

**UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN****UNMIS****Media Monitoring Report, 26 September 2007**

(By Public Information Office)

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## Highlights

### UN/ Agencies

#### **ICC: No solution for Darfur problem without arresting suspects**

(*AlHayat, the Citizen*) Many people have fled their homes in Darfur. A UN team and the ICC in The Hague have argued Sudan to bring the people responsible for "Human rights violations" in Darfur to justice.

The UN call came in a report from the seven-member group, headed by Sima Samar from Afghanistan, to the UN's Human Rights Council while the hot debate on the role of Sudanese government in the conflict is still going on.

The report asked the UN council to call on Khartoum "to address impunity and ensure that all allegations of violations of human rights are duly investigated and that the perpetrators are promptly brought to justice."

In a concurrent press release, the Hague-based International Criminal Court (ICC) has reiterated that there would be no solution for Darfur conflict unless Sudanese Minister Ahmed Haroun is made to face justice over his alleged crimes.

#### **UN chief vows "no stone unturned" in Darfur**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 25 Sept. UNITED NATIONS) U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon warned world leaders on Tuesday of daunting challenges in the year ahead and vowed to leave "no stone unturned" to resolve the crisis in Darfur.

"They are problems that respect no borders — that no country, big or small, rich or poor, can resolve on its own," Ban told the opening of the annual ministerial General Assembly session. "I expect the year ahead to be among the most challenging in our history," Ban said after a weekend of meetings on Sudan, Iraq, Afghanistan, the Middle East and global warming. "Looking to the coming year, and beyond, we can foresee a daunting array of challenges to come," he said.

#### **UN representative for IDPs conducts constructive talks with government**

(*AlHayat*) UN SG Representative on IDPs and Experts Group Rapporteur on Darfur Walter Caline said Tuesday he had constructive talks with the Sudanese government as well as with the African Human Rights Council. Addressing the council session, he noted that he would submit a full report on Sudan before the council in next Dec. session.

The experts group called on the Sudanese government to intensify efforts for applying the group recommendations, handling issues of impunity and eradicating all sorts of

violence. Sudan delegation expressed satisfaction on the prevailing spirit of understanding between the council and the Sudanese government.

### **UN welcomes Egyptian troops to Darfur**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 25 Sept. CAIRO) The United Nations has welcomed a proposal by Egypt to send 2,500 troops to Darfur as part of a joint UN-African Union force aimed at ending violence in western Sudan, a senior Egyptian diplomat said.

UN chief Ban Ki-moon "has welcomed the Egyptian offer to send troops to Darfur and has conveyed the message to Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul Gheit directly in New York," the diplomat told AFP on Tuesday.

"The 2,500-strong force will be made up of two mechanised infantry battalions, an engineering company, a transportation company, a signal company as well as a field hospital, three police units and a large number of military observers," the diplomat said.

### **WFP to begin air drops to south Sudan flood victims**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 25 Sept. GENEVA) (*Rai AlShaab*) The U.N. food agency said on Tuesday it would begin month-long air drops for some 43,800 people in southern Sudan, where devastating floods have washed away crops and roads.

Some 1,440 tonnes of food, mainly cereals, will be dropped in three states (Lakes, Jonglei and Upper Nile), during the operation beginning next week, the World Food Programme (WFP) said. Another 264 tonnes will be brought by boat to Jonglei, WFP spokeswoman Christiane Berthiaume told a news briefing. The food should be sufficient for three months.

Some 42,000 hectares of crops and at least 12,000 head of livestock have been lost in Sudan's worst floods in living memory which began in July, she said. Acute watery diarrhoea, a water-borne disease, had already killed 57 people, she added.

### **UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs issues positive Report on Darfur**

(*Sudan Vision*) The United Nations Under-Secretary-General for the Humanitarian Affairs, John Holmes has said the Sudanese government, since its consent on the UN resolution 1769 on handling the situations in Darfur region, has shown remarkable cooperation and played positive role towards finding a solution to Darfur issue.

Addressing mass media, Holmes said, "You are opposing the war in Iraq and calling for withdrawal of British army from there. Do you want to involve in another war in Sudan?"

No doubt the said balanced statements of the Deputy UN SG for Humanitarian Affairs are very important as they came in a time when a number of international powers want to adjourn or spoil the upcoming peace talks on darfur proposed to be held in Tripoli, Libya on October 27.

