



UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN
UNMIS

Media Monitoring Report, 08 October 07
(By Public Information Office)

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IN THE NEWS TODAY:

➤ **UN/ Agencies**

- UN receives report on SPLA redeployment
- Eliasson against postponing Tripoli talks, may seek new representatives for the people of Darfur

➤ **GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)**

- Sudan court refuses to free opposition detainees
- Sudan's FM contests US on genocide label for Darfur
- Sudan: Official slams statements by US envoy on ties between ruling partners
- World Bank praises Sudan currency exchange process
- Government serious to settle Darfur problem
- UN discussions "high spirited and positive" : Lam Akol
- Attempt to hijack private passenger aircraft over port Sudan aborted
- Southern Sudan group slam ex-rebels official over statement on secession
- SAF announces killing of 18 of its personnel in Jabal Karroo
- South Kordofan security committee discusses movements of the Miseriya towards the south
- Supported by political parties, political forces to submits today memo to Elections Commission
- Sudanese cabinet discusses Arab conference on Darfur
- Sudanese cleric's son arrested by security authorities

➤ **GoSS**

- Kiir affirms NCP,SPLM good relations, says no return to war
- Arab league Musa, GoSS's Permena discuss South Sudan development
- SPLM Federal Ministers instructed to report to Juba immediately
- SPLA troops rough up Envoy, Kiir apologizes over assault
- Clashes between Kababish tribe (North Kordofan) and Darfur rebels

➤ Darfur

- Local and international media reports on burning of Haskanita
- Dr. Mustafa Osman: rebel groups not participating in Tripoli will be internationally isolated
- Consultation conference for JEM in Darfur
- JEM veteran rebel establishes collective leadership, confirms split
- Nigeria sends 680 additional troops to Sudan's Darfur
- Norway, Sweden in new territory with Darfur force
- Breakaway JEM faction wants to participate in Darfur talks
- IDPS urge Abdel Wahid to participate in Tripoli peace talks
- Newly formed Sudanese group say southern peace pact "dead"
- Southern Darfur state tighten security ahead of Id al-Fitr celebrations
- Sudanese rebels reportedly clash with army in northern Darfur

Highlights

UN/ Agencies

UN receives report on SPLA redeployment

(*AlRai AlAam*) The CJMC, which is established in line with the CPA to monitor ceasefire, has received last week a report from SPLA on the status of its troops redeployment from SOUTH Kordofan to south of 1956 borders. Radhia Achouri told AlRai AlAam that the CJMC has asked earlier the SPLA to provide it with a report on redeployment of it's from the north to the south. The CJMC will study the report before making it public. Achouri said the UN has no details or figures on redeployment of troops.

Eliasson against postponing Tripoli talks, may seek new representatives for the people of Darfur

(*AlHayat*)

GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)

Sudan court refuses to free opposition detainees

(*SudanTribune.com – 7 Oct. KHARTOUM*) Sudan's Court of Appeal has refused a request to release 25 detained political opposition figures accused of plotting to overthrow the government but not charged yet, the defence team said on Sunday.

"The Court of Appeal refused our appeal against the renewal of their detention," said Ali Ahmed al-Sayyid, from the defence team of the opposition Democratic Unionist Party (DUP).

The 25, including Umma Party for Reform and Renewal leader Mubarak al-Fadil, his secretary-general Abdel Jalil al-Basha, DUP deputy secretary-general Ali Mahmoud Hassanein and retired police, security and army officers were arrested in July.

National security accused them of conspiring to overthrow the government, but no charges have been brought against any of them. Family members say interrogations ended on Aug. 25. "We will meet today or tomorrow to decide...but we will now go to the Supreme Court," said Sayyid.

Sudan's Criminal Procedure Act states a suspect can be detained for a maximum of two weeks for investigation after which they must be released or charged.

Sudan's FM contests US on genocide label for Darfur

(*SudanTribune.com* – 7 Oct. WASHINGTON) In an interview with the CNN, Sudan's foreign minister says President Bush is wrong to label the bloodletting and violence in the troubled Darfur region as genocide.

