

27 Nov 2008

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# Media Monitoring Report

United Nations Mission in Sudan/ Public Information Office

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- Chairman of NDP accuses SPLM and NCP of not consulting political parties (**Miraya FM**)
- Red Cross asks donors for \$940 million for 2009 (**AP**)
- Sarkozy to discuss Darfur crisis with Beshir (**AFP**)

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# Highlights

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## Local Arabic and English Language Press

### *UN official warns IDPs of reliance on aid*

**Al-Sudani** reports USG John Holmes visited IDPs camp in Zalingi yesterday and proceeded to Geneina where he met representatives of UN Agencies and HAC commissioner. In Zalingi IDPs complained to Holmes about poor health, education and food services. Holmes warned the IDPs of the danger to continue relying on aid. He urged them to voluntarily return to their villages to resume agriculture and grazing.

Today, Holmes is to visit Southern Kordofan and proceed to Abyei to familiarize himself with the security situation and meet the new Abyei Area Administration. Holmes is also visiting Juba for consultation with the FVP Kiir.

### *CPC discusses force deployment*

**Al-Rai Al-Aam** reports the CPC yesterday discussed progress of implementing security arrangement, issues referred to the JDB and CJMC, force redeployment and reports submitted by the CJMC. Prof. George Boring who chaired the meeting, said it was positive.

### *NCP and SPLM overcome most differences on national security law*

**Al-Sahafa** reports the NCP and SPLM Joint Legal Affairs Committee finalized discussions on national security law and reached agreement on most of the contentious issues, NISS powers in particular. The Legal Committee submitted the law to the two parties' Political Committee which will in turn submit it to the National Assembly. The Legal Committee is to begin discussing referendum law today.

According to the newspaper, the Committee agreed that apprehension and interrogation should be based on permission from the Prosecution. The two partners also agreed to create NISS First Deputy DG post with wide powers. However, the two partners disagreed on national Security Council formation. SPLM insists formation should be based on approval of the FVP while NCP is saying it should be in consultation with the FVP. NCP also insisted on adding new members to South Sudan Security Committee which is rejected by SPLM.

### *Donors to meet in Juba and Khartoum to support elections*

**Al-Sahafa** reports a donors' broad meeting is to convene in Khartoum and Juba in mid January to discuss supporting elections. US Administration has allocated \$ 90 million for the elections process.

Meanwhile, GoSS allocated SDG 40 million for the CPA anniversary celebrations on 9 January which will be attended by President Bashir, his two deputies and GoNU Ministers.

### *Bashir, Sheikh Hamad and Sarkozy to meet in Doha*

**Local dailies** report President Bashir is to lead Sudan delegation tomorrow to Doha for UN conference. French Foreign Ministry announced that a meeting would be held between Presidents Sarkozy, Bashir and Emir of Qatar for consultation on Darfur peace process. The meeting is part of France's efforts to resolve Darfur crisis.

According to **Al-Wifaq**, US Envoy Richard Williamson, speaking at press conference in Doha on Tuesday, hinted that Washington could use the veto to block deferment of the ICC indictment of President Bashir.

### ***Egyptian strategic experts says South secession difficult***

**Sudan Vision** reports Al-Ahram Strategic Centre Editor and Chairman of Sudan and Nile Basin Studies Programme, Dr. Hani Raslan said secession of Southern Sudan would not be achieved in the absence of three factors. These are USA consent, addressing south-south conflicts and SPLM transforming into a political party. In an exclusive interview with the paper, he said these three factors are very difficult to materialize. He warned that secession would negatively affect neighbouring countries, Egypt in particular.

### ***International financial crisis affects Sudanese – Finance Minister***

**Sudan Vision** reports Finance Minister Awad Ahmed Al Jaz as saying that the international financial crisis has affected Sudan's resources particularly the oil sector, citing oil prices fall from \$150 to \$40 or less.

### ***Air force to conduct live ammunition training in northwest Omdurman***

**Local dailies** report Sudan Air force is to conduct its 2008's live ammunition training known as "protective shield" in northwest Omdurman. SAF spokesperson Osman Al-Aqbash said the exercise will begin today and continues up to 4 December. He advised all civilians to be cautious. However, Al-Aqbash said such training is routine.

### ***Khartoum allocates land to Palestinians in Suba***

**Al-Sahafa** reports Presidential Assistant Mustafa Osman Ismail said the Palestinian refugees stranded at Jordan-Syria borders would be accommodated in Suba suburb south of Khartoum. Ismail told journalists yesterday that Khartoum State authorities allocated the land yesterday and 400 Palestinian families would be housed in prefabricated houses until fixed ones are constructed.