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

### **Bashir resolves to make Tripoli talks success**

(*AlRai AlAam*) President Bashir has said that peace in Darfur will be achieved through adherence to the “real national will”, adding that the peace process should be launched from Darfur and via the Darfuri-Darfuri dialogue.

Speaking at the annual Ramadan breakfast organized by the Coptic community Tuesday, said that peace realized in the South should not be dishonored indicating the efforts being exerted by the government to make Tripoli talks a success.

He hailed the role of the Coptic sect in incarnating the basis of religious and peaceful co-existence in the country.

Meanwhile, the EU warned peace non-signatory Darfur rebel movements that it would face measures from the Security Council in case of impeding the peace process by boycotting the coming peace talks, scheduled for 27 Oct. in Tripoli.

An EU statement issued on Tuesday asserted the importance of the comprehensive political solution in Darfur, saying it approved to consider taking international procedures by the UN-AU against any party aims at hindering the peace process.

The EU expressed its readiness to enhance the UN-AU peace process to unleash Darfur issue and attain a lasting and durable solution to the region agony.

### **Central bank of Sudan asks for bank accounts of more than 60 Institutions**

(*AlSudani*) The Central Bank of Sudan has urgently demanded the account numbers and deposits of more than 60 national voluntary and charity organizations as well as media institutions.

AlSudani daily has acquired a copy of a letter issued by the Banking Affairs Division at the Central Bank addressed to the director of the banks operating in Sudan asking to provide the Central Bank with the deposits of a number of national societies and organizations.

Reliable sources at the banks said that the law regulating the banking system provides the central bank the right to peruse the accounts in specific circumstances, but the sources failed to present reasonable explanation to this move.

### **East Sudan rehabilitation fund provides \$10 million to Gadharif state**

(*Alwan*) East Rehabilitation Fund has earmarked \$10 million to Gadharif State to meet health, education and water projects as well as capacity-building in the various fields.

Gadharif State Wali Dr. Abdurrahman Alkhider told (*Alwan* daily) following his return from China that this step was considered as a serious step on the part of the government to implement the East agreement in its various protocols.

He added that during his visit to China he signed a number of agreements spanning the establishment of factories for assembling agricultural machinery in the State.

### **Preparations are under way to negotiate with South Kordofan rebels**

*(AlSahafa)* The government of South Kordofan State has seriously considered embarking on direct negotiations with rebel groups who took arms following their demobilization from the Popular Defense Forces (PDF).

A reliable government official told *(AlSahafa)* that the State Security Committee led the State Wali and his Deputy left for the western sector and held Tuesday evening meetings in AlFoula, AlMuglad and Babanousa in an attempt to contain the tension to impose control on the situations.

The source noted that a directive issued by the Wali instructing the concerned authorities not to chase the rebels and use violence against them prior to reaching peaceful settlement with them through dialogue.

### **It's divine duty to carry out the census, says commission**

*(The Citizen)* Work for the census team has come to a stand still in some states, cut off by poor road and a failure by Khartoum to release money.

People sent out to census areas have resorted to using boats after bad roads cut them off from several states, official said yesterday, while the Government of National Unity failure to honor a 55 percent contribution to the census budget is further delaying the work.

Warrap, Unity, Jonglei, Upper Nile and lakes have been affected, the Deputy Chairman of the Southern Sudan Census Commission John Machiek said yesterday.

### **Sudan says aid workers should accept government protection**

*(SudanTribune.com – 25 Sept. NAIROBI)* With the security situation growing more precarious in Darfur, Sudan's government is warning U.N. agencies and other aid groups that they should accept offers of military escorts, when they travel through the region.

The government offer came a day after the aid group Oxfam warned it may be forced to withdraw from Darfur, if security gets any worse. Oxfam says it normally would not operate under the security conditions it now faces in Darfur.

Sudan Foreign ministry spokesperson, Ali Sadiq Ali, said that aid agencies should accept the government's offer to escort them around Darfur's dangerous roads; the Voice of America reported.

"In so many cases, we offered to protect the convoys of the U.N. agencies and international agencies operating in Darfur and this offer has been turned down so many times, because they see that if they accept it this will affect their neutrality," Ali said. "So it was the NGOs and the U.N. agencies who refused the offer. But, whenever we are asked to render this service we are ready."