Sudanese Foreign Minister Lam Akol admits that bloodshed and hardship have engulfed Darfur for several years. But, speaking on CNN's Late Edition program, the minister said the situation in the western Sudanese region does not rise to the level of genocide, as the Bush administration alleges.

Sudan: Official slams statements by US envoy on ties between ruling partners

(*BBC Mon*) The ruling National Congress Party [NCP] has strongly rejected statements made by the US peace envoy to Sudan, Andrew Natsios, which described the relationship between the northern and southern partners in Sudan as having deteriorated into a poisonous political atmosphere.

NCP External Relations Secretary Kamal Ubayd, in a statement to the Sudanese Media Centre [SMC], condemned Natsios statements, saying that the statement comes from those who think they have a deep understanding of the situation in Sudan. He said Natsios and the US Administration are always in a hurry to issue unanalyzed opinions and positions.

Ubayd appealed to the US Administration to adopt positive ideas and proposals which can help the Naivasha peace partners in implementing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement [CPA]. Ubayd stressed that the Evaluation and Assessment Commission had said that 90 per cent of the CPA has been rescued and there is no reason to issue statements which will poison the atmosphere by giving wrong evaluation.

Source: Sudanese Media Centre website, Khartoum, in Arabic 7 Oct 07

World Bank praises Sudan currency exchange process

(*SudanTribune.com* – 7 Oct. KHARTOUM) The World Bank has praised the success of the introduction of new unified currency in the Sudan. The international body said today the new pound would result in greater efficiency and enhanced stability of the financial system.

A strong stable currency is critical to job creation and poverty reduction - The new currency will improve the formulation and implementation of national monetary policy, restore normal local currency economic and commercial activity by reducing transaction costs, and importantly serve as a symbol for peace and unity by enhancing

national economic integration and development – thus help to maintaining the integrity of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA).

Government serious to settle Darfur problem

(Khartoum Monitor) The cabinet commended the success achieved by Sudanese diplomacy in reflecting the true situation in the country. The Government is serious and cooperative in order to arrive at a satisfactory settlement to the Darfur problem.

This was in a report by Foreign Affairs Minister Dr. Lam Akol on the Meeting of the UN General Assembly. The meeting demanded Darfur rebels to attend peace talks and some conferees asked for imposing of sanctions against rebel holdouts. The meeting discussed efforts to prepare for the upcoming peace talks between the Sudan Government and the Darfur rebels in Tripoli.

Meanwhile, the chairmen of SLM Abdel Wahid Nur confirmed that he would not participate in Tripoli talks on 27th of this month. The UN asked that a conducive atmosphere be created for the Tripoli talks. The Justice and Equality Movement also threatened not to attend the talks if movements other than the SLM and the Justice and Equality Movement are to participate.

The joint African Union –UN mediation is ill-prepared and too slow, and has failed to identify the movements they are going to invite to the talks.

UN discussions “high spirited and positive”: Lam Akol

(The Citizen) The Council of Ministers, chaired by President Omar Al Bashir yesterday, listened to Foreign Minister Dr. Lam Akol `s report on the UN’s 62nd Session, held in New York.

Lam Akol said it was a good chance to discuss how to revive the Darfur talks. He said that a great number of countries interested in the conflict participated in the discussions as “high spirited and positive” In the meetings he was able to confirm Sudan’s commitment and cooperation to find a solution to the Darfur conflict.

Attempt to hijack private passenger aircraft over Port Sudan aborted

(AlRai AlAam)

Southern Sudan group slam ex-rebels official over statement on secession

(BBC Mon) The Southern Sudan Democratic Front has seriously attacked the secretary general of Sudan People's Liberation Movement [SPLM], Pagan Amum over his statement issued during his last visit to Washington where he conveyed to Washington that Sudan was two states in one country, along with his remarks on excluding southern Sudan from sanctions imposed on Sudan.

The front called on [the first vice president] Salva Kiir Mayardit to punish Amum over his statement.

In a press statement in which SMC got a copy, the front said seeking Washington to lift embargo from southern Sudan alone represents acting as racist and violation of Sudan's sovereignty and safety of its territory. The front called on Washington to lift sanction from the whole of Sudan, saying that the embargo will not help in resolving Darfur issue.

