



## UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN

## UNMIS

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(By Public Information Office)

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## **Highlights**

### **UN/ Agencies**

#### **Coverage on the United Nations Mission in Sudan regular briefing to the press**

*Local and international news agencies cover the press conference with factual reporting focusing on what has been said on the delay in the Heavy Support Package, preparations to receive the hybrid forces and the escalation of violence in Darfur.*

*Transcripts of United Nations Mission in Sudan' briefings to the press can be accessed through the website: [www.unmis.org](http://www.unmis.org)*

#### **UK, Ghana to introduce UN resolution to authorize Darfur force**

*(Dow Jones Newswire)* Two members of the U.N. Security Council, Britain and Ghana, are expected to introduce a resolution this week to authorize a joint U.N.-African Union force to help end the four-year conflict in Darfur, Britain's U.N. ambassador said Wednesday.

Emyr Jones Parry said he hopes the resolution will be adopted by the Security Council a week after it's introduced, although other council members weren't certain about such speedy approval.

Jones Parry told the Security Council on Tuesday that during meetings with council members earlier this month in Khartoum, al-Bashir and other top officials expressed "total unconditional acceptance" of the hybrid force. "We will hold him to what he told us," Jones Parry told The Associated Press.

Hedi Annabi, the assistant secretary-general for peacekeeping, briefed the Security Council Wednesday on preparations for the hybrid operation now that there is an agreement between the AU, U.N. and Sudan. He said a meeting for potential troop contributors will be held Friday.

Pressed later about published reports that al-Bashir has said Sudan wouldn't accept any Western troops in the hybrid force, Annabi told reporters: "We should all decide to have some hearing problems, because reacting to this or that statement may not be helpful."

"What we need to focus on now is implementation and deeds rather than words," he said.

The U.N. and AU have pledged to make every effort to find African troops for the force, but the agreement says if they can't do that, they will have to use personnel from other countries.

Annabi told reporters that council members want a precise timeline for deployment of the hybrid force, but he couldn't give them one "because a lot of factors are not in our hands." He said he hoped the force could be deployed within six months after the resolution is adopted. [Follow the link to the full text [UK, Ghana to introduce UN resolution to authorize Darfur force](#)].

## **2,382 NGOs operating in the country**

(*AlRai AlAam*) The head of the directorate for NGOs at the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs has revealed that there are 2,180 national and 202 foreign NGOs registered in the Sudan. Most of the foreign NGOs are US or UK based, he said.

Of these organisations, 105 operate in Darfur with a total of \$800 million worth of humanitarian activities in Darfur in 2006 alone. He further revealed that the total budget of the WFP as per its report for 2006 was estimated at \$724 million ... 50% of which went on administrative expenses.

The director was addressing a workshop on the Press and Humanitarian Activities organised by the ministry.

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Others :

- *SudanTribune.com* reproduces the [Joint AU-UN Road-map for Darfur Political Process](#) distributed at the UNMIS regular press conference.

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

### **The nation mourns Majzoub el-Khalifa**

(*Lead story in the local press; AlHayat*) Officials of the Government of National unity, civil society representatives and citizens of River Nile State buried yesterday Dr. Majzoub el-Khalifa, Presidential Advisor, who died in a car accident caused by over speeding in the early hours of yesterday morning.

The ill-fated vehicle he was travelling in was also carrying the body of his uncle who died earlier in Khartoum and eight other people.

The Inspector of Traffic Police said the car overturned three times as a result of the bursting of a tyre at high speed.

Majzoub's brother also died in the crash.

*The local press also reports that the UNMIS, the AMIS and the US Embassy have expressed their sadness over the death of the Presidential Advisor.*

### **Chadian president postpones visit to Sudan**

(*SudanTribune.com; Alwan; AlSudani*) The visit of the Chadian President, Idriss Deby, scheduled to begin Wednesday 27 June, has been postponed to a later unspecified date. The Sudan

government has also called off talks with a visiting Chadian delegation led by its Minister of Infrastructure.