In principle, aid workers decline protection offered by governments or rebel groups in conflict zones to mark their independence and neutrality. They also do so to avoid manipulation by the belligerents.

### **North-South Sudan border documents lost, damaged**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 25 Sept. JUBA, Sudan) Experts trying to demarcate Sudan's north-south border face the mammoth task of locating and restoring missing and damaged documents central to the implementation of a peace deal that ended decades of civil war.

Many of Sudan's richest oil fields lie along the disputed border, which will also need to be drawn ahead of elections by the end of 2009 and a southern referendum on secession by 2011. Southerners accuse the government in Khartoum of moving the border further south as oil and diamonds were discovered, and say the government is stalling on implementing the peace deal. The ruling party has denied the accusations and said progress on the peace deal was going well.

But experts say the dispute over Sudan's north-south border is among the outstanding issues that threaten to derail the hard-won 2005 peace deal that ended Africa's longest civil war.

Douglas Johnson, a Sudan expert contracted by the southern government to research the frontier, said documents are needed to settle the dispute because there is no map of the boundary at Sudan's independence in 1956.

Many of those documents, however, have been destroyed by Sudan's blasting heat, termites, frequent flooding, fire and carelessness and it remains unclear if vital papers lie amongst unsorted remnants.

In one case a central archive was taken apart to make way for army housing and some of its parts were found sitting in beer crates in a local girl's school. Experts say it will take months to trawl through the remaining papers to retrieve useful information because so many of the documents have been lost or damaged.

## **GoSS**

### **Kiir criticizes NCP for dodging SPLM**

(*AlSahafa*) First Vice-President and President of GOSS Silva Kiir have strongly lashing out at the NCP saying that "they dodging us not more than that", reported AlSahafa daily on Wednesday.

The US-based New York Times quoted Kiir as saying that the southerners were still treated as fourth class citizens in their country stressing that this matter would prompt the majority of the southerners to side with the option of secession during the referendum on self-determination.

On his part NCP leading figure and member of the government delegation to Naivasha Talks Sayed Al-Khateeb denied that the North is the part which intends to undermine the CPA describing the SPLM leaderships as of “weak performance”.

### **SPLM leader stresses Blue Nile state keenness to cooperate with UNAMIS**

(*AlKhartoum, Sudan Tribune*) The governor of the Blue Nile State, Malik Aggar, has affirmed his government keenness to cooperate and to coordinate efforts with the United Nations mission towards monitoring implementation of the peace agreement in the Blue Nile. This came when Aggar received in his office Tuesday the Director of the UN mission in the state, Dr. Abdul Dayem Mubarez.

The meeting discussed the role of the UN mission in monitoring the implementation of the peace agreement on the ground.

The Wali assured the importance of holding a meeting, to include the UN mission and its specialized agencies, executive organs and other concerned bodies, toward integrating the roles of the state and the UN mission to boost the efforts for peace and stability in the state, besides the implementation of the peace agreement.

The director of the UN mission in the state affirmed his mission's readiness to support the cooperation and coordination between the state government's organs and the enhancement of the services in the state.

### **Plan of Gender, Social Welfare and Religious Affairs Ministry passed**

(*Sudan Tribune*) The Interim Legislative Assembly of Southern Sudan Yesterday passed the policy and work plan of the Ministry of Gender, Social Welfare and Religious Affairs presented by Minister Mary Kiden without any counter motion.

Appreciating Minister Mary Kiden's presentation, Hon. Tor Mowyien Deng, Deputy Speaker of the Assembly who praised over the long deliberation, on behalf of the august house, he thanked the Minister together with her team for their well done research and presentation.

Presenting the ministry policy objectives to the august house, Mary Kiden told the lawmakers that her ministry will strive to reduce vulnerability by promoting social inclusiveness, gender equity empowerment base on effective mainstreaming of gender issues poverty reduction in the community particularly on women, youth and marginalized groups by enhancing social mobilization and community participation in the development through raising awareness in social and humanitarian dimension of HIV/AIDS.

### **SPLM insists on the necessity of Interior Minister apology**

(*AlHayat*) The SPLM has insisted on demanding Interior Minister's apology regretting police raid that targeted three SPLM offices in the National Capital on 11 September during campaigns to find and confiscated unlicensed weapons.