The front described Amum's threats of declaring independence unilaterally a dangerous issue which shows that he is short sighted, saying that the issue was against the peace agreement. The front said it will not speak about such issues [secession] up to the time of referendum in 2011.

Source: Sudanese Media Centre website, Khartoum, in Arabic 7 Oct 07

SAF announces killing of 18 of its personnel in Jabal Karroo

(AlAyam) The Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) announced that 18 of its troops, including an officer, have been killed in an attack by an unidentified group on an administrative mission in the area of Jabal Karro- between Tawilla and Kebkabiya.

South Kordofan security committee discusses movements of the Miseriya towards the south

(AlAyam)

Supported by political parties, political forces to submits today memo to Elections Commission

(AlAyam)

Sudanese cabinet discusses Arab conference on Darfur

(BBC Mon) The council of ministers, chaired by the President of the Republic, Field Marshal Umar al-Bashir, Sunday [7 October] held a regular sitting and gave a directive for all the ministries and concerned organs to do their best to make a success the Arab Conference for enhancement of the humanitarian situation in Darfur, scheduled on 30 October in Khartoum.

The two-day conference will witness intensive participation of Arab countries, civil society organizations and Arab personalities. The council of ministers called on all categories in the society and public and private institutions to contribute to the national campaign for support to the humanitarian situation in Darfur.

The council of ministers decided formation of a committee for mobilization of the national support, to be headed by the minister of energy and mining, and including as members the ministers of industry, federal government, finance, information and humanitarian affairs, deputy governor of the Bank of Sudan and chairmen of the Businessmen Union and Sudan Workers Trade Unions Federation (SWTUF).

Meanwhile, the council heard a report presented by the state minister for humanitarian affairs, Ahmad Haroun, in which he praised the efforts of the Arab countries, funds, joint Arab work institutions, organizations and businessmen in support of the humanitarian work in Darfur.

Source: Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in English 7 Oct 07

Sudanese cleric's son arrested by security authorities

(*BBC Mon*) Al-Watan has learnt that during their investigations into what is known as the explosives case [explosives found in Khartoum allegedly belonging to extremist Islamist cells], authorities have found Omar, who is the son of the prominent Islamic preacher Dr Abd-al-Hay Yusuf, in a residential flat in Khartoum Bahri. Civilian sources have confirmed the report.

It is believed that until yesterday evening Omar was not released and was being questioned by the authorities.

Meanwhile, his family was notified of the finding yesterday evening. Sheikh Abd-al-Hay Yusuf's son had disappeared in mysterious circumstances several months ago and stories emerged claiming that he had gone to Somalia. However, it seems he was closer to home than that.

Source: Al-Watan, Khartoum, in Arabic 7 Oct 07

GoSS

Kiir affirms NCP, SPLM good relations, says no return to war

(*Sudan Vision*) First Vice President of the Republic and SPLM Chairman, First Lt. Gen. Salva Kiir Mayardit, has described NCP-SPLM relations as good contrary to the statements of US Envoy to Sudan, Andrew Natsios. During his 4-day tour of Northern Bahr-al-Ghazal, Warrap and West Bahr-al-Ghazal States to inspect conditions of citizens following the heavy rains and floods that swept those areas,

Kiir said that the NCP and SPLM can join efforts in a constructive dialogue in order to resolve all their pending problems and issues. He went on to affirm that there will be no return to war, pointing out that the two partners are also bound by the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.

Lt. Gen. Kiir underlined the need for allowing more scope for political parties and abstaining from coercing citizens into binding their allegiance to any one party. He added that the SPLM will stick to the unity of Sudan until the referendum and that it will also honor the outcome of the referendum for self-determination whether it opted for unity or separation, though he stressed that they will strive to render unity an attractive option.

GoSS President criticized the harassment of northern traders in the South, pointing out that they were Sudanese citizens who are entitled to reside anywhere in the country. He indicated that the SPLM does not intercept nationals of neighboring countries but

rather treats them in accordance with the law for boosting Sudan's ties with its neighbors.

