

## Key Points

- Sudan and South Sudan agree on oil transportation fees, but implementation of the agreement still depends on resolving security issues between the two states.
- The Government of Sudan and the SPLM-N signed, separately, Memoranda of Understanding with the African Union, the Arab League and the UN for the assessment and delivery of humanitarian assistance to war-affected civilians in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states.
- One WFP staff member was killed and another wounded in South Kordofan following an attack on their vehicle 80km north of the state capital, Kadugli.
- In Darfur, public protests in Nyala and inter-tribal fighting in parts of North Darfur State lead to civilian casualties and displacement.
- Heavy rains and flash flooding affects more than 14,000 people across Darfur.

## 1. Sudan-South Sudan relations

On 4 August, the Sudanese state news agency (SUNA) reported that Sudan and South Sudan had reached an agreement on oil revenue sharing, adding that the deal will be implemented only after negotiations on security issues have been finalised. With the secession of South Sudan in July 2011 Sudan lost 75 per cent of its oil revenues, while 98 per cent of South Sudan's budget depends on oil. The agreement came shortly after the 2 August deadline set by the UN Security Council to endorse the roadmap put forward in April by the African Union's (AU) Peace and Security Council at a ministerial meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The roadmap aims to ease tensions, facilitate the resumption of negotiations on post-secession relations and normalise relations between the two countries. The Security Council will hold a meeting on 9 August to discuss any progress made. According to the AU, Sudan and South Sudan now have until 22 September to conclude a comprehensive agreement that includes security issues and the final status of Abyei.

## 2. South Kordofan and Blue Nile

### Security situation

The UN World Food Programme (WFP) reported that on 4 August one of its staff members was killed and another seriously injured in South Kordofan after an armed attack on their vehicle by two unknown gunmen near Hilat Yatu, some 80km north of the South Kordofan state capital, Kadugli. The wounded staff member is currently receiving medical attention. The incident came after a series of attacks on WFP assets and premises in Darfur over the past few weeks. On 6 July, a Government convoy was attacked in Katan village, 15 kms east of Kurgul in South Kordofan. A number of Government officials, including the head of the South Kordofan legislative council, were killed in the attack. The latest incident raises concerns over security conditions on the Kadugli-Dilling road, the main route used by humanitarian organisations to travel to Kadugli from Khartoum and El Obeid.

### Tripartite initiative on humanitarian access

On 4 and 5 August, the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) signed, separately, Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with the AU, the League of Arab States (LAS) and the United Nations (UN) to facilitate for the assessment and delivery of humanitarian assistance to war-affected civilians in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states. The MoU states that within one week the Government and the tripartite initiative partners will meet to approve a plan of action on how to conduct assessments with regard to the number and the needs of the affected people in the two states. According to humanitarian organisations, more than 650,000 people are estimated to have been displaced or severely affected by the conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and SPLM-N forces that began in June 2011 in South Kordofan and expanded to

Blue Nile in September 2011. WFP reported on 5 August that the ongoing conflict in South Kordofan has severely hampered its ability to provide an estimated 500,000 people with food assistance. The Memoranda of Understanding include a cessation of hostilities during the process of assessment and distribution of humanitarian assistance.

### **Sudanese refugees in South Sudan and Ethiopia**

According to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), by 5 August there were more than 203,000 Sudanese refugees from South Kordofan and Blue Nile states in camps in South Sudan and Ethiopia. This includes some 37,700 refugees, mainly from Blue Nile, in camps in Ethiopia's Assosa region. In South Sudan, there are some 105,600 refugees from Blue Nile in camps in Upper Nile State and some 60,200 refugees mainly from South Kordofan in three locations in Unity States. According to UNHCR, many Sudanese refugees have been arriving in South Sudan in a very weak state – exhausted, dehydrated and malnourished.

### **Humanitarian response**

Humanitarian organisations in Sudan are unable to access SPLM-N-controlled areas in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states due to Government restrictions. As of 5 August, 320 national staff from the UN and international NGOs (INGOs) and six international UN staff were present in Government-controlled areas of South Kordofan. There are over 200 national staff of UN agencies and INGOs in Blue Nile. No international staff are present in Blue Nile State.

Heavy rains and poor road conditions are hampering the movement of humanitarian supplies and food distributions in the east of South Kordofan, particularly in the Talodi and El Leri localities. This is delaying the distribution of food rations by WFP and agricultural inputs provided by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Bad weather also delayed the rehabilitation of water points under the support of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Government's Water and Environmental Sanitation Department (WES) in Talodi and El Leri. However, WFP has finalised food distributions in Abu Karshola, Rashad locality.