The postponement comes amid much speculation but Sudan's foreign ministry says it has formally been informed by the Chadian side that Deby's visit has been cancelled because the Chadian leader is not in good health but sources within the Presidency of the Republic in Sudan say that the Sudanese government has asked for the postponement due to the death in a motor accident of Presidential Advisor Majzoub el-Khalifa.

Informed sources say however that the Chadian leader is waiting for a successful outcome of the ongoing meeting in Tripoli under Sudanese brokerage between the Chadian government and opposition.

### **European Parliament delegation to visit Sudan's Darfur region**

*(SudanTribune.com)* A delegation of European Parliament will pay a visit to Sudan at the end of June to inspect the humanitarian situation in the four year conflict region of Darfur.

A delegation of five deputies from the European Parliament Development Committee will visit Darfur from 30 June to 6 July, where they will visit camps of displaced people in Darfur as well as camps of Sudanese refugees in eastern Chad. The delegation will be led by Josep Borrell, the chair of the Development Committee.

In the light of the humanitarian situation in Sudan, Mr Borrell hopes that "preparations to deploy the mixed African Union-United Nations peacekeeping force will speed up" in the western province of Darfur, where the conflict has since 2003 left over 200,000 people dead, while 2.5 million have been displaced, both inside the country and to neighbouring countries such as Chad.

Thierry Cornillet (ALDE, FR), the EP's standing rapporteur on humanitarian aid, said "the important thing is to save lives. We must increase the European Union's humanitarian aid, while not forgetting that a political solution is needed to the conflict and that work towards that must go on in parallel".

The delegation is also due to meet representatives of the Sudanese government and the Sudanese national assembly on 4 July.*[Follow the link for the full text of this story [European Parliament delegation to visit Sudan's Darfur region](#)].*

### **Politicians warn of Sudan's pending disintegration**

*(The Citizen)* Political observers and several NGO representatives speaking at the AbdulKarim Cultural Centre in Omdurman yesterday warned that Sudan was passing through one of the most critical periods in its history and is headed towards disintegration.

Many opposition leaders blamed the National Congress Party over the Darfur crisis and failure to resolve the crisis and took note of recent statements by VP Kiir in Juba that the CPA was not

properly reflected on the general political reality on the ground because of the National Congress Party's unwillingness and delays in implementation of the peace deal.

On the other hand, the head of the Communist Party told *The Citizen* over telephone yesterday that solutions to the "current mess in Sudan" necessitates that the National Congress Party be pulled out of the political arena. He expressed fears that the National Congress Party may resort to rigging in the forthcoming elections.

Nugud also criticised recent statements by President Bashir denying the presence of the Janjaweed and blaming robbers for the problems of Darfur.

### **PCP tables its perspectives on elections to the National Constitution Review Commission**

(*Alwan*) The National Constitution Review Commission was briefed yesterday by Dr. Turabi on his Popular Congress Party's visions on the forthcoming elections.

A high-rank member of the party told the press that the PCP favours a system with constituencies drawn with consideration to geographic representation and proportionality.

### **Parliament in argument over disbarring of Yassir Arman**

(*AlSahafa; Alwan*) Parliament yesterday took the decision to disbar MPs Ali Mahmoud Hassanein [for absence and the fact he has tendered in his resignation], Yassir Arman [for absence from parliamentary sessions without reason], and Hassan Dindish [who had earlier been stripped of membership from the party he represents].

Yassir Arman's dismissal roused much argument within parliament with some SPLM members saying the decision was not constitutional but the Speaker defended the move and the issue was settled by a majority vote favouring the expulsion.

The session also saw representatives of the Nuba Mountains region on the SPLM ticket at the National Assembly accuse the National Congress Party of fanning conflict in the Nuba Mountains region and arming some groups there. The representatives also warned the National Congress Party of trying to disintegrate the SPLM body in the region through supporting a recent statement from a body that claims to represent the SPLM in the Nuba area accusing the SPLM of marginalising the people of the region.

Yesterday's was the last session of the House as it goes on recess until October.

### **Journalists Solidarity to stage sit-in next Monday in protest over detention of colleague**

(*AlSahafa*) The Sudanese Journalists Solidarity is to present a memorandum to the Constitutional Court next Monday challenging the legal grounds for the detention of colleagues Mujahid Abdalla and Saad Mohamed of the *Rai AlShaab* and *Ilaf* dailies respectively, now in its eighth day.

