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(By Public Information Office)

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Highlights

UN/ Agencies

Activists call for emergency UN meeting on Darfur

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 5 Nov. UNITED NATIONS) A coalition of international activists called on Monday for an emergency U.N. Security Council meeting to condemn increased violence in Darfur and delays in deploying a U.N. peacekeeping force.

The Save Darfur Coalition, an umbrella group of 180 religious and human rights groups, wrote a letter to the ambassador of Indonesia, which holds the rotating presidency of the Security Council, urging him to put Darfur on the agenda. "The need for an emergency meeting could not be more urgent," it said, pointing to growing violence in Darfur, limited progress in peace talks with rebels and government in Libya last month and obstacles holding up the peacekeepers.

Read more: <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article24607>

Rebel groups still can join Darfur peace process - UN

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 5 Nov. UNITED NATIONS) United Nations Said that the door is open for Darfur rebel groups to join the peace process that started last week in Libya, urging them to quickly reunite their positions. "The door remains open for those who wish to join the process," a spokesperson for the UN-AU mediation team said today told reporters at UN Headquarters in New York after returning from Sirte, where UN and AU envoys are still conducting meetings with many of the participating groups.

Ahmad Fawzi added that some rebel groups were indicating they were now prepared to attend the peace process aimed at ending the four-year conflict in western Sudan. However he stressed that it was now time for the rebels to "get their act together" and determine who will represent them in the third phase as well as their common positions. *Read more:* <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article24604>

Children need protection, not separation from families

(The Citizen) In support of recent statements by the United Nations, including the statements of 26 October by the UN system in Chad, and the recent statement of the UNICEF Executive Director Ann Veneman, “I strongly condemn the actions of the organization Arche de Zoe in attempting to remove children from Chad. Such actions contravene all international laws and standards on the movement of children and inferring on the humanitarian principles we stand for as the United Nations”.

It is unacceptable to see children taken out of their home countries without compliance with national and international laws. The UN is currently assisting in the identification of these children and their places of origin, so that reunification with their relatives can take place.

The UN and partners have been active in supporting the Chadian authorities in the protection and welfare of these children. Assistance has included provision of nutritional supplements, medical assistance and supplies as well as other items such as impregnated bed nets, blankets mates, clothes and recreational materials and activities.

UN Security Council to discuss Darfur dossier tomorrow

(AIRai AIAam) The UN Security Council has approved its programme for this month. The programme includes one session on Sudan in which the Security Council will briefed verbally by Jan Eliasson, the Special envoy of the UN Secretary General for the peace process in Darfur. Eliasson’s report will focus on efforts for unifying the Darfur rebel movements and their participation in the peace talks. The session on Sudan will be held on 16 November. The Council is expecting the UN Secretary General to present his third monthly report on the hybrid operation.

UN: Darfur faces danger of tribal violence

(AIAyam) The UN Special Envoy for Darfur Jan Eliasson said yesterday that Darfur will face new risks represented in tribal clashes and divisions within the rebel movements if the political process for achieving peace in the region does not kick off. Eliasson discussed with the Government of North Darfur preparations for deploying the hybrid force.

GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)

China invests 6 billion dollars in Sudan’s oil

(Sudan Tribune.com – 5 Nov. KHARTOUM) The total amount of the Chinese investments in Sudan fields of petroleum have reached more than six billion dollars in Sudan in the past decade at around 14 oil projects, a Sudanese diplomat said.

Ambassador at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ali Yousif gave a paper Monday at a workshop organized on the "challenges facing peace in Sudan" which was organized by the Middle East Studies Centre in collaboration with the Beijing-based International Relations Studies Institute.

He said that China has so far provided five preferential loans to Sudan amounting to 184 million dollars. He also reviewed progress of the commercial cooperation between Sudan and China has jumped from 74 million dollars in 1989 to 3.9 billion dollars in the year 2005.

SPLM adjourns meeting of Joint Defense Board indefinitely

(*Akhbar Alyaum*) In an unprecedented development the SPLM has asked for adjourning the meeting of the Ceasefire Joint Military Committee which was scheduled for today in Juba. The SPLM did not provide convincing reasons for this move. Military analysts consider this step as a negative sign resulting from the crisis between the two partners.

The CJMC has been meeting regularly twice a month since the signing of the CPA. Adjourning the meeting indefinitely means stopping consultations between the CPA partners on military issues as stated in the protocol on military and security arrangements.