Kiir affirmed the importance of combating corruption and observance of transparency in handling public funds and underscored that the SPLM warrants the freedom of worship for all religions. Referring to oil proceeds, he said that they receive their oil revenues on regular basis though he stated that he has no knowledge of the quantities of oil being extracted.

Arab league Musa, GoSS's Permenna discuss South Sudan development

(Khartoum Monitor) The Arab League Secretary General and Government of Southern Sudan Head Mission discussed in a meeting today the role of the Arab League and Arab investors in the post-war construction, development and training of the Southern Sudan diplomats and cadres in the various fields that South Sudan badly needs.

Musa, on Thursday October 4, at his office Permenna Makuet, GoSS Head of Mission. The two sides discussed the Naivasha peace implementation process and the obstacles which require a genuine approach and commitment of the peace partners to resolve the outstanding issues amicably.

SPLM Federal Ministers instructed to report to Juba immediately

(AlAyam) SPLM Politburo summoned all GoNU ministers to Juba to join the bureau on going meetings. A decision was made yesterday regarding the absent ministers to report about their ministries performance, relation with the National Congress Party. Sources affirmed that the meetings are to be extended up to today because yesterday session was concluded without reaching full agreement over the controversial issues.

SPLA troops rough up Envoy, Kiir apologizes over assault

(Khartoum Monitor) The Envoy had gone to the market- along Juba Road- after a group of Ugandan who were being clobbered by SPLA soldiers called the consulate for help.

Sunday Monitor has learnt that a fistfight initially broke out between a Sudanese national and Ugandan following a petty quarrel. The Sudanese called his relatives in the army who responded and reportedly began battering Ugandans at random.

When Mr. Miggade intervened, an SPLA commander who claimed to “know and respect” the envoy, grabbed the car keys and slapped the driver. He also forcefully blocked the envoy from making phone calls to GoSS authorities.

The high profile assault is the latest in a series of attacks on Ugandan doing business in Southern Sudan's main city of Juba and could further damage relations between the two peoples and governments. Ugandan in South Sudan, who deal in everything from perishables such as fresh fruits to cars, have recently complained that local security forces were specifically targeting them for rape, torture, and general routine harassments.

“The matter has already been brought under control” Mr. Busho Ndinyenka, the Ugandan consul to Juba, said on Friday of the track on his official. He said that the Governor of the central Equatorial State, Maj. Gen. Clement Wani, led a government delegation to the consulate to convoy official apologize.

The delegation included the chief of police and senior security advisors.

“They said they had been told by The president of South Sudan Kiir to convey apologize of the Government of Southern Sudan over the unfortunate incident and any incontinence caused “ Mr. Ndinyenka said.

Clashes between Kababish tribe (North Kordofan) and Darfur rebels

(*AlSahafa*) reports that a man from the Kababeesh tribe has been killed and others injured in clashes in Almahbas area in North Kordofan between the tribe and the Darfur rebels. Negotiations are ongoing between the two parties to overcome this problem.

Darfur

*** Local and international media reports on burning of Haskanita**

Sudantribune.com (ST), Associated Press (AP), reported (October 8, 2007) that A UN official has stated that Sudanese Army and its militias have burned down Haskanita town in northern Darfur. The international officials who inspected the town said Sunday that about 15,000 civilians had fled the area.

International aid workers and United Nations officials dismissed claims by some rebel chiefs that 100 people had died in the North Darfur town of Haskanita. *The officials said the town emptied as the army moved in last Sunday, and troops started burning it on Wednesday.*

A U.N. statement did not say who set fire to the ethnic African town but said Sudanese government forces took control after suspected Darfur rebels attacked the nearby base of African Union peacekeepers a week ago, killing 10 peacekeepers.

Haskanita, "which is currently under the control of the government, was completely burned down, except for a few buildings," said the U.N. mission to Sudan.

A U.N. official who had just returned from Haskanita said it was clear that the army or its allied militias of nomad Arabs known as the janjaweed were behind it.

The official said a full army battalion of 800 troops was stationed at the entrance of the smoldering town, which was otherwise empty.

"There's absolutely no doubt the army and janjaweed did it," the official said on condition of anonymity because the Sudanese government regularly expels observers who speak out against abuses.