Journalists Solidarity has declared a 24-hour sit-in next Monday and has called on the government to observe fundamental freedoms and safeguard human rights that will lead to the transition to democracy and realise the requirements of the CPA.

### **Lack of jobs hinder reintegration**

(*The Citizen*) The head of the Southern Sudan DDR Commission told reporters yesterday that a shortage of job opportunities in southern Sudan is hindering the reintegration process.

Briefing the media on the outcome of talks between the north and south DDR commissions, Brigadier Arop Moyah said that most of the demobilised child soldiers went back to the army to find a stable life. He said there has been no proper reintegration although the UNICEF has tried to provide some packages for disarmed child-soldiers who “are now running back to the army to make ends meet”. He further lamented that the Interim DDR program which is approaching its deadline had seen minimal achievements since the commissions dwelt mostly on planning but hoped to see more done through the full scale program.

On his part, Dr. Salahuldeen Saleh who heads the Northern Sudan DDR Commission commented on the Lord's Resistance Army and its effects on the DDR process saying that DDR is a regional process that requires the cooperation of regional stakeholders.

He pointed out that the Ugandans have to have peace with the Lord's Resistance Army, Europe has to stop its arms supplies to Sudanese militias and Chad has to stop hosting these militias.

He further revealed that the southern and northern DDR commissions are underway to form a team which will disarm and reintegrate militias in the Bahr-el-Ghazal region. He said that the two parties, in cooperation with the UN DDRC, had already formed administrative units in South Kordofan and Blue Nile region and intend to have separate offices in Abyei.

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### **Others:**

- The press reports that the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers has declared next Saturday 30 June a public holiday on the occasion of the 18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Salvation Revolution.
- Up to 11% drop in non-oil revenues (*AlWihda*)
- The head of the *Sudan Media Centre's* News Department, Mr. Ghazi el-Sirr, passed away last Monday. The *SMC* receives condolences from the press corps and representatives of the civil society organisations and the political parties at its offices this afternoon (*Rai AlShaab*)

### **GoSS**

#### **GoSS requests exemption from US sanctions on Sudan**

(*AlWihda*) The GoSS Minister for Presidential Affairs warns that US unilateral sanctions will have negative effects on southern Sudan in the coming few weeks especially since southern Sudan is completely dependent on oil for its revenue.

Minister Luka Biong who is back from a visit to Washington has called for the formation of a joint committee of the GoSS and the US Administration to discuss mechanisms to exempt southern Sudan from US economic sanctions imposed on Sudan.

He says the US Administration has expressed readiness to support southern Sudan in the establishment of the John Garang Centre for Agricultural Sciences, among other issues.

### **GoSS declares war on HIV/AIDS**

*(Khartoum Monitor)* The GoSS Vice-President Dr. Riek Machar has called on agencies involved in fighting HIV/AIDS to tender in their performance reports to the GoSS for inclusion in the 2008 fiscal budget.

Addressing a workshop in Juba on National Strategy for Combating Disease in Southern Sudan, Dr. Machar urged religious leaders to join the fight against HIV/AIDS and to enlighten citizens on the dangers of the disease. He said the GoSS has declared war against the disease by establishing the HIV/AIDS Commission.

### **Chiefs row over powers**

*(The Citizen)* With over a million returnees flowing into southern Sudan, a fight is brewing between returning traditional rulers and their hosts, chiefs told *The Citizen* at a workshop in Juba yesterday.

The chiefs also reveal that many of their colleagues have gone to court for arbitration over who deserves the chief's slot. The courts reward legal right of the seats to those whose lineage was in power before the civil war while elections show the popular support of the pretenders to the position.

### **Unknown gunmen kill 3 people in South Sudan's Torit**

*(SudanTribune.com)* Unknown gunmen last night opened fire on civilians killing three and wounding another three at Otuho residential areas in Torit when dancing.

According to MP Major General Jeremia Africa, a relative of the slain, the gunmen sneaked into jubilant community members who were celebrating the acquittal of their son from two years prisons at about 2a.m. and fired indiscriminately at people who were dancing under a tree.