NCP-SPLM six-man committee begins work today

(*AlSudani*) The NCP-SPLM six-man committee will begin its work today by meeting VP Ali Osman M. Taha. The committee will hold daily meetings to discuss all pending issues. The two parties agreed that Arman and Aldirdeeri will act as spokespersons for the committee.

Committee members:

NCP: Nafie Ali Nafie, Ahmed Haroun and Aldirdeeri Mohamed Ahmed

SPLM: Pagan Amum, Yasir Arman and Kual Miniang

(Reuters)-- "We are going to work on a daily basis ... and make decisions and a timetable," said Yasir Arman, a member of the committee and deputy secretary-general of the SPLM.

Arman said the SPLM ministers would not return to work until the committee had completed the agreement, adding it hoped to finish by the time SPLM head and First Vice President Salva Kiir returned from the United States and President Omar Hassan al-Bashir came back from an African tour.

But he said resolving the status of the disputed, central oil-rich Abyei region was key to any deal.

"Abyei remains the biggest problem facing the six-man committee," Arman told Reuters. "Abyei is still a big hurdle and remains the only protocol which is zero implemented. This is creating a serious situation."

Arman said presidential decrees were expected to be issued to confirm whatever was decided by the committee, adding all the decisions made should be implemented by Jan. 9 at the latest.

32 injured, killed in tribal clashes in South Darfur

(*AlRai AlAam*) Clashes between Algimir and Falata tribes in Sanabo area in South Darfur have resulted yesterday in the killing of 11 people and causing injuries to 21 others. According to MP Abdallah Ishaq Ismail the tribal clashes were preceded by a conflict over a plot of an agricultural land. The Nazir (Chief) of the Falata Ahmed Alsamani accused a JEM splinter group of attacking his tribe.

Serious development: River transport between north and south stopped, Wali of White Nile says step due to security tensions

(*Akhbar Alyaum*) The Wali of the White Nile State Mohamed Nour Allah said the river transport to South Sudan has been stopped due to present security tensions at the borders of the State with the South following the penetration of the SPLA troops in Northern Alkwaik and forcing the civilian to leave their homes to seek refuge in Omjalala area. According to the Wali the presence of the SPLA troops in the area has negatively affected the commercial activities between the north and the south.

The Minister of Urban Planning and Deputy Wali of the White Nile State Mohamed al Mahi said his Government will contact the GoSS in order to solve this problem. He said the Wali has spoken over the phone to GoSS Vice President Riak Machar and discussed with him the presence of the SPLA in Northern Alkwaik area.

In a related development, the Wali of upper Nile State visited Rabak, the capital of the White Nile State, met the Wali and discussed with him cooperation between the two Governments to settle the issues of the SPLA troops and the borders.

Joint Defense Board convenes today

(*Khartoum Monitor*) The Joint Defence Board (JDB) will today hold a meeting chaired by the Chief of staff of the SPLA Lt. Gen Oyay Deng Ajak. The JDB which meets every three months cancelled the two previous meetings. The JDB meeting will discuss security arrangements with emphasis on the redeployment of the two armies, The SPLA and the SAF, the recommendation raised by the Ceasefire Political Commission and matters relating to the joint forces, said Major General Bior Ajang, the JDB's Spokesperson.

SAF hunts abductors of oil workers in South Kordofan

(*Al Khartoum*) A SAF force is hunting an armed group in al Dibab area in South Kordofan State who abducted personnel of an oil company, an Egyptian and an Iraqi. SAF forced inhabitants of al Jiday village to cooperate as they were accused of assisting the abductors. SAF spokesperson said the armed group is moving from one place to another and that this has made it difficult for SAF to arrest its members.

3,000 JEM troops in Juba

(*Alwan*) A military intelligence source has warned of a plot by the SPLM and the JEM after bringing more than 3,000 JEM troops to South Sudan in preparation for moving these troops to the oilfields and in coordination with Kordofan Sector of JEM (Miseriya) and Shahamah Movement. The source urged the political leadership to be alert as the 9th of January (the third anniversary of the CPA) may witness events in Khartoum and declaration of the separation of the south from Juba

Probe into detained opposition almost complete -Sudan's JM

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 5 Nov. KHARTOUM) Sudan said it had almost completed investigations into 25 detained opposition figures accused of a coup attempt, the state news agency said. The 25 were arrested almost four months ago and still have not been charged, prompting widespread concern by U.N. and other rights activists. Sudanese law states detainees can be held for only two weeks after which they must be charged or released.