### ***Bassole says concerned by factions splintering***

**Sudan Vision** reports UN-AU Chief Mediator Djibril Bassole said he had made contacts with the non-signatory factions in Darfur and expressed his apprehension that the factions might splinter further before the Doha negotiations.

Sudan Ambassador to AU Mohiedeen Salim has called on the rebel factions to respond positively to the Sudan People's Initiative. He said that both the AU and UN have underlined the need for the two parties to engage in negotiations with a spirit of responsibility.

### ***Uganda peace deal on Saturday***

**Local dailies** report LRA leader Kony will sign a peace agreement with Ugandan Government on Saturday. LRA representatives arrived in Juba yesterday to join the chief negotiator Riek Machar. According to sources, the signing ceremony which will take place in "Linga" in southern Sudan will be celebrated in Juba in presence of Presidents Bashir and Museveni and the International Community.

### ***Khartoum North Court begin trying person accused of leaking documents to ICC***

**Al-Ayyam** reports Khartoum North Court began trying a person accused of gathering information to be provided to the ICC. The court, chaired by Judge Abdul Wahab Ismail,

rejected defence appeal to release the accused on bail on the grounds it can not release an accused whose penalty could reach death.

### ***Edward Lino is a “warmonger” – NCP official***

**Al-Wifaq** reports Presidential Advisor and NCP official Mustafa Osman Ismail said Edward Lino was the cause of the recent bloody mass destruction in Abyei and is also behind ongoing problems in the Area. He said Lino's recent statements were unfortunate and described him as a “warmonger”.

### ***Seven killed in southern state ambush***

**SMC** reports seven people were killed including a Ugandan driver and his assistant after an armed group ambushed a commercial lorry heading from Juba to Yei. The group ran away with more than US\$10,000 as well as mobile phones belonging to the victims. A number of other commercial Lorries were also ambushed in Kajur and Bango mountains area, and all passengers were robbed.

## **Websites/International News Coverage**

### ***Sudan government breaks Darfur ceasefire: U.N.'s Ban***

**(Reuters)** – U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said yesterday he was disappointed that Sudan's government was still conducting military activity in Darfur in violation of a ceasefire and urged restraint from all sides.

Ban's office said in a statement Darfur's UNAMID force had investigated reports of air strikes by the Sudanese government from November 21 to November 22 in Abu Dungal in South Darfur. "(They) confirmed visible effects of air strikes, including four craters created by bombing and the presence of unexploded ordnance on the ground," the statement said.

"The Secretary-General reiterates his call for all parties to use restraint and renew their commitment to an immediate and unconditional ceasefire," the statement said. "The Secretary-General further expresses his disappointment that military activity by the government continues in Darfur, particularly in light of the 12 November announcement of an immediate ceasefire by the government."

### ***UNMIS Launches Public Information Campaign on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Malakal***

**(Gurtong)** 22 Nov - UNMIS has launched a public information campaign to increase awareness on the UN policy on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. During the ceremony held at Upper Nile University Hall, the UNMIS Head of Office in Malakal, Ms. Winnie Babihuga, thanked the Conduct and Discipline Unit (CDU) and UNMIS for spearheading and organizing the awareness campaign, saying that it will enable more Sudanese understand the work of the UN. She emphasized that the campaign underscores the commitment the UN attaches to upholding the highest standards of conduct and complying with the UN's zero tolerance to sexual exploitation policy.

The Principal of Upper Nile University, Dr. Job Akoy hailed CDU for taking the lead in launching the noble campaign and for taking the lead in advocating against sexual exploitation.

The Chief of CDU, Ms. Aster Zaoude, said that it was the responsibility of everyone to support the fight against sexual exploitation and asked anyone to report such cases to authorities for legal action.

### ***Sudan accused of second attack in a week on former rebel group***

**(Bloomberg)** 26 Nov - A faction of the Sudan Liberation Army led by Mini Arkou accused Sudan of attacking an area in Darfur under its control for the second time in less than a week, the United Nations peacekeeping mission in the area said.

The faction, the only major rebel group to have made peace with the Sudanese government, told peacekeepers three people were killed and several others injured when government forces attacked Um Martei village, about 30 kilometers (19 miles) southeast of Dar el Salam in northern Darfur on Nov. 23, the UN mission, known as UNAMID, said late yesterday in a statement. The attack comes a day after the same group accused the army and government-allied militia of attacking the Abu Dangal area in South Darfur last week, stealing 52 camels, abducting two children and dropping four bombs.