The lawmaker said the two people seriously injured are undergoing medical treatment at Torit Civil Hospital and released their names as being Mr. James Ohia Alberto and Icaia Oker.

He observed that the shooting incident happened before Governor together with his cabinet left to console the victims of Naur village in Eastern Kapoeta county where 56 people – including 48 females - were massacred while cultivating in a communal farm.

Africa lamented and wondered why Governor Ojetuk could not intervene in these unbecoming frequent killing of the innocent in Torit .

### **Nile Commercial Bank on mend after GoSS billions**

(*Gurtong.com*) The Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS) has pumped life-saving funds into southern Sudan's Nile Commercial Bank and is monitoring a restructuring process officials told Reuters on Monday.

“(Nile Commercial Bank) opened so many branches – over 23 – the capacity of the bank could not manage that, so we came in to reorganize,” explained Kornelio Koryom Mayik, deputy governor of the government's Bank of Southern Sudan (BoSS).

As well as providing advice, the GOSS and the BoSS pumped in close to two billion Sudanese dinar in order to save the Uganda-listed bank which Mayik says is now operational despite the prior poor planning.

Nile Commercial Bank is owned by a number of individuals and the semi-autonomous southern government also has shares said Mayik. Its managing director was fired in mid-June but the board of directors is yet to choose a permanent replacement he added.

As well as being vital to the economic health of the developing area the bank, which first emerged during the civil conflict, has an emotional value to southerners because it was established by members of the former rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army said Mayik.

“The capital of the bank is within the region of one billion Sudanese dinars,” said Mayik who said some assets were not in the country, “assets are now being assessed, and they're not yet detailed.”

Mayik said that the south's other bank – Ivory Bank – is not in any difficulties.

### **Darfur**

#### ***Humanitarian:***

### **France preparing for second conference on Darfur**

(*AIRai AIAam*) Sources report that France is in consultations with Security Council member-states for a second conference on Darfur at ministerial levels and that the organisers are planning the conference to take place at the fringes of the September meeting of the UN General Assembly.

High-rank diplomatic sources say that the conference in which Sudan and the African Union will be invited will focus on discussing the developments in the situation in Darfur in light of the agreements signed and the efforts on the political track.

### **US stars raise money to help Darfur**



(AP) George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon and company have already donated more than half the \$9.3 million (A6.9 million) they have raised since the premiere of "Ocean's Thirteen" last month to help hundreds of thousands of Sudanese civilians survive in the conflict-wracked Darfur region and they are just beginning.

Clooney said they want to keep emptying and replenishing the coffers of the humanitarian organization co-founded by the all-star cast and the filmmakers of the lighthearted caper film to focus global attention on the plight of the 2.5 million people in Darfur who have fled their homes.

Clooney announced the latest donation from the new humanitarian organization called Not On Our Watch — \$1 million (A740,000) to the U.N. World Food Program — which will be used to help the U.N. agency deliver food and other necessities by helicopter to inaccessible villages in Darfur.

"They're having trouble in just funding the helicopters," he explained. "We're expanding the fleet of helicopters to supply these hard to reach places. It's for people displaced from their homes, and this is the only way to reach them, because there is no road access."

Karen Sendelback, president and CEO of U.S.-based Friends of the World Food Program, said in a statement that every aid organization working in Darfur relies on WFP planes and helicopters to get to inaccessible villages and "the generous gift" will greatly expand aid to the needy.

The latest WFP donation raised to \$5.5 million (A4.09 million) the amount that Not On Our Watch has given to humanitarian and relief organizations working in Darfur in less than three weeks.

Its first donation of \$2.75 million (A2.04 million) went to the International Rescue Committee, which Clooney said would be used to treat the sick; provide clean water, latrines and child nutrition centers; and build a health care center at the Oure Cassoni refugee camp in Abeche, Chad, across the border from Darfur.

Not On Our Watch also donated \$750,000 (A557,200) to the British-based relief agency Oxfam which Clooney said will be used to drill for water and truck it to the needy, and provide the displaced with fuel-efficient stoves which means women won't have to leave the camps so often where they run a great risk of getting raped.

