



## Highlights

- Fighting in Upper Nile State have left more than 50 dead and 90 injured.
- More than 5,000 southerners now awaiting onwards transportation at Kosti transit center.
- Fourth phase of returns to Abyei Area from 21 January to 5 February tallies more than 12,000 people, bringing the total of returns to the Area to 37,808 people.
- In Darfur, verification and assistance to people displaced by fighting in December and January continues.

### 1. North-South population movements

The pace of returns from northern to southern Sudan has remained reduced since mid-January due to a combination of potential insecurity along returnee routes in Southern Kordofan and limited government resources for transportation. Following the official announcement of the referendum results, government-assisted return movement is slowly re-starting. Some returns have continued, including two trains that travelled through Southern Kordofan and arrived in Northern Bahr el Ghazal during the past week, eleven buses destined for Northern Bahr el Ghazal via Unity, and several buses of spontaneous returnees to various destinations, including to Unity via Abyei.

On 9 February, the SPLM caucus of ministers in the Government of National Unity (GoNU) and parliamentarians launched an appeal to diplomatic missions, UN agencies and international NGOs to assist the voluntary repatriation of southerners in the North. The caucus had visited 19 IDPs camps in Khartoum State on 24 January. Members of the international community encouraged continued discussions between the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS) and the GoNU to address underlining issues that contribute to mass returns of southerners in the North, including uncertainties over citizenship, right to stay, work, right to own property, etc.

UNHCR reported on 9 February that at the three departure points visited in Khartoum this week, IDPs complain of having no food, blankets, shelters and medical services for their families while waiting for transportation to their various areas of origin.

Meanwhile, the total number of persons at the Kosti transit centre rised to 5,071 people, including 3,305 children, as of 9 February. There was no barge movement or loading of belongings, according to UNHCR. The international NGO coordinating efforts at the transit center annouced on 9 February that an agreement had been reached with White Nile state authorities to avail more land for the returnees at the center. At the appeal launch by the SPLM caucus, the Humanitarian Coordinator announced that due to this serious congestion at the Kosti transit centre the United Nations would immediately take steps to solve the bottleneck by looking into possibilities to organise onward transportation. On 10 February, the newly created Returns Sector held an extra ordinary meeting to discuss the various options to be further explored.

The child protection sub-sector met on 10 January in order to draft a policy guidance in the context of North-South movements to be approved by the next Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) meeting. The policy will aim to address the protection issues of unaccompanied minors. According to UNICEF, about 60 per cent of the returnees to the south are under 18 years of age.

#### **Returnees overview (Statistical update for 9 February 2010)**

According to information from IOM, ADRA, SSRRC and RCSO, the number of returnees in southern Sudan, Southern Kordofan and the Abyei area since October 2010 is as follows:

Southern Sudan	Southern Kordofan	Abyei Area
213,832	5,210	37,808

## 2. Southern Sudan

### Fighting breaks out between SAF elements in Upper Nile State

From 3 to 5 February, fighting broke out within the Sudan Armed Forces Joint Integrated Units (SAF JIU) made up of northern and southern Sudanese soldiers at camps in Malakal, Melut, Bunj, Kasara (Paloich) and Khor Adar in Upper Nile State. The fighting started in the state capital Malakal on 3 February and spread to the other four locations by 5 February. The conflict prompted the relocation of some humanitarian staff and temporary suspension of assistance, although response is again resuming. Reportedly, southern soldiers within the SAF JIUs were unhappy with an order for the units to give up their weapons and equipment to the north when they withdraw to the northern location of Kosti ahead of their discharge from SAF. According to UNMIS, the clashes have left more than 50 people killed and approximately 90 injured excluding civilian casualties. At least two children and a UN agency driver were killed in crossfire. A number of humanitarian organisations were relocated from Maban County because of the violence.

A relative calm is reported to have returned in Upper Nile as of 7 February and the humanitarian impact of the fighting is being assessed. According to early reports, no large population movements have been observed. However, the situation is being closely monitored and concerns remain that a renewed escalation could have increased humanitarian consequences.

### Conflict incidents in January

In January 2011, approximately 80 people were killed in cattle raiding, tribal violence or clashes by armed groups, according to reports from local authorities and/or assessment teams. About 1,200 people were displaced in three different locations – Lakes, Jonglei and Western Equatoria. Almost half of incidents of tribal violence reported took place in Jonglei.

### New attacks by alleged LRA reported in Western Equatoria State

Tensions persist in Western Equatoria following further attacks by alleged Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) gunmen reported over the last week. UNMIS has reported that on 31 January and 1 February two related attacks took place south east of Yubo/Tambura close to the border with Central African Republic (CAR). Between seven and nine armed LRA members reportedly killed one person and injured three villagers. A joint pursuit operation by SPLA and Arrow Boys (community militia group) was quickly launched, pushing the suspected LRA gunmen to withdraw towards CAR. Another incident with two people killed has been reported from Yubo in Yambio County on 4 February. UNDSS continues to investigate incidents in detail to determine their veracity. Three incidents in January have been verified to be by LRA.

