called in a statement issued on Tuesday on some Darfuri movements to show the political will to reach the settlement for the Darfur crisis.

He further said that ongoing Arab, African and international efforts proved that the Darfur problem does not lack international or regional support.

Sabban also highlighted the Arab League's role as a main partner in the peace accord reached in the Nigerian Capital Abuja in May 2006 between the Sudanese government and a former rebel faction led by Minni Minawi.

The AL also proposed to set up development projects to help the displaced Darfuri return to their villages, Sabban added.

#### **Darfur advocacy groups not surprised by suspension of US-Sudan talks (ST)**

The Darfur advocacy groups in the US have expressed little surprise over the abrupt suspension of normalization talks between Washington and Khartoum.

John Prendergast, a former Clinton administration official and Co-Chair of the ENOUGH Project, an initiative to end genocide and crimes against humanity, told Sudan Tribune that the talks "were ill-fated because the U.S. approached them without any leverage".

"U.S. Defense Secretary Gates himself has said that it make sense to pursue negotiations only when you have built some leverage" he added.

Professor Eric Reeves, Smith College English professor and Sudan expert, echoed the same call saying "it is hardly surprising that he [Williamson] found it impossible to make progress in normalizing relations with Khartoum's genocidaires".

Professor Reeves accused the Sudanese government of "deliberately and systematically" escalating military tensions in the area.



“Khartoum continues to renege on key terms of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), including accepting the binding arbitration of the Abyei issue reflected in the July 2005 report of the distinguished Abyei Boundary Commission (ABC)” he said.

The ‘Save Darfur’ coalition issued a statement attributed to its president Jerry Fowler, saying that the decision by the US to suspend the talks “must not be an end to robust U.S. engagement to resolve the crises in Abyei and Darfur – neither of which can be solved in isolation from the other”

“The United States must use its presidency of the U.N. Security Council (UNSC) this month to impose real consequences on those individuals who impede peace or order attacks on civilians” Fowler added.

News of negotiations between the US and Sudan sparked outrage among Darfur advocacy and lawmakers when the details of the talks emerged in a report by the New York Times (NYT). The documents were leaked by an unidentified US official described as being “critical of the administration’s position”.

The report said that the Bush administration could remove Sudan from an American list of state supporters of terrorism and normalize relations if the Sudanese government agreed, among other steps, to allow Thai and Nepalese peacekeepers as part of the peacekeeping force.

Professor Reeves voiced support for coercive measure against the Sudanese government.

“Moral equivalence between Khartoum and the SPLA/M, between Khartoum and the Darfur rebels, between Khartoum and other marginalized populations in Sudan, has bedeviled all diplomatic efforts to end the NIF’s [National Islamic Front] genocidal domestic security and military policies” he said.

“Until the regime is recognized for what it is, and pressured accordingly, peace will not come to Sudan” he added.

### **Displacement in Abyei is a remake of Darfur – rebel chief (ST)**

Speaking about the massive displacement of civilians from the disputed Abyei, a Darfur rebel leader said what has been done in Abyei is a remake of what Khartoum did in western Sudan.

The International Organisation for Migration said 50,000 to 60,000 people had fled to Agok, 25 km south of Abyei, and neighbouring villages, while another 10,000 were believed to have walked south toward the town of Turalei.

Abdel-Wahid al-Nur the leader of Sudan Liberation Movement condemned the displacement of Abyei population saying “world have to think twice about dealing with the government of the National Congress Party.”

Al-Nur accused Khartoum of deliberately igniting violence in the disputed Abyei in order to change the demographic composition of the region and the settle Arab tribes to ensure its control over oil fields in the contested area.

The rebel leader further said what Khartoum did in Darfur with regard to the displacement of civilians and the settlement of Arab new comers from neighboring countries is now implemented in Abyei.

He said that this "Islamist government" extrapolated this policy to other parts of Sudan in order to ensure its hegemony on the country. He cited the forcible relocation of Kajabar population and the projected settlement of Egyptian farmers in central Sudan stated of White Nile.

Al-Nur added that the Sudanese government proves again through the non implementation of Abyei Protocol that it has no consideration to the signed deal and do not recognize the authority of the international institutions. "They just know the language of violence and not admit democracy because it will exclude them." He said.

The rebel leader also said the US envoy Richard Williamson had a very instructive stay in Sudan where he had the occasion to verify the true nature of the ruling National Congress Party.

He further exhorted the US administration particularly and the international community generally should learn from this experience that their current approach with Sudanese government has failed.