Ramadan Ibrahim, a leading SPLM figure said that despite the apology of NCP Vice-President Dr. Nafie Ali Nafie, but rejection of the Interior Minister to apologize was an indication that he was above the law and constitution.

He described the behavior of the Interior Minister as “violation to the constitution and the partnership”, saying that this matter has prompted the SPLM to repeat our previous call on the importance of the Minister’s apology.

“The Minister’s behavior will send signals to the citizens that the SPLM is not more than armed militias against the regime”, he added. He called for issuing a clear-cut apology to the SPLM otherwise, he noted, the SPLM would seek other means to defend its offices.

### **Thousand of Southern IDPs start moving towards the North for lack of services**

*(AlWifaq)* Some Southern Political Parties expressed fear from the negative impacts resulting from the move of thousands of southerners towards the north. Most of those Said have been moving toward the north were previously repatriated to their villages in the south.

National Labor Prominent member James Andaria said southern IDPs have decided to return to the north due to lack of basic infrastructure, health services and schools. He said many of them died due to lack of health care.

He describes development process in the south as bad. However Andaria urges government of Southern Sudan (GOSS) to present reality to public regarding transferring of oil money from the north since longtime without causing positive reflecting on public life. He has likely accused GOSS of not making orientation program on CPA amongst the public.

### **Joint meeting between GoSS and National Assembly delegation starts in Juba**

*(Akhbar Alyaum)* Joint meetings between the visiting National parliamentary delegation and GoSS are scheduled to begin in Juba today on the five-year strategic plan of GoSS. MPS delegation Chairman Dr. Gallal Taour told *(Akhbar Alyoum daily)* that the visit came in the context of probing GoSS’s five-year plan prior to incorporating its proposals in the national five-year plan tabled before the Assembly.

### **South Sudan forum in US denounces newly formed political party**

*(SudanTribune.com – 25 Sept. WASHINGTON)* The US based South Sudan Democratic Forum (SSDF) has denounced the merger of the forum with the South Sudan United Democratic Alliance (SSDA) to create a new political party. The forum said the objective of this new front "is nothing but to see the collapse of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.”

In a statement issued by the head of its office in the USA, the SSDF denied taking part in the formation of the newly formed South Sudan Democratic Front announced on Monday September 23 in Khartoum. The SSDF US said this new front aims" to undermine the Government of South Sudan.



"The South Sudan Democratic Forum is informing the Sudanese people, for the most part, the people of South Sudan, that no merger has taken place between the Democratic Forum and any other political party." Said Peter Jal Ngor, the chairman of SSDF in the USA.

The members of the new South Sudan Democratic Front said they consider the CPA as an extension of the Khartoum /Fashoda Peace Agreements that they had signed in 1997 with the ruling National Congress Party.

### **Total to restart South Sudan seismic work**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 25 Sept. LONDON) Total SA (TOT) intends to restart seismic and drilling work in south Sudan either late 2007 or early 2008, with a view to start oil production five to six years later, a spokesman for the French oil major said.

Total is the first large non-state oil company to signal its return to Sudan, which holds one of Africa's largest proved oil reserves at 6.4 billion barrels. But the cautious strategy crafted by the French major, which has to engage with U.S. pensions funds and help its U.S. partner Marathon Oil Corp. (MRO) sell its stake, underscores the complexity of producing oil in nations under U.S. sanctions.

A Total delegation went to Juba early September and met south Sudan government officials there. The company will now assess the possible presence of land mines and local humanitarian needs, the Total spokesman said.

### **Miseria Council says experts' committees visit to Juba incites conflict**

(*Khartoum Monitor, Akhbar Alyaum*) Miseria tribe Supreme Council in Abyie slammed the Experts Committee visit to Juba saying that it ignored government members, Miseria tribe representative, The President and above all the CPA. The Council also accused the SPLM of complicating Abyie problem and blocking settlement. The Abyie report by the Experts Committee is set to incite sedition between the Miseria and Dinka Ngok in Abyie, said Ahmed Sallouha, member of the Expert Committee at après conference yesterday.

The council report ignored the available historical geographical and administrative documents which show that Abyie was part of Kordofan since 1905. The CPA does not prove the settlement of Abyie problem as it just talks about and initiative to solve the problem and stipulates the formation of Abyie Boundaries Committee.