"The investigations into the sabotage attempt is almost finished," Justice Minister Mohamed Ali al-Mardi, told SUNA. He said once the file was in order and back from the courts to the Justice Ministry, it would take more than a week to decide whether to press "final charges"

Read more: <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article24612>

Sudan's Nile Blend crude oil output back to normal

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 5 Nov. SINGAPORE) Sudan's Nile Blend crude output is back to normal after damages caused by floods in August have been repaired, a senior official at India's Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) said on Monday. Full output has been restored since the last week of October and now stands below 250,000 barrels per day (bpd), said R.S. Butola, managing director for ONGC Videsh, the overseas investment arm of ONGC. "At the beginning of October, we started fixing the problems and production has now ramped up to over 240,000 bpd. The field is back to normal," Butola said.

Sudan troops out of south this year - president

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 5 Nov. BUJUMBURA) Sudanese President Omar Hassan al-Bashir said on Monday government troops remaining in the oil-rich and semi-autonomous south would quit the region before the end of the year.

The presence of soldiers from the northern Khartoum government in southern oil fields prompted the former Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) to pull out of the northern government last month. "Eight-five percent of northern troops have already left the southern areas ... (the rest) will leave by the end of December as agreed in the peace deal with the SPLM," Bashir told reporters at the end of a three-day visit to Burundi. Bashir called on the southern army to follow suit, saying only 7 percent of former SPLM fighters have moved out of the northern region. Last week, the southern army told Khartoum to withdraw its troops before December 15.

SDG billion to achieve the Five Year Plan

(Sudan Tribune) Chairperson of the National Assembly Ahmed Ibrahim Al Tahir asserted at the press conference held yesterday, at the parliament that the National assembly will discuss the National five-year- plan in presence of some ministers. He asserted that the plan is not of one party, but it has been formed by scholars and intellectuals belonging to all Sudanese political parties, pointing out that the budget set a part for the plan is SL50 billion AlTahir said that the Assembly will discuss a number of enactments and legislations in response to the demands of the interim constitution. These enhancements will include the police force, the security bodies, elections and financial resources share.

Oil companies in Moga oilfield in the process of compensating Alsalamat (Miseriya) tribe in South Kordofan

(AlSahafa) The oil companies operating in the Moga oilfield in South Kordofan will begin today the process of compensating the Alsalamat (Miseriya) tribe for the lands which have become part of the oilfield. The Amir (Chief) of the tribe Bakheet Fadl-Asid said the committee which includes the representatives of the oil companies and Alsalamat tribe has held a meeting yesterday in which it has been agreed that the Alsalamat lands that have been taken by the oilfield be identified so that a report can be prepared for the Ministry of Energy and Mining in Khartoum to compensate the tribe.

Opposition: SAF law separatist and not in line with constitution

(AlAyam) The opposition MPS have yesterday criticized the SAF Law 2007. The representative of the Communist Party Suliman Hamid said one of the articles of the law makes SAF not a national force and could constitute the beginning of the separation between the two parts (north and south) of the country. The Alliance of the National Forces said the law creates an ideological army in a culturally diversified society. A statement signed by 10 opposition parties said the law creates a northern army which is contrary to the constitution which calls for attractive unity. The law centralizes all powers in the President, makes the Vice President Minister of Defense and leaves SAF Commander without powers.

Serious “food gap” in North Kordofan

(Akhbar Alyaum) The Wali of the White Nile State Mohamed Nour Allah said the river transport to South Sudan has been stopped due to present security tensions at the borders of the State with the South following the penetration of the SPLA troops in Northern Alkwaik and forcing the civilian to leave their homes to seek refuge in Omjalala area. According to the Wali the presence of the SPLA troops in the area has negatively affected the commercial activities between the north and the south.

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State, met the Wali and discussed with him cooperation between the two Governments to settle the issues of the SPLA troops and the borders.

U.S and IGAD lift hands from Abyei

(Allintibaha) Informed sources told Allintibaha that the US Administration and IGAD have announced that they will “lift their hands” completely from the issue of Abyei specially after the statement of the US Envoy Andrew Natsios in which he said his country will support whatever solution that may be agreed by the CPA partners.

