

## Key Points

- On 7 May, a Presidential decree announced a state of emergency in an additional three localities in South Kordofan, Al Salam, Al Dibab and Heiban.
- In South Kordofan, the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) reports the return of some 12,000 displaced people from El Leri back to Talodi town. WFP has so far distributed 200 metric tonnes of food in South Kordofan, out of a total of 520 metric tonnes that it plans to distribute in May, to some 31,000 people in eight locations.
- The Khartoum to Juba airlift operation of returnees stranded at the Kosti way-station, organized by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), is underway.
- In Khartoum State, there have been more reports of alleged abductions of people of South Sudanese origin by Nuer (South Sudanese) militia groups.
- In Abyei, the South Sudan Police Services (SSPS) completed its withdrawal from the Abyei area to Warrap State in South Sudan.
- In South Darfur, there was reportedly heavy fighting when the Sudan Revolutionary Front (SRF) and Sudan Liberation Army – Minni Minawi (SLA-MM) forces attacked a Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) base in Gereida town, Gereida hosts the largest camp for displaced people in South Darfur, with some 130,000 people. No displacement from the town was reported as a result of the fighting. In West Darfur, the World Food Programme has reduced its May food distributions due to logistical problems.

## 1. People of South Sudanese origin in Sudan

### **Alleged abductions of people of South Sudanese origin in Khartoum State, by Nuer militia**

According to community leaders, Nuer (South Sudanese) militias allegedly continue to abduct people of South Sudanese origin in Khartoum State, reports the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR). In the Kalakla Wihda area, 24 men were reportedly abducted and taken to a compound south of Khartoum. Another four men were reportedly abducted from Jabra and taken to a compound in North Omdurman.

### **Embassy of South Sudan in Khartoum continues to issue documents for Southerners**

According to UNHCR, the Embassy of South Sudan in Khartoum is in the process of issuing 601 passports and nationality certificates (recently sent from Juba) to people of South Sudanese origin in Sudan. This is the first time the Embassy of South Sudan has issued passports and nationality certificates in Khartoum. The Embassy continues processing applications for emergency travel documents, nationality certificates and passports for people of South Sudanese origin in Sudan.

### **Registration of people of South Sudanese origin by the Sudan Ministry of Interior**

According to UNHCR, the Sudan Ministry of Interior is continuing the registration of people of South Sudanese origin in Sudan to avoid them being classed as stateless or undocumented migrants. On 10 May, the Sudan Immigration Department announced that so far 14,000 people have been registered in three registration centres in Khartoum at an average rate of 500 people a day. However, registration of South Sudanese is not taking place systematically throughout Sudan. Also, mixed messages are being sent out about the registration and its purpose.

### Update on airlifting of returnees stranded in Kosti way-station

Between 7 and 13 May, preparations were made for the humanitarian airlift to South Sudan of between 12,000 and 15,000 returnees stranded in Kosti. The airlift eventually began on 14 May, following a series of logistical difficulties. On 12 May, whilst the first bus convoy was en route to the Soba Transit Centre in Khartoum, the flight charter company informed the International Organization for Migration (IOM) that they could not operate morning flights to Juba on 13 May due to the flight crew's compulsory rest period. After receiving this information, the convoy attempted to return to Kosti but was denied access to White Nile State by local authorities. Following extensive negotiations and intervention from the Minister of Welfare and Social Security, Amira Al-Fadil, the convoy was permitted to continue with its original journey to Khartoum, where the returnees stayed the night at the Soba Transit Centre. Minister Al-Fadil visited the returnees at the centre.

According to IOM, an estimated US\$5.5 million is required to transport the returnees stranded at the Kosti way-station by air to South Sudan. IOM has already redirected \$2.5 million from the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) previously obtained to transport these people by barge. This leaves a shortfall of \$3 million, of which ECHO has indicated that it will contribute \$1.3 million. Further funds are still being sought to pay for this humanitarian airlift.

## 2. South Kordofan and Blue Nile

On 7 May 2012, a state of emergency was declared in a further three localities in South Kordofan (Al Salam, Al Dibab and Heiban). This follows an earlier Presidential decree on 29 April 2012, declaring a state of emergency in seven localities in South Kordofan, two localities in White Nile and two localities in Sennar State. In Blue Nile State, a state of emergency was declared in September 2011. The immediate implications for humanitarian activities are not yet clear.

### Security

According to reports received by the UN, on 9 May the Sudan People's Liberation Movement – North (SPLM-N) attacked Tereida village (approximately 50km south-east of Kologi) in South Kordofan. Three villagers were reportedly killed and one injured. In addition, clashes between Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and SPLM-N were reported at Abu Saiba village (10km south of Dilling town). Abu Saiba village has been empty since the conflict in South Kordofan began in June 2011, after which the population moved to Dilling town and surrounding areas.

In Reif Asharqi locality, South Kordofan, inter-tribal fighting between nomads and the local community over water resources was reported, resulting in eight civilian deaths and more than 17 injuries. Water resources in the area have been strained due to the high concentration of nomadic groups who are unable to migrate to their traditional grazing grounds around White Lake/Lake Jaw in the disputed border between Sudan and South Sudan as a result of insecurity and the closure of the border with South Sudan.

### Displacements and returns

The Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) reported the registration of 4,917 displaced people in El Leri as of 1 May. This number is expected to decrease in the coming weeks, as people are reportedly returning to Talodi town. As of 12 May, the SRCS reported 12,035 registered returnees in Talodi. This movement is facilitated by free-of-charge government transportation from El Leri to Talodi town. The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) also reports that a further 1,500 displaced people living in Abu Jubaiha have received Government assistance to return to Talodi and El Leri. These people were displaced from Talodi following fighting between SAF and SPLM-N in April 2012 in areas around Talodi town. According to HAC, some 12,500 civilians fled to El Leri from Talodi.

In Blue Nile State, according to an assessment conducted by SRCS and the Government's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) from 1 to 13 May, 2,224 people newly displaced have been registered in Ed Damazine, Al Tadamon, Geissan, and Bau localities. The majority of these people were displaced from El Kurmuk locality and have received emergency food assistance from the national NGO El-Raaya Wa Al-Eslah, HAC and SRCS. An additional 2,866 people who were displaced earlier also received emergency food assistance. According to anecdotal reports received by the UN, there have been returns to Bau and Kurmuk localities taking place in recent

weeks. Due to movement restrictions faced by humanitarian organisations in the state these figures cannot be verified.

#### **Land allocated to displaced people not wanting to return to their areas of origin in South Kordofan**

According to UNICEF, 3,091 people displaced from Talodi to Abu Jubaiha have decided not to return to their area of origin and wish to settle in Abu Jubaiha. Consequently, they have been allocated residential and agricultural lands through the traditional tribal system.

Similarly, the 344 people displaced from Kharasana to El Berdab following the fighting in Higlig between SAF and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) in April have been relocated from the school building in which they were housed to another location in El Berdab which has been allocated by the host community.

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

According to the UNHCR, during the reporting period 1,181 people from Sudan arrived in Ethiopia bringing the total to 32,000 Sudanese refugees registered in the Sherkole Camp, Tongo Camp and Ad-Damazine Transit Centre since June 2011. This number does not include Sudanese refugees who arrived in Ethiopia prior to 1 September 2011.

In South Sudan, refugees from Sudan continued to arrive in South Sudan's Upper Nile and Unity states. In Upper Nile state, latest figures from UNHCR indicate that there are some 71,000 registered refugees in Doro and Jammam settlements. This is a decrease from the previous estimate of 91,000, which was based on family head counts, according to UNHCR.

In Unity State, there are some 35,000 refugees in Yida, Pariang, and Nyeel settlements, according to UNHCR. This brings the total number of Sudanese refugees from South Kordofan and Blue Nile in South Sudan to over 106,000 people.

#### **International staff travel permits for South Kordofan and Blue Nile State**

As of 13 May, there were two UN international staff members in Kadugli; one from the World Food Programme (WFP) and one from the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS). On 10 March, two UNICEF staff were granted permits to travel to Kadugli, while five applications for UN international staff to travel to South Kordofan (OCHA, WFP, IOM, UNHCR) and Blue Nile (OCHA) remain pending. Travel permits are valid for two-week periods only.

#### **Humanitarian response**

The SRCS has distributed one-month food rations, supplied by the World Food Programme (WFP), to 3,600 displaced people in El Koaik and 3,094 in El Berdab in Reif Asharqi locality. These people were displaced from Al Mashaish and Kharasana villages, respectively. In the month of May, WFP plans to distribute 520 metric tons of food to some 31,000 people in eight locations in South Kordofan. Of this target, 200 metric tons have already been distributed.

In response to a nutritional screening of 2,355 children under five years in Dilling town conducted by the national NGO Sibro and the international NGO Care International Switzerland (CIS), UNICEF provided the State Ministry of Health (SMoH) with nutritional supplies for distribution to malnourished children in Dilling. The findings from the screening showed that five children were severely malnourished and 107 children moderately malnourished. The SMoH also conducted a health education campaign to raise awareness on health and nutrition among the displaced population. Discussions are ongoing between the SMoH and WFP to expand the provision of supplementary food programmes in the state.

UNICEF continues to support the Government's Water and Environmental Sanitation department (WES) and national NGOs in providing water, sanitation and hygiene services to displaced populations in South Kordofan. Ongoing activities include the construction of sanitation structures, the construction of new water sources, and rehabilitation of existing water sources.

The international NGO Concern has established an office in Kadugli where it is working with HAC to provide relief supplies to people in Kadugli and surrounding areas. So far, relief supplies have been distributed to 154 people.

Concern also works with the SMOH to implement nutrition projects in Kadugli, Talodi, Kalogi and El Leri areas. Furthermore, Concern assists the SMOH in transporting nutritional supplies from Kadugli to eastern localities, including the towns of Al Abbasiya, Abu Jubaiha, Kalogi, El Leri and Talodi.

#### **Support to children affected by conflict**

The State Ministry of Social Welfare and Social Development in Abu Jubaiha – with support of UNICEF - have reunited 75 children who were separated from their families after fleeing clashes in Talodi. A further 11 children were reunited with their families in El Abassiya locality.

The provision of psycho-social support is ongoing for displaced children in Kadugli and Reif Asharqi by the Ministry of Youth and Development (MoY) and the Ministry of Social Welfare and Social Development through a project launched in August 2011, according to UNICEF. During the week, 2,602 children participated in various organized activities.

Due to the disruption of education services, “catch up classes” will be established in Dilling and Al Qoz localities, according to UNICEF. A team from the Ministry of Education and UNICEF met with local education authorities who agreed to open two schools in Dilling and one in Debibat. Funding for this project has yet to be secured.

### **3. Abyei**

According to the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA), 700 South Sudanese Police Service (SSPS) personnel have withdrawn from the Abyei area on 10 May 2012 to South Sudan's Warrap State, as stipulated by UN Security Council Resolution 2046.

#### **Humanitarians request stronger UNISFA deployment in Agok**

International NGOs in Agok (Mercy Corps, Save the Children – Sweden, Medecins Sans Frontieres, Netherlands Development Organization (SNV), GOAL, and Creative Associates International-HEAR) have formally requested local authorities to support a stronger deployment of UNISFA in Agok. After the departure of the SSPS, humanitarian actors are concerned about the safety and security of their staff and assets in Agok. The humanitarian community in Agok has asked for a mechanism to ensure the free and safe movement of humanitarian workers and a clear communication network whereby security incidents are reported and can be responded to quickly.

In response to this request, local authorities in Agok assured the humanitarian community that UNISFA has been requested to organise policing in the community and to protect humanitarian actors in Abyei and Agok. Furthermore, local authorities will establish traditional police units to deal with social issues and disputes.

#### **Displacements to Rumamier from Abiemnom continue**

Civilians continue to arrive in Rumamier from Abiemnom in South Sudan's Unity State. Currently there are some 4,000 displaced people in Rumamier, according to UNICEF. People are arriving from Abiemnom despite the fact that no fighting has been reported there in the last week.

### **4. Darfur**

#### **Security and displacement**

According to reports received by the UN, on 8 May there was heavy fighting when Sudan Revolutionary Front (SRF) and Sudan Liberation Army – Minni Minawi (SLA-MM) forces attacked an SAF base in Gereida town (approximately 90km south-south-east of Nyala, South Darfur). According to reports received from the Gereida hospital, one civilian was killed and 13 people were admitted with wounds. Gereida town has the largest camp for displaced people in South Darfur, hosting some 130,000 people. No displacement from the town was reported as a result of the fighting.

In North Darfur, fighting between SAF and SLA-MM has also been reported in Tabit (40km south-west of El Fasher, North Darfur), according to the United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID).

#### **Update on UNAMID South Sudanese staff still in Darfur**

UNAMID is negotiating with government authorities on finding a solution for their 32 staff members of South Sudanese origin who remain in Darfur. Humanitarian actors were informed verbally by government security officials that people of South Sudanese origin working for UN agencies and international NGOs in Darfur should leave Sudan by 30 June 2012. However, this was never formally announced by the Government. The UNAMID staff members move around Nyala town freely and have not faced any forms of harassment or intimidation, according to UNAMID.

#### **WFP adjusts food distributions in West Darfur**

According to WFP, food distributions in West Darfur have been adjusted due to logistical problems in obtaining escorts to accompany food convoys from their warehouses in Port Sudan and El Obeid. In May, over 5,400 metric tons of food will be distributed to approximately 582,000 people. The escort problem is being resolved and WFP expects to resume full-ration distributions next month.

#### **Humanitarian gaps and response**

According to UNICEF, the water supply in Foro Burunga IDP Camp, West Darfur, stopped functioning on 5 May due to technical problems, affecting a quarter of the 12,000 camp residents. UNICEF and WES are attempting to fix the problem. In 2011, UNICEF and WES handed over the maintenance of the water supply system to camp residents, but the lack of spare parts and high running costs have made it difficult for the camp residents to maintain the system.

In Zamzam IDP Camp, North Darfur, humanitarian partners are working to rehabilitate water sources in areas where recently displaced people from Abu Delek and Sag el Naam have settled, as the current water supply is insufficient. These newly displaced people have arrived in Zamzam from Alauna village (approximately 25km north of Dar el Salam, North Darfur) following inter-tribal fighting between Zaghawa and Birgid tribes that began on 22 February 2012.

The WFP re-verification exercise of displaced people in Kass town is ongoing, with some 81 per cent verified so far. According to WFP, the exercise will be completed by mid-May, after which a re-verification exercise will be conducted in Kalma IDP Camp.

## **5. Humanitarian Financing**

The Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) is experiencing delays disbursing funds due to slower than expected deposit of contributions. Currently the fund has received approximately US\$39.1 million (56 per cent of allocations).

Disbursements to date have reached 48 per cent. In 2012, the CHF has allocated over \$70 million to UN and NGO partners managing priority projects across Sudan.