Minnawi was the only major rebel leader to sign the 2006 Darfur Peace Agreement, which put in place a cease-fire between the two sides and gave Minnawi a post as presidential adviser in the government. The government has said its only military operations in Darfur are in self-defense or against bandits, not rebels.

### ***Ban hails Sudan's election body as major progress in north-south peace accord***

**(UN News)**, 26/11/08 - Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has welcomed the decree signed yesterday by Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir appointing the National Electoral Commission, calling it a major step towards implementing the accords that ended a two-decade-long civil war in the south of Africa's largest country.

Organizing free and fair elections next year is a key element of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement concluding the north-south civil war, which killed at least 2 million people and displaced 4.5 million others.

The UN stands ready to support the electoral process. Mr. Ban's spokesperson Michele Montas told a news briefing in New York today.

### ***Al Bashir inaugurates electronic passport project***

**(Miraya FM)** President Bashir inaugurated the electronic passport project yesterday at the premises of the passports department in Omdurman, where he received the first electronic passport as a kick-off for the project. The issuance of electronic passports will start in mid December this year.

Minister of Interior Affairs, Ibrahim Mahmoud Hammed, said in a press release during the opening ceremony that six international companies contributed to the electronic passports project, by providing the basic machinery and equipments.

The minister added that issuance of the electronic passports at the current stage will take place at Omdurman, Bahri, Khartoum and later in other States.

The passport could be issued by Fiber-optic network from other centers immediately after processing the necessary information through the centers in the states.

The minister added that the first stage of the project cost 12 million Euros.

### ***Blue Nile's Governor denies obliging organizations to employ State's citizens***

**(Radio Miraya Website)** 27 Nov - The Governor of Blue Nile State, Malik Agar, denied the news reported by **Al Ayam** newspaper that he threatened to reject any organization operating in his state that does not provide employment opportunities for the State's citizens. Agar told **Miraya FM** that the state needs all forms of development and therefore it would be illogical to expel these organizations, which in return provide services and development to the people.



### ***Chairman of NDP accuses SPLM and NCP of not consulting political parties***

**(Radio Miraya Website)** 27 Nov - The Chairman of the National Democratic Party, Sulieman Hamid, accused the SPLM and the NCP, of not consulting the other political parties concerning the Election Law and Parties Council nominees. Hamid further added to **Miraya FM** that his party objected to some nominees because they are unnatural.

The SPLM Spokesperson, Yen Matthew, rejected the accusations and further stated that the agreement on the National Electoral Commission and the Parties Council was a bilateral decision.

Yen downplayed the statements saying it will have a minimum impact on the coming elections next year.

### ***Red Cross asks donors for \$940 million for 2009***

**(AP)** Geneva — The international Red Cross says it needs almost \$940 million next year to help people caught in conflicts around the world. The neutral group says its budget for next year will be the highest since 2000.

It says Sudan will remain its largest single field operation, costing about \$87 million, followed by Iraq with \$81 million and Afghanistan with \$62 million.

International Committee of the Red Cross President Jakob Kellenberger told reporters in Geneva Thursday that the global economic crisis and environmental factors such as drought will likely add to the hardships already experienced by millions living in war zones.

### ***Sarkozy to discuss Darfur crisis with Beshir***

**(AFP)** PARIS— French President Nicolas Sarkozy will discuss the Darfur conflict with his Sudanese counterpart Omar al-Beshir at a weekend UN meeting on the global financial crisis in Doha, his office said Wednesday. Qatari Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, who has offered to mediate a peace deal to the fighting that has raged in the southern Sudanese province of Darfur since 2003, will preside over Saturday's meeting, the office added.

"The (French) president is very keen to relaunch (peace) efforts with the help of Qatar.... That Arab countries are pushing for an accord is for us very positive," said a spokesman for the Elysee palace. The spokesman added that he did not expect any offers to be put on the table at the Doha meeting, but Sarkozy was expected to repeat a proposition that international prosecutors could suspend a bid to seek an arrest warrant against Beshir for genocide.

"We are waiting for developments from Khartoum on subjects linked to the International Criminal Court. We are keeping up the pressure and the president will say this to President Beshir," the spokesman added.

The spokesman added that Sarkozy also hoped relations would remain calm between Sudan and neighbouring Chad.

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