Government accuses France of complicity in abduction of Darfur children

(Allintibaha) The GoS has officially accused yesterday France of complicity in regard to abduction of the Sudanese refugee children. The Government said that Paris was aware of the plans of the French NGO. The Government believes that the objective of the recent visit of the French Minister of State for Foreign Affairs was to make the final preparation for executing the plans of the French NGO. HAC Commissioner Hasabo Abdelrahman, in a public rally yesterday, called for investigations with France all humanitarian agencies operating in Darfur. He said the UNCEF was a witness but remained silent.

Sudanese citizens react to fear of spreading fevers

(BBC Monitoring) – AlWatan At a time when panic has gripped citizens in White Nile State as a result of the increasing numbers of cases of hemorrhage fever and related deaths, a rumor about the outbreak of Rift Valley Fever [RVF] has spread in White Nile and Al-Jazirah states causing citizens to boycott all types of meat and milk products. Citizens told Al-Watan in a telephone call that the rumor of RVF had turned them into vegetarians for fear of contracting the disease. The [White Nile] State's Minister of Health, Insaf Muhammad Ali, stressed that tests carried out by the ministry of animal resources had not confirmed the presence of the disease however; she said citizens should cook their food well because humans could not stay away from meat and milk.

GoSS

South Sudan leader continues visit to USA

(BBC Monitoring) -- Sudanese radio First Vice-President and President of Southern Sudan Salva Kiir Mayardit will today continue his visit to Washington, which will last until Sunday [11 November]. Sudan's ambassador to the USA John Leuth Ukec said Kiir had arrived in Washington at the official invitation of the US government to discuss the peace process in Sudan and peace and Darfur. He added that Kiir would meet US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, some US officials and US Congress members, and he would also visit New York and the UN.

Three police officers killed in South Sudan Yambio

(*Khartoum Monitor, ST*) Soldiers of the Joint Integrated Unit (JIU) shot dead three police officers in Yambio town after refusal to deliver a suspect. On Friday morning, local police were called to an area of Yambio called Hai Kuba to investigate the discovery of a dead JIU soldier, who appeared to have been shot.

The dead soldier was identified as a bodyguard to a senior official in the Western Equatoria state government. Police combed the area for suspects and made several arrests. Among the suspects is a woman known to be the lover of the victim and another JIU soldier, Sudan Radio Service, reported from Yambio. When JIU learned of the arrests, they went to the police station and asked that the suspects be handed over to them. Following the police refusal, the JIU soldiers shot dead three senior police officers.

Peace and reconciliation between the two subsections of Pan-Awuor and Pan-Dut

(*Khartoum Monitor*) The Commissioner of Cueibet County, Ustaz Kongor Deng Kongor, all top government officials of Lakes State together with number of Lakes State Assembly, SPLM Counties, Secretary of Lakes Sate, including SPLA security forces, all the administrators and entire community of Duong Payam have been reconciled today after a conflict that had taken over 37 years. The conflict led to the loss of 30 people from Pan-Dut and Pan Awuor subtribes. The reconciliation was witnessed by thousands of Lakes Sates Citizens.

During rural tour, MPs stumble across measles epidemic

(*The Citizen*) At least 821 children died and 2,500 were admitted to hospital after measles hit Nanyangacor village of Kapoeta East in October, a south Sudan lawmakers said yesterday. The area has one medical clinic run by catholic nuns, and it's overcrowded, said the lawmaker, adding that the fate of the affected children could get worse.

Presenting the motion, Fr. George Kinga (SPLM, Kapoeta north) said the nuns running the local clinic run out of fuel and could not get access to the measles victims far in the rural villages where the measles disaster continued unabated. "During our visit to Torite County, as SPLM MPs, to enlighten our people on the current political situation in the county, we were shocked to learn of the outbreak of measles at Nanyangacor and the surrounding areas" Kinga said. "We were shocked because of the alarming number of lives that were lost" The lawmaker said the GoSS was completely not aware of the disaster lurking in the area since September.

Darfur

Japan to give 10,000 blankets to Darfur

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 6 Nov. TOKYO) Japan decided Tuesday to provide 10,000 blankets, water containers and other aid materials to Sudan's Darfur region upon the request of

the U.N. refugee agency, with the items expected to arrive around January or February as the first of their kind from any country, Japanese government and U.N. officials said. Japan will provide the 45.4 tons of aid materials for free, while the UNHCR will bear the transportation cost. Children, women and the elderly among the refugees will be given priority in receiving the items, the officials said.