An Associated Press reporter saw Haskanita intact last Sunday when the army moved in, though plumes of smoke could already be seen rising from several nearby villages.

The town had about 7,000 people, and the other thousands fled from surrounding areas, said Orla Clinton, a spokeswoman in Sudan for the U.N. Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

The rebel attack on the base came amid a government offensive that had been raging for two weeks in the same region. Some rebels have said the attack on the AU peacekeepers may have happened because some rebel groups suspected the AU of collaboration with Sudanese forces, something the AU sharply denies.

U.N. spokeswoman Radhia Achouri said it would be up to the African Union to investigate who was behind the town's destruction." The U.N. has no mandate to investigate security incidents," she said in an e-mail to the AP.

The AU said was investigating last week's attack on its base, but could not say whether it would expand the inquiry to the town's destruction.

Darfur rebel groups have traded accusations on who attacked the AU base. ***Peacekeepers told the AP last week that they had identified the assailants as belonging to a splinter group called SLA-Unity, which has been invited to the peace talks. But Sunday, Mohammed Osman, a local chief of SLA-Unity, told the AP by satellite phone that his group had no role in the attack, blaming it on the Justice and Equality Movement.***

JEM leader Khalil Ibrahim dismissed that claim." I swear on the Quran neither I nor any of my men took part," Ibrahim said, referring to Islam's holy book.

One U.N. official in Darfur said he was convinced JEM led the attack, and that SLA-Unity came to the base later to share in the looting.

The Voice of America (VOA) news quoted the UN as saying "a town in Sudan's Darfur region has been burned to the ground, a week after a deadly attack on a nearby African Union peacekeeping base".

In a statement Sunday, the U.N. mission in Sudan said its investigators visited the town of Haskanita on Saturday and found it "completely burned down, except for a few buildings." It said the civilian population fled the town last week after attackers assaulted the A.U. peacekeeping base and killed 10 soldiers. ***The U.N. did not say who set fire to Haskanita but noted that the town is under the control of Sudanese government forces.***

Sudanese and A.U. officials have blamed fighters from Darfur rebel groups for the September 29th attack on the A.U. peacekeeping base in Haskanita.

Another report by *Sudantribune.com* states that the founder leader of the rebel Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM), Abdelwahid al-Nur has condemned the destruction of Haskanita town in northern Darfur. He further wondered how parties can launch talks in such hostile environment.

The rebel leader said "Now we see the National Congress Party committing genocide in Darfur every day and on the other hand the same political party violating the

Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). The NCP do not care about the interests of the country or its population all what they want is to remain in power." He concluded.

Akhbar Alyaum quoting a report by Reuters said the report did not repeated allegations by the rebels that the Sudanese army is behind burning of Haskanita. ***Suliman Jamous blamed the GoS for the destruction of Haskanita and said the people have left Haskanita and all the villages around it.***

AlRai AlAam daily stated that Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) ***has criticized a UN report on the burning of Haskanita. A source at the office of SAF Spokesperson said the report contains unjustified exaggerations on a fire that could have been, most likely, set on the market of the area by a subversive activity.***

According to ***AlAyam*** daily, ***the office of the SAF Spokesperson said it is not possible for SAF to burn Haskanita while the town remains since the attack on the AU base under its control. There is no evidence, we cannot burn the market, he said. Further, the office of SAF Spokesperson said the AU has not accused SAF explaining the rebel armed groups accuse SAF to serve their agenda. The burning of the market, he said, could be the result of normal reasons in addition to the possibility of subversive acts.***

The attack on the AU troops in Haskanita has been widely condemned by the UN, Security Council, AU, USA and Britain. A tripartite committee is currently investigating on the incident in order to identify who launched the attack on the AU forces, killed 10 of its troops and caused injuries to others.

A report in ***AlSahafa*** says ***UNMIS and the AU have yesterday said that Haskanita has been completely burned in an attack that seems to be a retaliation step against the rebels who attacked the AU military base last week.***

Note: All local media reports stated clearly that the UN has not accused any party of being behind the burning of Haskanita.

