

20th June 2011

www.unmissions.unmis.c



Media Monitoring Report

United Nations Mission in Sudan/ Public Information Office

Post-Referendum Watch

- “SPLM should get ready for tough lessons if it opts for war” –Bashir (*Dailies*)
- CPA parties agree on cessation of hostilities in Addis (*Al-Watan*)
- Authorities bar activists from handing over petition to UNMIS (*Al-Ahdath*)
- NCP rejects ceasefire in southern Kordofan (*Al-Rai Al-Aam*)
- SPLM figure lambasts Mbeki over Abyei, Southern Kordofan(*ST*)
- North Sudan army seen massing in border state (*Reuters*)
- GoSS launches South Sudan national anthem (*Miraya*)
- Labour Ministry terminates services of southern employees (*Al-Rai Al-Aam*)
- UN denies peacekeepers’ abuses in Sudan north-south border state (*ST*)

Other Headlines

- 15 wounded in Darfur fighting – UN (*AP*)

NOTE: Reproduction here does not mean that the UNMIS PIO can vouch for the accuracy or veracity of the contents, nor does this report reflect the views of the United Nations Mission in Sudan. Furthermore, international copyright exists on some materials and this summary should not be disseminated beyond the intended list of recipients.

Address: UNMIS Headquarters, P.O. Box 69, Ibeid Khatim St, Khartoum 11111, SUDAN
Phone: (+249-1) 8708 6000 - Fax: (+249-1) 8708 6200

Highlights

“SPLM should get ready for tough lessons if it opts for war” –Bashir

Al-Rai Al-Aam 20/6/11 – President Omar Al-Bashir, addressing a mass rally at the town of Sinkat in the Red Sea State yesterday, called on the SPLM to cooperate for the interest of the people of the North and the South rather than resorting to violence.

The President warned of strong and fierce reaction if the SPLM opts for war. “He who wants war should think about the lessons of Abyei and Southern Kordofan” he said, adding “the SAF would neither let the Sudanese people down nor compromise an inch of the Sudanese territories. “If you point your finger to dare us we will cut it off” he warned, adding the people are proud of SAF’s action in Abyei and southern Kordofan.

Akhbar Al-Youm 20/6/11 reports Al-Bashir affirmed the state’s keenness for peace and cooperation with the South but warned that the SAF is ready and capable of deterring any attempt to destabilize the country. He praised SAF’s steadfastness in Abyei.

Al-Khartoum 20/6/11 reports President said the CPA was signed not because of any pressure or dictation from any quarter, adding that SAF was at the peak of its strength but the agreement was accepted for the sake of peace.

“We do not want war but we are ready for it if it is imposed on us” he said, according to **Al-Intibaha** 20/6/11. The President deplored that some SPLM leaders understand the lesson after it is too late. “We are prepared for war if it is imposed on us, I will be in the front” he said.

“The partnership in Southern Kordofan was progressing smoothly but the SPLM stabbed its partner on the back, he said, according to **Al-Ahram** 20/6/11. “May Allah betray the betrayer,” he added.

Sudan Tribune 19/6/11 reported that al-Bashir on Sunday accused the SPLM of “betrayal” in South Kordofan which is currently witnessing heavy fighting between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and the SPLA.

“The enemy there [South Kordofan] practiced treachery when all of them were eating from the same plate,” Bashir told his supporters in Sinkat locality in Eastern Sudan. Bashir said he regretted the “late understanding” of SPLM leaders.

“We hope that now they understood....anyone who looks our way we will stab his eyes,” he warned.

“If they want war...we will show them practically like what happened in Abyei and Southern Kordofan” Bashir said.

“It is better that they [SPLM] come to us in good terms and we will be better than them,” he added.

Bloomberg 19/6/11 reported al-Bashir said today he is prepared for war ... and that recent border clashes with units from the South's army were "lessons".

"We told our brothers in the South, do you want peace? Everything we've done is for peace," al-Bashir said in a speech in Red Sea state, broadcast on the state-run Sudan TV. "But if you want war, you can see what's going on in Abyei and in Southern Kordofan, and these are all lessons."

"Unfortunately, some of our brothers in the SPLM understand things very late," al-Bashir said. "If we're dragged to war, your sons in the Armed Forces will not let you down."

CPA parties agree on cessation of hostilities

Al-Watan 20/6/11 – Sources have learned that talks between the two CPA parties are continuing in Addis Ababa and that they have signed an agreement on cessation of hostilities.

According to the sources, the negotiations were discontinued yesterday but would resume today to discuss other issues.

Authorities bar activists from handing over petition to UNMIS

Al-Ahdath 20/6/11 – Security authorities yesterday detained 16 activists who attempted to hand over a petition to UNMIS to protest incidents in southern Kordofan and to demand protection for civilians. The group of activists who call themselves the "Youth for Peace" said security authorities prevented them from submitting the petition.

The group, at a press conference yesterday, accused UNMIS of failure to shoulder its responsibilities to protect civilians.

NCP rejects ceasefire in southern Kordofan

Al-Rai Al-Aam 20/6/11 – NCP political secretary Qutbi Al-Mahdi said war in southern Kordofan would continue until the remaining provisions of the CPA are implemented. "We will not engage in negotiations until these people lay down their arms and accept the CPA provisions," he told reporters yesterday after a meeting of the ruling NCP's Political Sector. "We will not cease fire at this point of time" he added.