The UNHCR Emergency Shelter/Non-Food Items (ES/NFI) Project was allowed to access its warehouse in El Obeid on 20 July and released relief supplies for distribution in South Kordofan. The national NGOs (NNGO) Jasmar and the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) continue to distribute NFIs to some 12,000 families in the eastern parts of South Kordofan and in Kadugli town. The dispatch of additional NFI supplies for 9,660 families (48,290 people) in the Talodi, Gedir and El Leri localities has been postponed due to impassable roads.

## **3. Abyei**

### **Returns**

According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the number of people who have returned to areas north of the Bahr al Arab/Kiir River, including Abyei town, remains at some 10,000 people. From 16-25 July, UNHCR and the INGO Intersos conducted an assessment in areas north of Bahr al Arab/Kiir River and found that most of the 1,700 people interviewed were planning to settle in their area of origin. They had been conducting go-and-see visits and are now starting the reconstruction of their homes in preparation for the return of their families after the rainy season. The assessment indicates that women have primarily returned to rebuild houses and plant crops, while children, men, and elderly members of the extended family remain behind in the areas of displacement.

### **Humanitarian response**

Humanitarian actors continued to assist people displaced from Abyei during the reporting week. This included the distribution of NFIs, the provision of water and the construction of sanitation facilities, as well as the running of child friendly spaces. NFIs were provided to an estimated 9,500 people north of Bahr al Arab/Kiir River and some 33,000 people south of the river. The UN Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) continued to truck in water to areas of return where hand pumps and water yards are in disrepair.

In Abyei town, UNISFA troops assisted in the rehabilitation and maintenance of Abyei hospital. The hospital now receives some 80 patients a day. IOM supported the hospital with NFIs, while the World Health Organization

(WHO) provided medicines. In Agok, FAO has delivered agricultural tools and 140 metric tonnes (MT) of seeds to be distributed by the NNGO Abyei Community Action for Development (ACAD) and the Department for Agriculture, Animal Resources and Fisheries to some 84,000 displaced people and host communities. The INGO Netherlands Development Organisation and the Department for Agriculture, Animal Resources and Fisheries have assisted some 190 vulnerable people with livestock living south of the river.

On 5 August, UNICEF trained a total of 45 new UNISFA staff officers and UN military observers in general child protection issues, particularly the monitoring and reporting mechanism of grave violations against children as per UN Security Council Resolution 1612. They will be collecting information on child protection in areas where humanitarian actors do not have access. SCS is running 23 child friendly spaces in Abyei area, benefitting some 8,000 children.

## 4. Returns to South Sudan

### Registration of extremely vulnerable people of South Sudanese origin in Khartoum

IOM and UNHCR are continuing the registration and medical screening of extremely vulnerable individuals (EVIs) in open areas in Khartoum – where people of South Sudanese origin are sheltering – so as to relocate them to South Sudan by air. Over the past week, 111 EVIs and 237 family members were registered and cleared to travel to South Sudan. Overall, IOM and UNHCR plan to assist 655 EVIs in returning to South Sudan. Meanwhile, two days of heavy rain in Khartoum caused the situation at many departure points to deteriorate, with a corresponding increase in the risk of waterborne diseases and malaria.

### Reverse movements from South Sudan to Sudan

There have been new reverse return movements to Darfur from South Sudan, primarily from Northern Bahr el Ghazal. The Protection Sector reports that over the past week, 25 South Sudanese men returned from Northern Bahr el Ghazal State to work on farms in Assalaya, Almatamma and Ed Daein in East Darfur. According to Protection Sector partners, the reverse return movement of South Sudanese is linked to a lack of viable livelihood opportunities, basic services and food shortages in South Sudan, while some individuals cite difficulties of reintegration in South Sudan. The majority of those who came back to Darfur live in areas near the Sudanese border.

## 5. Darfur

### Security situation

On 30 July, some 300 students took to the streets in Nyala, South Darfur, protesting the lack of public transport as bus drivers went on strike over high fuel prices. According to the media, the annual inflation rate in Sudan reached 41 per cent in July, while in June it was 37 per cent. The police used tear gas to disperse the protestors. The following day, demonstrations continued and cases of vandalism and destruction of property were reported. According to reports received by the UN, a police station, a market, and a fuel station were destroyed. Several UN vehicles were also damaged. On 31 July, the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) imposed a restriction on the movement of UN and INGO staff in Nyala. According to media reports, eight people were killed (five of whom were high school students) and some 24 people were injured. Public transportation has resumed, but all schools remain closed until further notice.