Save The Children, the British-based charity which operates worldwide, received \$1 million (A740,000) to upgrade the obstetrics ward and set up a trauma center for rape victims at the Al Krenek Camp in western Darfur, and similar facilities in eastern Chad, Clooney said. [*Follow the link for the full text [US stars raise money to help Darfur](#)*].

***Political:***

**W. Darfur governor in talks with North Darfur-Northern State border demarcation team**

(*AlWihda*) The governor of West Darfur met at his offices yesterday a delegation of the technical committee charged with the demarcation of the boundaries between Northern State and North Darfur established by virtue of the Darfur Peace Agreement.

[*The paper gives no further details as to discussions that took place*].

### **Gulf Cooperation Council to discuss Darfur**

(*AlSudani*) The General Secretariat of the Gulf Cooperation Council holds its regular conference a meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> July this year.

The Secretary-General of the GCC says the forthcoming conference will discuss the regional and international developments and the regional dynamics. Palestine, Iraq, Lebanon, Iran, Somalia and Darfur will feature in the discussions, he said.

### ***Security Developments:***

#### **Minnawi troops facing tragic situation in Darfur – former rebel**

(*SudanTribune.com*) The military leadership of former rebel Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM), Minawi's faction, has launched strong criticism against the tragic situation facing the movement's army, describing the situation as intentional, aimed at separating Minnawi from his military leadership.

The military spokesman SLM Mohamed Hamid Darbin has admitted in an interview with the Arabic language Alwan that the situation on the ground was deteriorating because of the absence of non-military logistic support and security arrangements were not implemented in accordance to Abuja Agreement.

According to the Darfur Peace Agreement the rebel forces have to be integrated into the Sudanese army and police: Four thousand former rebels to be included in the army and other one thousand into the police. The DPA also speaks about education and training programs for three thousand rebels.

Minawi since is designated as Senior Presidential Assistant but has no real power on the ground while his troops, who are mainly Zaggawa are stationed in Greida in South Darfur, in a hostile environment because they are not supported by the inhabitant of the area from the Massalite ethnic group.

However its military wing still has not disarmed, as the security arrangements agreed during the signing of the Abuja agreement have not yet been implemented.

Darbin said this was a plan to separate the leader of the movement, Minawi, from his army. He added the ruling National Congress Party (NCP) did not give Minawi any authorities. "He is a man who is powerless, his forces were crushed before him in Al-Muhandisin – a suburb of Khartoum — incident, and that is a proof that he has no authorities."

Meanwhile, Darbin said that most of the people who are in the Darfur Interim Authority are not members of the SLM, Minawi's faction but are mostly "opportunists". Darbin has warned against a crisis that will happen on the ground if the government is not be serious in providing non-military logistic support to SLM's military wing.

### **Gereida refuses to cooperate with the SLM commission on mass grave**

*(AlAyaam)* The people of Gereida in South Darfur have refused to cooperate with the commission of inquiry formed by the SLM-MM to look into the incident that occurred in the Gereida area late last year following the attempted assassination of Minnawi's deputy, Dr. el-Rayah Mahmoud.

Forty people were reported killed during the incident and remains of eight of them were uncovered in Rahad el-Itham in Gereida.

Relatives of those killed told a press conference in Nyala yesterday that they refuse to cooperate with the team formed by Minnawi because some members of the SLM were involved in the incident and this, they say, calls into doubt the motives of the SLM team.

### **Authorities in West Darfur arrest 43 IDPs and seize eight trucks**

*(AlAyaam)* West Darfur authorities have arrested 43 IDPs and seized eight trucks laden with humanitarian assistance for the IDPs, reports Hussein Abu-Shartay, Spokesperson for the IDP and Refugee Camps.

He said that the whereabouts of the arrested is not known. He calls for restraint from the government and the release of the arrested. He also called upon the UN and human rights organisations to pressure the government into putting an end to the harassment of IDPs in the camps. He said that they had raised the issue of the arrests to the African Union but to no avail.

The spokesperson pointed out that they are only IDPs and refugees suffering as a result of the war and have nothing to do with the opposition or politics. He noted that such harassment will lead the IDPs to leave the camps and head to the so-called "liberated areas".