Media Monitoring Report

United Nations Mission in Sudan/Public Information Office

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Highlights

Local Arabic and English Language Press

Abyei Area administrators to be sworn in tomorrow

Ajras Al-Hurriah reports the five members of Abyei Area executive administration and members of the Area's legislative council will take oath of office tomorrow in front of chief administrator Arop Moyak and his deputy Rahma Abdul Raham. The two arrived in the area two days ago. At an introductory meeting with members yesterday, Moyak pledged to work on implementing Abyei roadmap, to speed up the return of IDPs and provide support. Moyak also met with JIU commander and Abyei Area Administration members and addressed returnees from Halfa and Dongola who have been accommodated in 140 tents.

Staving Darfur IDPs abandoned by NGOs

The Citizen states the IDP spokesperson at Hamdiya camp (near Zalingi), (West Darfur) Adam Bosh said yesterday that UN deputy director for humanitarian affairs would visit the camp today to familiarize himself with the IDP situation. He said the IDP situation was deteriorating especially after a number of NGOs had left the area with others saying their staff would leave the region by November 15. According to Adam, IDPs are to submit a memorandum to UN to request UNAMID deployment for security as well as humanitarian assistance and compensation. He urged the international community to put pressure on the NGOs not to leave the camps.

Minister of Justice briefed on ICRC activities in Sudan

Sudan News Agency reports Justice Minister Abdul-Basit Sabdarat yesterday received ICRC official Patrick Vial who briefed the Minister on the ICRC activities in Sudan. The Minister said the meeting reviewed cooperation between Sudan and the ICRC including possible assistance to Sudan in the areas of national legislation and international agreements. The Minister said Sudan was keen to boost cooperation with the ICRC.

Darfur crimes prosecutor briefs Justice Minister on criminal cases

Akhir Lahza reports Darfur Crimes Prosecutor Nimir Ibrahim returned to Khartoum yesterday after a brief visit to North and South Darfur States. He is expected to visit West Darfur State next week to resume investigations into complaints of crimes in Darfur, including the dossier of Ali Kushayb.

Nimir has assigned an "elders team" (set up by Justice Minister) to receive complaints in the two State and refer them to the Ministry for legal classification. The Prosecutor met the Justice Minister yesterday to brief him on outcomes of his visit to Darfur.

SPLM Ministers walk out of West Kordofan Cabinet meeting

Ajras Al-Hurriah reports SPLM Ministers in Western Kordofan state have walked out of the State Ministers meeting to protest the State Governor Omer Sulaiman's decision to sack Finance Minister Ahmed Abdul Rahman (SPLM). An SPLM official in the State Arno Antiklo said the Governor of Western Kordofan did not carry out FVP Kiir's directive to reinstate the dismissed Minister. The SPLM Ministers who withdrew constitute 45% of the State Cabinet.

Sudan government hopeful tension removed under Obama's administration

Al-Sahafa reports Presidential Advisor Mustafa Osman Ismail said the Sudan Government hoped Sudan-US relations would improve under Obama. He told journalists yesterday that Sudan has no intention of pursuing a confrontational approach with America. However, he said Sudan was keen to remain independent without interference in its internal affairs. "We are part of the international community and we are keen to interact and deal with it for the interest of the country, the region and the world," he said. "America is a super power which influences issues in the country, region and the world so any step on its part to improve relations between Khartoum and Washington is welcome," he added. Ismail said Sudan Government was monitoring formation of the new US Administration and was preparing to present its case in a clear manner.

Umma party ready for elections

Al-Intibaha reports National Umma Party official Mariam Al-Mahdi told a rally in Dongola that the party stands ready to contest upcoming elections provided they are free and fair.

South-South Dialogue for southerners only - SPLM

Al-Wifaq reports SPLM said NCP was not invited to the south-south dialogue currently underway in Juba because it is not a southern party. SPLM spokesperson stated the southern parties were the ones which requested the dialogue to discuss a number of issues concerning southern Sudan.

Egyptian President to visit Khartoum and Juba today

Sudan Radio broadcasts Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak is expected to visit Sudan today for consultations on bilateral relations and latest developments. President Mubarak will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Abu Al-Gheith, Minister Omer Sulaiman, and Information Minister Anas Al-Fikhi. President Mubarak will also travel to Juba today to discuss CPA implementation as well as other important issues with GoSS officials.

Sudan prepares to set up nuclear facility for electricity generation

Local dailies report Sudan's Ministry of Energy announced start of preparations to set up infrastructure to build nuclear reactor to generate electricity in cooperation with IAEA. NEC DG and chairman of the nuclear energy committee Makawi Awad said the country's electricity needs entails entering the field of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

Websites/International News Coverage

Mubarak in Sudan to discuss Bashir genocide accusation

(*AFP*) Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak arrived in Khartoum on today for talks with Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir about war crimes allegations he faces at the International Criminal Court. The agenda for the one-day visit will include "the accusation made against Bashir by the ICC prosecutor," an Egyptian official told AFP, requesting anonymity.

Kenya to train South Sudan civil servants

(*Business Daily-Nairobi*) The Kenya government will spend part of Sh250 million it pledged to donate for reconstruction of South Sudan to train at least 2,800 civil servants in a bid to equip the nascent semi-autonomous country's government personnel with public sector management skills. The civil servants are being trained in various Kenyan colleges and given opportunities for on-the-job training in institutions with links to the government.

