

United Nations Mission in Sudan **UNMIS**

Special Media Monitoring Report on the Eliasson, Salim visit 15 February 2007 (By Public Information Office)

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UN, AU envoys visit Darfur

Peace envoys hold intensive Darfur talks

(SudanTribune.com, the local press) In their visits to Darfur, envoys Eliasson and Salim held a series of back-to-back meetings in North Darfur covering the AMIS leadership and the regional govenrment in el-Fasher and ended their activities with a meeting north of el-Fasher with representatives of DPA non-signatory groups.

"The idea is to see as many officials as possible before heading to Darfur Wednesday and meeting rebel commanders," AU spokesman Nureddin Mezni said.

UN envoy Jan Eliasson and Salim Ahmed Salim of the African Union talked on Tuesday with senior advisers from the Sudanese presidency as well as intelligence chief Salah Abdallah Gosh.

In Darfur, the envoys held talks yesterday with the DPA non-signatory factions.

The talks mainly focused on issues pertaining to the ceasefire and means for a political solution to these problems.

AlWihda and AlSudani further reveal that AMIS Spokesperson Noureldeen Mezni said at at an interview with AlJazeera yesterday that envoys Salim and Eliasson are in Darfur for talks with the commanders of non-signatory factions in a bid to listen to their views, convey these concerns to the government and help convince them come on board the peace process.

Mezni further pointed out that the envoys conveyed a strong and clear message for calm in the field, a cessation of hostilities and the facilitation of the flow of relief in order to avail an atmosphere conducive for talks.

UNMIS Spokesperson Radhia Achouri is quoted in *AlSahafa* as saying that the envoys return to Khartoum this afternoon and will hold a press conference later.

SLA agrees to cessation of hostilities and talks based on the Declaration of Principles

AlAyaam daily reports that Jar-el-Nebi AbdelKareem, military spokesperson for SLM-Unity faction, said that they met the envoys at Hashaba,, 60kms east of Kutum and told them, among other things, that the factions underlined the need to go back to the Declaration of Principles as a starting point for talks with the government. They also pointed out that the government is not committed to talks and the ceasefire agreements signed with its continued violations of the agreement and mentioned the recent incidents of the Jebel Moon area as an example.

"A ceasefire can not be unilateral', he said.

He also pointed out that his movement is not bound to the DPA but will abide by the N'Djamena Agreement.

The military spokesperson also said that they briefed the envoys on the measures being taken to launch the conference of field commanders in a bid to unite the factions and their efforts for a political settlement to the crisis in Darfur.

NRF refuses to meet African Union envoy

(AlSahafa) The NRF has refused to see African Union envoy Salim Ahmed Salim but said it is willing to meet with United Nations envoy Jan Eliasson.

NRF field commander Abdullah Banda said that they refuse audience to the African Union envoy because the African Union is aligned to the government.

He also said that they have no obligation towards any ceasefire agreement and will have no dealing with the African Union.

The local press on 14 February covered the meetings the envoys held in Khartoum with Dr. Majzoub el-Khalifa and Mini Minnawi.