### Pockets of unrest persist in Unity State although security situation improves

Although still tense, the security situation in parts of Unity State has reportedly improved and the UN security level around Koch County and the road from Bentiu to Koch has been reduced from level four to level two, and the suspension on UN movement has been lifted. The movement restrictions on major supply roads have reduced the mobility of humanitarian actors and impacted negatively on programmes. Programmes in Mayom and Abiemnhom counties – including for the more than 13,000 returnees in those counties – continue to be negatively impacted by the continuing security restrictions there. Humanitarian partners in Unity are following up on humanitarian needs.

## 3. Abyei area

While the Resident Coordinator Support Office (RCSO) and UNHCR reported that more than 37,000 people returned to Abyei, RCSO noted that of that figure 3,537 cases are yet to be verified.

In addition to food assistance to returnees, WFP and Save the Children are planning to support approximately 25,000 people under the Food For Recovery (FFR) initiative, up from 17,000 in January. The NGO has just completed a quick assessment in all the return villages, Mercy Corps is also initiating another assessment mainly focusing on the livelihood sector. UNHCR's Non-Food Items (NFI) pipeline was interrupted by the road blockade, but supplies for 3,000 households arrived on 6 February.

According to the RCSO, the international NGOs compound has been completed and IOM, Mercy Corp, Save the Children and GOAL are currently looking at management and operational arrangements of the compound such as cost sharing.

## 4. Darfur

### Displacement in Tabit

On 5 February, UNAMID Shangil Tobaya Team Site undertook a verification patrol to Tabit and Tukumara villages, where fighting was recently reported. Civilians in the area have reportedly fled to a mountainous area. A humanitarian assessment mission is scheduled to go to the area shortly.

### Shangil Tobay

According to agencies/NGOs in Darfur, renewed fighting in North Darfur state over the past two months, between government and opposition groups, has forced thousands of families to flee from their villages. MSF said its teams are providing medical humanitarian assistance to the newly displaced people who are living in precarious conditions in several camps in Shangil Tobay, Dar El Salaam, and Tabit.

The monthly coordination meeting for Shangil Tobay took place on 10 February and focused on the current situation on the ground with provision of humanitarian assistance, protection of IDPs and registration of new IDP arrivals. OCHA, WFP Logistics Coordination Unit (LCU), IOM, MSF, Dar El Salam Development Association (DDA), African Humanitarian Action (AHA) are working towards consolidating the list of all displaced people in Shangil Tobay, including new arrivals from other places. In addition, pending NFI distributions to IDPs are taking place.

From 8 to 10 February, OCHA conducted an assessment mission to Kebkabiya and held the monthly inter-agency meeting there.

### Khor Abeche

World Vision International (WVI) deployed a team on 7 February, to verify the IDP caseload in Khor Abeche in preparation for provision of food supplied by WFP. Water and sanitation services in Khor Abeche have improved in recent days with WVI repairing the water generator in the village while UNICEF fixed two water bladder tanks (20,000 liters) for the nearly 10,000 IDPs concentrating near the UNAMID Team Site. UNAMID had been supporting the IDPs with water supply.

On 4-5 February, a delegation from the Native Administration from Shearia Locality and Government military commanders held a meeting with IDPs at the UNAMID Team Site discuss return to the village of Khor Abeche. IDPs have reportedly indicated their willingness to go back but concerns over security are hindering them.

### Zamzam camp

Following fighting in Shangil Tobay, Dar El Salaam and Tabit areas in December and January, about 4,057 people have sought refuge in Zamzam camp. IOM has completed initial verification and results will be circulated as soon as the consolidation is completed. OCHA and UNHCR were requested to meet community leaders and discuss ways of properly settling the new IDPs. With increasing numbers of new IDPs, there have been reports of gaps in the delivery of food and services such as health and water and sanitation. On 5 February, OCHA and IOM conducted a mapping exercise of the locations of the new arrivals for implementing agencies to assess services in those areas.

**Kalma Camp**

The General Food Distribution in the camp for the month of February started during the reporting period. The food ration will comprise of 15.5 kg of cereals per household, up from 6.75 kg. The cereal ration has been increased due to a shortfall in the distribution of cooking oil and lentils.

**Winter supplies of Non-Food items**

The seasonal winter Non-Food Items distribution in South Darfur was completed on 3 February, reaching more than half a million people. WFP-LCU reported that only 79 of the 145 locations targeted (54 per cent) were reached due to access constraints. The distributions in Zalingei IDP camps were finalized on 8 February, reaching approximately 45,000 people.

**Returns**

The Humanitarian Country Team met in Khartoum on 7 February and the Humanitarian Coordinator announced the government Humanitarian Aid Commission's (HAC) decision to call for a meeting of the Sub Committee on Joint Verification Mechanism in order to review its functionality, practice and relation to the newly formed Task Force on Durable Solution co-chaired by HAC and OCHA. The Sub Committee is expected to make recommendations at the next High Level Committee on 23 February.

**Visits by US Special Envoy and Senior Advisor**

The US Ambassador Dane Smith, the new US Senior Advisor on Darfur, met with UN and international NGO representatives on 8 February in El Fasher. The discussion focused on returns, security, protection, and human rights. US Special Envoy Scott Gration visited Tukumare and Kutum, where he met representatives of Arab nomadic groups. The Special Envoy also held discussions on humanitarian access in North Darfur with representatives of humanitarian organizations. A range of topics were discussed, including transportation of medical supplies, drugs, and fuel for water pumping generators and helicopter flights to the deep field location. Participants agreed to discuss the matter further at the North Darfur Sub Committee on Safety and Security.