Humanitarian commissioner describes child abduction as organized crime

(*Sudan Vision*) The Commissioner of Humanitarian Aid, Hasabo Mohammed Abdallah has described the abduction and smuggling of children as an organized and complicated crime. He also said the reaction of international organizations as UNICEF was late. Abdallah demanded stronger response and conduction of international investigation as the crime occurred before the eyes of UNICEF and refugees Commission.

Darfur rebels demand limited attendance and another venue

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 5 Nov. KHARTOUM) Darfur rebels whose boycott torpedoed peace talks in Libya last month say they will not attend a second round in December unless U.N.-African Union mediators limit attendance and change the venue. The talks aimed at ending 4-1/2 years of violence in Sudan's west opened in the Libyan town of Sirte on Oct. 27 with none of the main rebel factions there and with some of those in attendance angered by comments from host Muammar Gadhafi which seemed to downplay the magnitude of the Darfur crisis. Organizers hoped to reconvene for a second round of talks which would include the absent rebels in December but rebel representatives said on Monday unless there were major changes they were unlikely to do so. *Read more: <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article24610>*

JEM demands moving talks from Libya

(*AlSahafa*) The JEM made the relocation of the peace talks from Libya a precondition for its participation. Moreover, JEM said it will not participate in talks that involve parties other than JEM and a united SLM delegation.

Refugees in Chad: no one remembers us here

(*AlAyam*) “We wish if we were internally displaced, our conditions could have been better than here in these camps outside our country. Every thing, media focus, visits by national and international officials concentrates on IDP camps in Darfur and the sufferings of the IDPs there, we the refugees are not remembered by any one, no one remembers our sufferings, we are alone with God and the khawaja (white man, humanitarian aid worker)”. These are the words of Dar Kiga Sultan, Mohamed Hassan Bargo, who came from an IDP camp in Chad to visit members of his family who have chosen to stay in camps in Darfur.

Spain to provide 120 soldiers for Darfur peace force

(*BBC Monitoring*) -- *ABC website* Madrid: The government of [Prime Minister Jose Luis] Rodriguez Zapatero is to take Spanish troops to another conflict zone, the Sudanese region of Darfur, to join the hybrid UN and African Union peace force (UNAMID)

with a contingent of 120 soldiers, ABC has learned from sources close to the military operation.

The Defence Ministry is already preparing the deployment it will send to the area, which will consist of planes (and support personnel), their number yet to be determined because the operation will be airborne with ground support [as published]. The first steps have already started being taken, with the acquisition of the equipment necessary for the operation. The purchase orders relate to a number of mobile hangar tents to protect the transport planes in the deployment area, which of course lacks any infrastructure.

The Spanish soldiers will be stationed in eastern Chad, next to the Sudanese border, from where the UN will establish an air shuttle to Darfur, which is the area where the refugees are located and which will be the operation's final destination.

Chinese envoy names Beijing's efforts to help solve Darfur issue

(BBC Monitoring) -- Xinhua [(First anniversary of Beijing summit of Forum on China-Africa Cooperation) "Roundup" by staff reporter Shao Jie: "China Does Practical Work for Promoting Darfur Peace"]. *Find attached the full text*

Miscellaneous

Ugandan top rebel commander said killed

(BBC Monitoring) The Lord's Resistance Army [LRA] is cagey about the fate of its 61-year-old second-in-command, Vincent Otti. But top security sources yesterday revealed: "All indicators show that he is dead." The UPDF [Uganda People's Defence Forces] spokesperson, Maj. Felx Kulayigye, said: "Kony killed his first army commander Otti Lagony in similar circumstances during peace talks in 1994."

Reports are rife that Otti was executed in the LRA hideout in Garamba in the DR Congo, on the orders of his boss, Joseph Kony.

The former LRA director of operations, Opiyo Makasi, told Sunday Vision that Kony arrested Otti on 2 October, with two other commanders, following a disagreement on the peace process to end two decades of terror in northern Uganda and southern Sudan. Otti, who worked with the LRA since its inception in April 1987, had a fearsome reputation. The head of the government peace team, Dr Ruhakana Rugunda, said: "We are waiting for factual information about Otti's fate. I cannot say anything now."