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Sudan hires UK law firm to handle ICC indictment of Bashir

(Sudan Tribune website) The Sudanese government hired a British law firm to represent it in its confrontation with the International Criminal Court (ICC), multiple sources tell Sudan Tribune. According to these unnamed sources, the firm's name is Eversheds LLP which specializes in international law. Repeated attempts to get comment from Eversheds were unsuccessful.

DR Congo forces to suspend operations against the LRA

(Sudan Tribune website) Regular forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) will cease military operations against the Ugandan rebels, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), said President Lauren Kabila LRA forces have been reportedly clashing with Congolese troops for the last two months inside DR Congo as the rebels have been allegedly destroying Congolese villages and abducting children.

President Kabila told GoSS agree to a Vice President Dr. Riek Machar in their meeting in Nairobi on Friday that his forces would ceasefire with the LRA on condition that Joseph Kony signs the Final Peace Agreement with the Uganda government by the end of November.

Machar met with senior United Nations personnel on the Uganda peace process. They discussed possibility of stationing some members of the Cessation of Hostilities Monitoring Team (CHMT) with UN MONOC forces based in Dungu and other areas inside DR Congo to monitor the movement and activities of the LRA.

CHMT was established in Juba to monitor the implementation of the cessation of hostilities agreement signed two years ago between the Uganda government and the LRA, and it is composed of senior military officers from Kenya, South Africa, Mozambique, Tanzania, DR Congo, Uganda, Southern Sudan and the LRA.

The Team is led by Major General Wilson Deng of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

MONOC forces would also provide the CHMT members to be based in DR Congo with necessary logistical support.

Vice President Machar, who is the Chief Mediator of the Uganda peace talks, said he had also reached an understanding with UNMIS in Southern Sudan to reconstruct the main road from the Sudan-DR Congo border at Ri-kwangba up to Maridi town in Western Equatoria state.

The UN MONOC forces would also construct a road from the DR Congo side of the border to link the two countries by land.

He said this would also connect Sudan's UNMIS and DR Congo's MONOC by land and would make movement and trade between Western Equatoria state and DR Congo possible.

A Stake holders' Consultative Conference held in Kampala this week called on the LRA leader to sign the peace agreement by November 29, 2008. On Thursday, President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda said Uganda would approach the ICC to defer the indictment after the LRA leader has signed the Final Peace Agreement.

Senior Rwandan official arrested

(BBC) German police have arrested a senior Rwandan official in connection with the killing of a previous president whose death triggered the 1994 genocide. Rose Kabuye - the chief of

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protocol for current Rwandan President Paul Kagame - was detained on arrival at Frankfurt on a warrant issued by a French judge. She is one of nine senior Rwandan officials wanted over the shooting down of Juvenal Habyarimana's plane. All are members of the party which ousted the genocidal regime.

Correspondents say Ms Kabuye, a former guerrilla fighter with the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), now Rwanda's ruling party, has heroic status in Rwanda. She has since served as an MP and mayor of the capital Kigali, and is one of President Kagame's closest aides.

A German diplomat told **AFP** news agency that Ms Kabuye had been in Germany on private business and that Germany was "bound to arrest her" by a French-issued European arrest warrant.

Ms Kabuye has visited the country before but under German law could not be arrested as she was part of an official delegation.

The government denies involvement in the death of the former president

"Rwanda has been made aware on several recent occasions that if Ms Kabuye returned to Germany she would be arrested," said the diplomat.

Ms Kabuye's lawyer said she would be transferred to France "as quickly as possible".

"She is ready to speak to the judges, especially since, to our knowledge, there isn't much in the dossier," said Leon-Lef Forster, referring to the evidence against his client.

AFP quoted Rwandan Information Minister Louise Mushikiwabo as saying that Ms Kabuye's arrest was a "misuse of international jurisdiction".

Ms Kabuye and the eight other senior RPF officials were indicted in France in 2006 following an investigation.

Earlier this year, Ms Kabuye's lawyers complained that they were being denied access to the indictment dossier, and criticized what they described as France's "silence" over the case, says our correspondent.

The African Union (AU) has said arrest warrants would not be recognized in AU countries and has also accused France of violating international law by failing to bring the case to trial.

Sudan and Chad ambassadors arrive to their posts

(**Sudan Tribune website**) Chadian Ambassador Baharadine Haroune Ibrahim, who had been expelled last May from Khartoum, arrived yesterday in the Sudanese capital to resume his activities.

Sudan broke off diplomatic relations with Chad in May, accusing Ndjamena government of sponsoring an attack on Khartoum by Darfur rebel group the Justice and Equality Movement.

"I'm very happy to be back in my post," Ibrahim told reporters. He further thanked Libya, which worked for the restoration of full diplomatic ties between the two countries.

"We came round to the idea of strengthening our relations in all sincerity and to live in harmony

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as two brotherly neighbours who share many things in common," Ibrahim further said. The Chadian envoy stressed that talks are the best way to resolve conflicts "if some problems arise then people should sit down and resolve them."

Sudanese ambassador Abdellah Al-Shaikh hailed historical day; hoping it would end terrible diplomatic tension that went on between the two countries for six months. "This problem has to be solved then to create the condition to solve the big issue of Darfur. If not, it will be impossible to have a solution in Darfur." the Sudanese Ambassador said.

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