Dr. Mustafa Osman: rebel groups not participating in Tripoli will be internationally isolated

(***AlRai AlAam***) Presidential Adviser Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismail said there are regional and international efforts to make Tripoli meeting a success. Just before leaving for Tripoli yesterday to deliver a message from al Bashir to Gadaffi, Dr. Ismail the armed groups who refuse to participate in Tripoli talks will be isolated from their grass-roots and civil society.

Consultation conference for JEM in Darfur

(***AlRai AlAam***) Khalil JEM has extended an invitation for a consultation meeting for the Movement on 18 October in Darfur. USA, some western countries, neighboring states, humanitarian organizations, political parties, civil society organizations and native administration leaders are said to participate in the conference. JEM Deputy Political Secretary Abdul Aziz Usher said the conference will support JEM efforts for achieving peace and its negotiation position.

JEM veteran rebel establishes collective leadership, confirms split

(*SudanTribune.com* – 7 Oct. LONDON) A new splinter group from the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) announced the formation of a collective leadership for the rebel group. It also said that a general conference to be held.

Bahar Idriss Abu Garda, the head of JEM Collective Leadership blamed the chairman of the movement, Khalil Ibrahim for a series of "conspiracies". He further said the establishment of a collective leadership for the group indicating that the names of the 15 members would be announced in the coming days.

JEM veteran Abu Garda was relieved from his position as Secretary for Western Sector on September 26. He was against the removal of the former JEM commander in chief, Abdalla Banda.

He charged Khalil Ibrahim of adopting totalitarian style of leadership. "He has become a threat for the unity of the movement" said the statement accusing him of monopolizing the leadership of the group with his two brothers.

The head of the breakaway group also described Khalil as "threat for the unity of Sudan" because he calls for the separation of Darfur. Abu Garda also said Khalil endangers the "success of the forthcoming peace talks" in Libya at the end of this month.

The splinter leader reinstated the former commander in chief of JEM forces, Abdella Banda to the position from which he was sacked.

He also said will undertake contacts with the mediation team to join the forthcoming peace talks scheduled to begin on 27 October in Libya.

Nigeria sends 680 additional troops to Sudan's Darfur

(*SudanTribune.com* –7 Oct. ABUJA) Despite the killing of seven soldiers in peacekeeping operation in Darfur, Sudan last week, the Nigerian Army has said it is sending another 680 soldiers to the war-torn region.

"The GOC 81 Division of the Nigeria Army, Major General Azubuike Ihejirika, who made the announcement, said the soldiers would soon be airlifted to the troubled region, the Nigerian This Day daily newspaper reported .

Speaking with newsmen on Sunday at the Air Force Base, Ikeja, Lagos, Ihejirika said the army was not discouraged in anyway as their ultimate motive was to ensure peace in the entire continent, stating that by their singular action thousands of lives can be saved.

Norway, Sweden in new territory with Darfur force

(*SudanTribune.com* – 7 Oct. STOCKHOLM) If accepted, the 400 Norwegian and Swedish army engineers offered for peacekeeping in Darfur will be far the largest Western contingent — a bold step from Nordic countries unused to fighting overseas.

The attack on the African Union force in Sudan's west at the end of September that killed 10 peacekeepers was the worst on outside forces in Darfur, and was a reminder of the risks a new 26,000-troop hybrid AU and United Nations force will face.

"I think the Swedish people have an overly romantic view of peacekeeping," said Jan Winter, an experienced correspondent and former foreign desk head for Swedish national newswire TT. "They don't realise that peacekeepers can be hated and attacked."

An al Qaeda leader has called for an Iraq-style insurgency against the peacekeepers, stretched across an area the size of France. They will try to stem violence, protect aid workers and allow the return of 2.5 million displaced Darfuris.

It is still not entirely clear if the 150 Swedish and 250 Norwegian soldiers will actually go. The African Union and Sudan have yet to accept their offer.