### Fighting in Kutum, North Darfur

On 1 August in North Darfur, unknown armed men shot and killed the Commissioner of the Al Waha locality and his driver and stole his vehicle. According to reports received by the UN, following the incident, some members of the Jalul tribe that the deceased Commissioner was from killed two Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and injured another five. The tribesmen also killed one police officer, injured another, and destroyed a local market. On 3 August, two members of the government delegation that arrived in Kutum for a meeting with the governor were shot at and injured.

The UN also received reports of looting of houses of displaced people, markets and businesses in the Kassab IDP Camp and Kutum town. On 4 August, SAF units removed the armed tribesmen from Kutum town. The militia tribesmen returned to the town on 5 August, and engaged the SAF in force. It has not been possible to determine the number of civilians killed and injured. During the violence, the premises of five humanitarian organisations were looted. Humanitarian staff have been evacuated to El Fasher town. Reports received by the UN indicate that the entire population of the Kassab IDP Camp – 25,000 people – fled because of the fighting. The displaced people have reportedly moved in with relatives in Kutum town or relocated to the Zariba area.

#### **Verification of people displaced from Saq Alnyam to the Zam Zam IDP Camp, North Darfur**

On 2 August, IOM started the first verification exercise of new displacements to Zam Zam IDP Camp from Saq Alnyam, North Darfur. According to Plan Sudan, some 2,400 displaced people have arrived in the camp. People started arriving in the camp following the attacks by Birgid tribesmen between 23 and 29 July 2012.

#### **Floods destroy houses across Darfur**

Flash floods triggered by heavy rains over the past week have affected more than 14,000 people across Darfur, damaging or destroying property. Those people who have been affected or displaced by the flooding require emergency shelter, NFIs and other assistance. According to HAC, some 2,600 people have been affected by floods in the Kubum locality, South Darfur. HAC has called on international humanitarian organisations to provide emergency shelter, NFIs, medication and sanitation services. WHO accompanied a high-level government assessment mission to the area and humanitarian actors will base their response on this assessment. Access to the area is limited due to poor road conditions caused by the rains.

In East Darfur, flash flooding triggered by heavy rains reportedly damaged the homes of some 2,000 people in El Ferdos town. Findings from an assessment mission conducted on 1 August by the INGOs Tearfund, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), and the SRCS indicate that those affected require emergency shelter, NFIs, and sanitation. Local authorities will temporarily relocate the affected people to school buildings.

In Central Darfur, HAC reports that flash flooding destroyed the homes of some 3,800 displaced people and host community members in Bindisi locality (132km south-west of Zalingei town). The Bindisi IDP Camp is located in a flood-prone area and, since 2006, the authorities and humanitarian actors have been trying to relocate the camp inland without success. In Rasalfil village (170km south-west of Zalingei town), the homes of some 1,900 people and a school building were washed away. In the Wadi Salih locality (81km south-west of Zalingei town), the homes of some 6,800 people from both the displaced and host communities in Garsila town, Garsila IDP Camp, Umkher town, and Togtoga, Siro, Anjokiti, Sigai and Rota villages were destroyed by heavy rains and flash floods. Humanitarian actors have begun responding to these floods, but stocks of NFIs remain limited. Requests have been made to the state government to facilitate the clearance of NFIs from UN warehouses in El Obeid.

The ability of humanitarian actors to comprehensively respond to needs is still hampered by the Government not giving authority to the UNHCR/ES/NFIs Project to bring NFIs from its warehouses in El Obeid to Darfur. NFI stocks in Darfur are now all but exhausted whilst the humanitarian needs are growing following more displacement in North Darfur and flooding in other States, according to the ES/NFI sector. Following numerous UN interventions with the Government and the Chairman of the Darfur Regional Authority (DRA), it is expected that full operation of the ES/NFI Project in North Kordofan will be authorised in the coming few days. As soon as the permission is granted, the ES/NFI Project will immediately begin replenishing the Darfur warehouses.

In West Darfur, floods have affected some 3,100 people in the Forobaranga locality, according to humanitarian organisations. Approximately 76 per cent of the people affected by the rains live in rural areas and poor road conditions caused by the rains make it difficult to access those affected. The immediate needs of affected communities are emergency shelter, NFIs, water and sanitation services, and health services. An inter-agency assessment of the affected areas will be undertaken in the coming days.

In North Darfur, humanitarian actors continue to assist those affected by floods in 15 villages in the Malha locality. WES has supported the construction of sanitation facilities, chlorinated affected water sources, and trained community committees in environmental health.