Member of the Experts Committee, Albdal al-Rasoul Al-nur, said the conflict over Abyie may make the country slide back to war. The SPLM though not representing all southerners incites conflict in Abyie.

## **Darfur**

### **Humanitarian NGOs abstain from operating in IDPs camps in Zalingei**

(*AlWihda*) Humanitarian NGOs operating in Darfur, while they have abstained from resuming work at the IDPs around Zalingei town due the deteriorating security

situation in the area, the armed Arab herdsmen have released the three relief workers employed by the Norwegian Aid Organization, who they detained following the assassination of three persons of their clan near the organization's warehouses.

HAC Executive Director in Western Darfur Ismael Mohamed Adam said that the NGOs refused to operate in the IDPs camps in pretext of absence of security, adding that the NGOs demanded the provision of security guarantees.

### **US, France back peacekeeping forces to Darfur, Chad**

*(Sudan Tribune.Com, AlRai AlAam)* The United States and France on Tuesday pushed for the speedy deployment of a UN-African Union force in Sudan's Darfur region and urged a ceasefire during peace talks planned for next month.

The United Nations Security Council authorized on Tuesday a European Union force and U.N. police to help protect civilians in Chad and the Central African Republic caught in the spillover from the conflict in Sudan's Darfur region.

It authorizes the EU, under Chapter 7 of the U.N. Charter which allows the use of military force, to deploy a force for one year in eastern Chad and northeastern Central African Republic. The force will help improve security, facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid, and "contribute to protecting civilians in danger, particularly refugees and displaced persons."

Speaking at a rare Security Council summit on Africa chaired by French President Nicolas Sarkozy, US President George W. Bush said he expected Sudanese President Omar al-Beshir and Darfur rebels "to observe a cease-fire during next month's peace talks" in Libya.

The US president and Sarkozy both also expressed support for a Security Council resolution adopted earlier Tuesday endorsing sending a European Union-UN force to Chad and the Central African Republic to protect civilians from the spillover of the Darfur conflict.

Under the French-drafted resolution, 300 UN policemen are tasked with monitoring camps for Darfur refugees and IDPs, who number respectively an estimated 236,000 and 173,000 in Chad alone. The UN police officers would be protected by the 3,000 European troops, mostly French, led by a British general.

But a humanitarian source, speaking on condition of anonymity, told AFP that the EU force "must be seen as impartial and European-wide" and not as a "French initiative" that would merely serve to further prop up embattled Chadian President Idriss Deby Itno, a close ally of France.

Summing up the significance of the council summit, the French president said France succeeded in making Africa, including Darfur, "a priority". "It was not easy," he said. "If it had been so easy others would have done it before us."

## **JEM rebel leader says no truce for Darfur talks**

(*AlRai AlAam, SudanTribune.com* – 25 Sept. KHARTOUM) Darfur rebel leader Khalil Ibrahim said on Tuesday he would carry on fighting during upcoming peace talks until a final settlement is reached to end the conflict in western Sudan.

Ibrahim, head of the rebel Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), also said he was dismissing his deputy, Bahr Idriss Abu Garda, accusing him of secret meetings with the government to undermine the movement. "We will not cease fire before we reach a political settlement," Ibrahim told Reuters from Darfur. "Ceasing fire is a termination of the resistance and revolution," he added.

Sudanese President Omar Hassan al-Bashir said during a rare visit this month to Italy that he would observe a ceasefire in Darfur when peace talks with rebels, scheduled for Oct. 27 in Libya, begin. Ibrahim, whose group has been the mainstay behind fighting with the government in the far east of Darfur in recent months, said JEM would attend the talks but it would not lay down arms.

## **Citing Darfur 'Genocide', US Bush demands ceasefire**

(*SudanTribune.com* – 25 Sept. UNITED NATIONS) President George W. Bush said the violence in the Darfur region of Sudan amounted to "genocide" and demanded the Sudanese government and rebel groups cease hostilities to let aid reach victims of the conflict.

"We expect President Bashir to observe a cease-fire during next month's peace talks and we expect the rebels to do the same," Bush told the U.N. Security Council.

"My nation has labeled what's taking place in Darfur as genocide and when you find genocide it's time to do something about it," he said. "Time is of the essence." in taking action to stop the killing and that more international forces are needed.