Breakaway JEM faction wants to participate in Darfur talks

(SudanTribune.com –7 Oct. LONDON)

Find attached:

The text of a letter by the Commander Idrees Azrag the leader of a breakaway faction of the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) addressed to the UN Secretary General Ban-Ki-Moon. The splinter faction requests to participate in the forthcoming peace talks scheduled on 27 October 2007 in Libya

IDPS urge Abdel Wahid to participate in Tripoli peace talks

(Akhbar Alyaum) Many voices, including SLM Nur IDP supporters, who are annoyed by the Abdel Wahid Nour stubborn attitude towards the participation in any talks with the government, have appealed to the rebel leader to join Tripoli negotiations in a bid probe the key factors of lasting solution to Darfur crisis. Facing the on rushing date of Tripoli talks, a number of people, interviewed by *(Akhbar Alyaum)* emphasized the importance of dialogue as an ethical and political principle for approaching the various view points.

Ahmed Ali at Diraig IDP camp says that in fact they are displaced from different places due to insecurity in the region. Our property was robbed and our homes were destroyed, so we would like to urge our brother Nour to join the peace talks to enjoy our legitimate rights.

Mohamed Yousif Abdulrazig member of one of the armed groups in Nyala said that we urge Nour to take part in the Tripoli negotiations, to listen, discuss and then take decisions in light of the dialogue." Our people are fed up of displacement and it is illogical make serious issues subject to moody positions", he adds.

Ibrahim Adam Mahmoud, a leading NCP figure called on the DPA non-signatory armed groups to change their attitudes, which, do not assist in any progress towards realization of peace.

Newly formed Sudanese group say southern peace pact "dead"

(*SudanTribune.com* –7 Oct.) A newly formed political front denounced the "tribalisation colonization" of the government of southern Sudan, saying it would hold talks with Khartoum to realize a "real" peace between northern and southern Sudan.

The Southern Sudan Liberation Front in a press statement denounced the Comprehensive Peace Agreement signed between the National Congress Party and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement in January 2007.

The SSLF described the CPA as "dead" because it led to the "marginalization of many Sudanese tribes and also exclusion of many political and multi-armed forces from the signing of the (CPA)."

The chairman of the front, Yien Lam Tot who was the former Secretary for Foreign Affairs of South Sudan United Democratic Alliance (SSUDA), added that the armed wing of the SSLF will not redeploy to northern Sudan as it is stipulated in the CPA..

The "United Armed Forces for the Liberation of Southern Sudan (UAFLSS), will not be redeployed into Northern Sudan because the liberation of Southern Sudan and its people from (SPLA/SPLM) is still going on." He said.

The deployment of the Sudan Armed Forces from the oil rich Upper Nile is one of the pending issues in the implementation of the CPA.

While the SPLA says local militias are part of the SAF [Sudan Armed forces], Khartoum denies their affiliation to the SAF indicating that all the Khartoum backed militia are disbanded or redeployed into northern Sudan.

This move shows more fragmentation among the former armed groups in southern Sudan since the disbanding of the main faction of South Sudan Defence Force (SSDF) of Paulino Matip and its integration in the SPLA in January 2006.

Southern Darfur state tighten security ahead of Id al-Fitr celebrations

(*BBC Mon*) Nyala locality has stepped up preparations and precaution measures for any insecurity incidents that may happen in the coming two days, before and after the Id al-Fitr [celebrations].

In a statement to SMC, the executive director of Nyala locality, Al-Saud Husayn Al-Mahi said the locality laid down a comprehensive plan to secure the citizens and their properties in Nyala town and its surrounding locations and that is by fully coordinating with state security Committee.

Source: Sudanese Media Centre website, Khartoum, in Arabic 7 Oct 07

Sudanese rebels reportedly clash with army in northern Darfur

(*BBC Mon*) The [rebel] Sudan Liberation Movement faction, led by Abd-al-Wahid Muhammad Nur, has said that it incurred losses on the armed forces in clashes

between the two in Jabal Karu area 70km west of Al-Fashir the capital of North Darfur State.

However, until it went to press, the paper was unable to reach the office of the official spokesman for the armed forces for comment. Al-Jazeera satellite channel had stated that official sources indicated that one of the army's patrols had been ambushed but did not mention any losses incurred.

Source: Al-Ayam, Khartoum, in Arabic 7 Oct 07
Consultation conference: