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(By Public Information Office)

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<u>Highlights</u>

UN/ Agencies

Security Council in closed-door talks over resolution on Hybrid Operation

(AlAyaam) Permanent members of the Security Council are in closed-door consultations over some possible elements for a resolution on the envisaged hybrid operations for Darfur.

Sudan's Permanent Representative to New York expects experts to be brought on at a later stage for thse consultations ahead of formal discussions of the Security Council on the issue.

Extra reads: Darfur situation makes a mockery of Ban Ki-Moon fatuous optimism

GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)

Khartoum redeploys 66% of it troops from South Sudan

(SudanTribune.com; AlSahafa; Akhbar Alyaum; AlIntibaha; AlAyaam full text; AlWihda headline; AlSudani; Sudan Tribune full text) The Sudanese armed forces have withdrawn 66% of its troops from southern Sudan, while the SPLM contests the demobilization of other nine thousand of pro-Sudanese army militias.

In a press statement on the status of redeployment of Sudanese army and SPLM troops, the Ceasefire Joint Monitoring Committee (CJMC), announced today that Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) have redeployed a total of 30.837 troops North of line 1-1-56.

The deployed troops represent 66.5% of the 46.403 initially stated figure.

The CJMC statement said that the SPLM contests the status of further 8919 men "voluntarily demobilized" by SAF. The disagreement is submitted to the Ceasefire Political Commission (CPC). The Sudanese army has to present their detailed nominal rolls by 23rd July 2007. [Read the full text of the Press Statement attached separately].

The SAF Spokesperson, Osman Mohamed el-Aghbash has confirmed that the SAF will complete redeployment north as per the provisions of the CPA by today. He said that about 3,000 SAF soldiers will however remain around the oil fields pending further measures to be taken by the Joint Defense Board, reports *AlSahafa*.

On his part, SPLA Chief of Staff, Mjr. Gen. Bior Ajang also confirmed SPLA commitment to redeploy south of the 1.1.'56 line as per the CPA.

He said that he gave the movement order yesterday to the SPLA troops in Kauda, Nuba Mountains, to more to Kawa, south of the line while another SPLA commander has ordered the SPLA soldiers in Blue Nile State to move south of the line to Guffa.

Mr. Ajang pointed out that the UN would be visiting these forces and monitoring their bases after redeployment.

He also said that the SAF had said it will hand over the Upper Nile Military Zone to the JIUs today and would redeploy north.

Bior Ajang further revealed that the two sides have also reached agreement over the issue of accommodation for the JIUs.

Sudan reaffirms support to AU forces in Darfur

(SudanTribune.com) President Omer al Bashir today reaffirmed the support of the Government of National Unity to the African Union Forces in Darfur and the new AU commander in Darfur, Gen. Martin Luther Agwai, so that they could perform their mission successfully in the region.

During a meeting with the newly appointed African Union Forces Commander, Agwai, Sudanese president al-Bashir reiterated the government's resolve to back the peace process and development in Darfur, the official SUNA reported on Sunday.

Speaking to the press following the meeting, the AU Force Commander pointed out that the mission of the AU force is to back the efforts being exerted by Sudan and African Union with the view to reach a comprehensive and final peace in Darfur region. He further said that peace in Darfur would be peace for the whole continent.

General Agwai pointed out that Sudan being the largest country in the continent and Nigeria being the most populous country in Africa, could play an important and leading role in the stability and the progress of the continent.

Gen. Martin Agwai, from Nigeria, arrived in Sudan on Tuesday July 3 to replace another Nigerian at the head of the current 7,000-strong AU mission that began to deploy in Darfur in June 2004. Also he will lead the UN-AU Hybrid Force when it is deployed.

Foreign Affairs Minister says success of Adada and Agwai success for Sudan and African continent

(Sudan Vision) Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Lam Akol, on Sunday reaffirmed that the success of the new AU-UN Special Envoy for Darfur Rodolphe Adada and the new AMIS Force Commander General Martin Luther Agwai in their mission of peacekeeping in Darfur constitutes a success, not only for Sudan, but for the African continent as a whole.

The Minister made the statement in a meeting at the Ministry premises Sunday with Mr. Adada and General Agwai.

Official Spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ali Al-Sadiq, in press statements following the meeting, described the meeting as "fruitful", explaining that the minister welcomed Adada and Agwai and told them that Sudan would never hesitate to provide them with all the

facilitations that enable them to make their mission in Sudan a success. Adada, for his part, stated that their meeting with the minister was meant to brief the Sudanese officials with their new missions on peacekeeping in Sudan.

Cabinet Discusses Impact of Recent Floods

(Sudan Vision) During its meeting yesterday, presided over by President of the Republic, Omar Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir, the Council of Ministers reviewed the volume of damages sustained by the regions affected by the floods through the reports presented by the governors of the North, Kassala, Gedarif and the River Nile states. The Cabinet subsequently ordered the provision of shelter and food in the regions affected by the floods.

The Spokesperson for the Council of Ministers, Omar Mohammed Salih, stated that the Cabinet was briefed by the Ministers of Irrigation and Agriculture on the projected status of floods and rainfall levels which are expected to exceed the memorable record levels of 1946.

After ensuring that adequate precautionary preparations have been made in the regions most threatened by floods and heavy rainfalls, primarily in Darfur and the central states, the Cabinet asserted the need for adopting appropriate measures for environmental reform and drawing up contour maps in order to ward off the impact of these disasters.

Meanwhile, the director of the Epidemics Department in Kassala State, Dr. Samia Akud, stated that health conditions in Kassala State following the floods were stable and that the necessary medications were provided along with the allocation of 15 fully-equipped health centers that work round the clock.

Sudan's speaker warns against intl intervention in elections

(SudanTribune.com) The Speaker of the federal parliament, Ahmed Ibrahim al-Tahir, has said international circles attempt to undermine, manipulate or rig the next general elections.

The speaker of the National Assembly made this statement during a visit to North Darfur, the independent Al-Ayam reported. Tahir called for preparation of the coming elections.

The leading member if the ruling National Congress Party (NCP) also said that the international community could monitor the next elections. He however, added that it is "our obligation not to allow any foreign forces to decide who should govern Sudan."

The statement contradicts with repeated declaration made by the leadership of the NCP that always expressed readiness to run general elections saying there are well prepared to wine it.

Analysts and observers say the SPLM is well qualified to win the elections with its partners of the National Democratic Alliance. In the past, the Sudanese Islamists had never wined legislative or presidential free elections in the country.

Sudanese First Vice-President postpones visit to Libya

(SudanTribune.com) The Sudanese first vice-president and the president of Government of Southern Sudan, Salva Kiir Mayardit, has postponed his visit to Libya for the second time. The visit was scheduled to start on July 7.

Salva Kiir talked by telephone with the Libyan African Union affairs secretary Abdalsalam Al-Tiriki and informed him that his visit to Tripoli would be postponed until further notice.

Kiir's visit to Libya was related to the resolution of Darfur crisis. He was supposed to hold talks with the Libyan leader Muammar Gadhafi and leaders of Darfur non-signatory groups.

The talks are about the unification of the groups and the resumption of negotiations.

National Congress Party committed to see a united SPLM

(AlSharei AlSiyassi) Presidential Advisor Mustafa Osman Ismail says the National Congress Party is committed to supporting the GoSS in its efforts to realize stability and development and sensitizing the people of southern Sudan of the virtues of the CPA.

He said that the National Congress Party will work on this together with those SPLM figures that are committed to peace and will also work to preserve Sudanese unity but not with those "sinister lements within the SPLM that seek to cause unrest."

He went on to say that the National Congress Party wants to see a united and strong SPLM to enable them all go ahead in the implementation of the CPA as a strategic objective.

SPLM Secretary-General says president wrong in accusing SPLM

(AlSudani) SPLM Secretary-General Pagan Amoum has said that President Bashir's recent accusations that some elements within the SPLM are seeking to oust the National Congress Party from power was meant to cause division within the ranks of the SPLM.

He said that such statements do not serve the peace process as the need is greater to unite as the country transitions to democracy.

He pointed out that the SPLM is fully committed to the implementation of the CPA and described as an "exaggeration" those reports that 90% of the provisions of the agreement have been implemented since there still remains a number of outstanding issues. He cited as examples, "the issue of Abyei, the demarcation of the north-south boundaries, lack of transparency in the oil accounts and the issue of disarmament of the armed militias being bankrolled by Khartoum".

National Security & Intelligence organ presents report on solutions to Abyei

(AlWihda) Informed sources report that the National Security and Intelligence organ has tabled before the parties to the CPA its views on possible solutions to the Abyei issue.

The sources say however that the two sides were differed over the issue of border demarcation but described the proposals as "constructive" without elaborating further details.

In another report, *AlSahafa* daily reports that SPLM member Luka Biong announced yesterday that the parties to the CPA are yet to find a solution to the issue of Abyei. The SPLM figure is quoted as saying that a recent meeting between the two sides ended in no final agreement.

GoSS

GoSS calls for appropriate climate for returns

(*AlIntibaha*) The GoSS has called on the federal government to form coordinative committees to guarantee a favorable climate for returns of refugees from the neighboring states.

The GoSS has also called for coordination between the interior ministers of on the issue of border demarcation between Sudan and Ethiopia.

SPLM denies divisions after Southern Sudan ministerial reshuffle

(SudanTribune.com) Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) has denied rumors on divisions within the movement after the ministerial reshuffle as it was speculated in Khartoum and Juba.

The SPLM denied that widow of SPLA's long-time former leader John Garang, Rebecca de Mabior, did not refuse to be sworn in after her appointment as an advisor for human rights and gender issues following her dismissal from the Roads Ministry.

Federal Minister of Cabinet Affairs Deng Alor defended Rebecca, saying that she is not opposed to the SPLM.

Alor said Rebecca might differ with the movement in some areas, but he added that she was fully devoted to the principles and strategies of the SPLM.

Deng pointed out that a serious meeting, chaired by President of Government of Southern Sudan and Chairman of SPLM Salva Kiir Mayardit, will be convened in Juba to put an end to the misunderstandings that resulted from the changes made recently in the cabinet reshuffle.

He said the movement's aim of this reshuffle was to appoint qualified personalities acceptable to all.

Kiir also was criticised for appointing several ministers from his region Bahr Al-Gazal.

Extra reads: • Protect South Sudan children from sexual abuses

Darfur

Humanitarian:

Israelis in conflict over Darfur refugees

(*UPI*) The fate of 60 Darfur refugees was in limbo Sunday as Israeli government departments passed along responsibility for the Sudan asylum seekers.

Residents of Rahat and Beersheba gave the refugees food and shelter during the weekend but Sunday they moved the group to a compound in Jerusalem in an effort to spur some action from federal officials, Ynetnews.com reported.

City officials said they did not have the money or resources to care for the refugees and called Prime Minister Ehud Olmert to take charge. Olmert's office, however, said the responsibility lies with the defense department.

Committee for Darfur Refugees spokesman Eitan Schwartz lashed out at the government's failure to step forward and help those seeking shelter from the carnage in Darfur.

"For over two years, the government has thought that if it buries its head in the sand, the problem will disappear," Schwartz said.

The refugees, who entered Israel via Egypt, must prove they are from Sudan, said Vered Swaid, an Olmert adviser.

Those who did not come from Darfur or southern Sudan would be returned to their countries of origin, he said.

Political:

JEM discloses details of meeting with representatives of the African Union and UN

(Akhbar Alyaum) A high-rank JEM official told the paper over phone from the field in Darfur that African Union and UN representatives led by Salim Ahmed Salim and Sam Ibok from the African Union and a representative of the UN visited them yesterday.

He said that the visit was in the context of efforts by the two organizations for a comprehensive peace in Darfur.

He added that the JEM team led by Dr. Khalil told the representatives that their movement is totally ready for peace as per the road map they have plotted. He said that representatives of the two organizations were pleased by what they heard.

The JEM member denies reports of splits within the movement's ranks.

AlSahafa daily reports that the AbdulWahid faction of the SLM has reiterated its rejections to efforts to bring the non-signatory groups sit with the government in Tripoli.

Darfur Dossier Develops Positively, Amr Musa

(SMC) Arab League secretary general Amr Musa announced he has contacted Sudanese government on the current developments regarding Darfur dispute.

Musa said positive development was made on Darfur dossier in all aspects, expressing hope dispute should be settled soon.

Darfur rebel leaders arrival in Egypt unannounced, contacts continue with the factions

(Sudan Vision) Egyptian Foreign Minister, Ahmed Abulgheit will visit Washington on July 9 for meetings with US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Vice President Dick Cheney, members of US Congress and ex-members of the US Administration.

An official source in the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that discussions at the meetings will center on the regional situation in the Middle East, issues related to Iraq, Lebanon, Somalia, the Arab Gulf, the Iranian nuclear file and Iran's ties with the western world.

In an elaborate interview he held with Al-Jamhouria, the semi-official Egyptian daily, Abulgheit revealed that Egypt is maintaining communications with some of the rebel factions in Darfur in addition to unannounced visits undertaken by those factions to Egypt in an effort to push forth the peace process. He underscored that parties he did not name are keen on aborting these efforts.

Abulgheit noted that Egypt had initially proposed to the UN some 100 Egyptian troops to act as observers for the next three years, though this number has now been scaled up to 200. He pointed out that the overall number of Egyptian troops now deployed in Southern Sudan and the Nuba Mountains stand at 1,000 troops.

He reaffirmed that Egypt has no wish to interfere in Sudan for the purpose of siding with one party at the expense of the other but rather communicates directly with the Sudanese government as well as with the Abuja non-signatories to cool down the situation.

Abulgheit added that over the span of two and a half years, Egypt had dispatched 30 planes loaded with food, medications and equipments as well as dug 40 wells and constructed a hospital in aid of the people of Darfur. He remarked that at the political level Egypt has participated in all the meetings held on Darfur over the past three years, which is indicative of Egypt's concern with pushing forth the peace process in Darfur.

Security:

SLA and NRF clash

(AlKhartoum et al) Clashes between the SLA and the NRF in the Haskaneita area in North Darfur have left a number of people killed and injured from both sides.

The SLA reports that its forces repulsed an attack by NRF elements when the latter hijacked 3 vehicles belonging to foreign organizations operating in the areas under SLM/A control. The SLA claims its forces have managed to seize back the vehicles.

The source on the other hand reveals that the two sides also ran into each other east of North Darfur when NRF elements tried to sneak past SLA-controlled territory. There were slight skirmishes but the two did not go on a full-out armed clash thanks to the intervention of the field commanders and the withdrawal of the NRF forces.

Armed raid in North Kordofan

(Alwan) The Obeid and Dardoug areas 40 Kilometers from North Ghibeish in North Kordofan State was subject to an armed attack by forces believed to be from the JEM.

The 45 Land-Cruisers mounted with guns struck at around 14:00 in the afternoon yesterday and went on a looting spree until around 18:00 hours in the afternoon.

The governor says fighter aircraft have been sent in pursuit of the attackers.

Extra reads: SLM says not part of Mombassa meeting on rebels reunification