According to **Al-Sahafa** 20/6/11, Al-Mahdi has affirmed the NCP's categorical rejection of UNMIS presence on Sudanese soil after the 9th of July. "If the South wants the presence of the Mission that is up to them but we will not allow it to stay in the North after the end of the mandate on the 9th of July," he said.

SPLM figure lambasts Mbeki over Abyei, Southern Kordofan

Sudan Tribune 19/6/11 - The former intelligence director at the Sudan People Liberation Army (SPLA) and the leading SPLM figure Edward Lino has sent a strongly worded letter to the former South African president Thabo Mbeki who heads the African Union High Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) that is mediating between the North and South.

The letter which was seen by Sudan Tribune is fiercely critical of Mbeki's stance on Abyei and South Kordofan. Lino accused Mbeki of siding with Khartoum in the conflict.

"Yesterday 18th June 2011, the war in the Nuba Mountains took a dangerous turn. That Khartoum regime, whom you desperately hope to salvage from drowning, has decided to wage chemical attack on Kadugli, Kauda and other areas throughout the Nuba Mountains! Days ago we alerted the world of the pending catastrophe. The world is keeping quiet, expecting the "miracle" you may bring from those impossible Islamic fundamentalists," Lino said.

"On 14 of the current month, the UN Security Council was supposed to have met on Abyei. But we were told that the meeting was deferred "because of your interference", until you finish with meetings in Addis, while the war is going on unabated, between the Government and its citizens! Now it has taken time as Khartoum wanted and you did not report back to the Security Council,"

"I am sorry to say that all your plans are pro-Khartoum, otherwise how can you defer UNSC meetings indefinitely? Khartoum has long decided to "use you" properly and you accepted willingly, letting our people in Abyei and in the Nuba Mountain to be exterminated!"

Lino claimed that Mbeki sought with the backing of the former U.S. special envoy to Sudan Scott Gration to give concessions to Khartoum on Abyei.

"Of course, you have seen the disaster which they did in Abyei, following your suggestion that "some specified parts of ancestral Abyei Area to be conceded to Khartoum", through the Misseriya to solve the problem".

"It was from then precisely, when Khartoum went arrogant after securing your two weighty voices with H.E. Gration, which made them disregard the decision of the Hague Tribunal. Meaning your two voices has become more superior to that of the International Tribunal".

Lino pointed fingers at Mbeki's aides saying that they are serving Khartoum's agenda.

"Please, look around and you will find yourself surrounded by people who tried their luck long before to take part in our problem in different ways. They struggled hard to find a loop-hole to enter into Sudanese affairs, but they utterly failed! Some of them even tried through indulging themselves in human rights violations in the South, the Nuba Mountains and Dar-Fur. Some attempted to break-away the Nuba people from SPLM/SPLA, which did not take place, because it was timely discovered"

"The fact that they are accepted by Khartoum to accompany you is not because they respect you, but because they have full knowledge about all of them and what they could do for them. You are surrounded by a bunch of senile horses!"

"There are stories about you and specially, about the group around you. But the most important thing is, whenever you delay and defer other important dates, is the more people are killed, because you insist to equate the side defending itself with the attacking government of the day, which decided to fight the people in their land".

The SPLM figure said that Mbeki "shall be held responsible for every blood spilled in Abyei and the Nuba Mountains after the 14 June 2011 onwards".

"You either report to the UNSC or simply resign, when failure becomes success! You should not

be seen as a person supportive of genocide committed by a religious-racist junta, which opted to disregard the whole world. The theory of supporting totalitarian governments in Africa opposed to the popular will of the people shall not be accepted in this disintegrating Sudan".

North Sudan army seen massing in border state

Reuters (KHARTOUM) 19/6/11 - Satellite images showed the north Sudanese military massing in the Southern Kordofan border state...

The Satellite Sentinel Project (SSP), which monitors Sudan, said new imagery from Friday showed the SAF controlled Kadugli, capital of Southern Kordofan, and that thousands of civilians had been displaced."

The images "show a massing of SAF artillery, light vehicles and heavy transports of the kinds used to carry tanks, troops, and munitions," it said.

Northern military spokesman Al-Sawarmi Khaled said the army was not planning any escalation in Southern Kordofan but would continue to fight to end an armed rebellion, saying: "We are now fighting harder to control all the area in Southern Kordofan."

GoSS launches S. Sudan national anthem

Miraya FM 19/6/11 - The Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS) officially launched the national anthem for the soon to be declared new state at the Nyokuron Cultural Centre in Juba. Speaking to Radio Miraya at the launch on Saturday, the Chairman of Central Equatoria state's Artists Union, Mido Samuel, said that the anthem is now in the public domain and called on citizens to practice it in preparation for the celebration on 9th July, when south Sudan declares independence.

The GoSS Minister in the Office of the President, Cirino Hiteng, launched the anthem. The Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Barnaba Marial Benjamin, was among the other ministers who attended the launch.

Labour Ministry terminate services of southern employees

Al-Rai Al-Aam 20/6/11 – The Ministry of Labour has handed over to southern employees in the North letters of termination of their services, based on the Cabinet resolution No. 236 signed by the President of the Republic. The Ministry directed all heads of units to start procedures for payment of their entitlements. The Ministry has put the southerners on leave from today Monday until the end of their services on 8 July.

UN denies peacekeepers' abuses in Sudan north-south border state

Sudan Tribune 19/6/11 - UNMIS has categorically denied allegations of misconduct against its peacekeepers in the country's war-stricken state of South Kordofan, and complained that the closure of airspace and restrictions on access are undermining its humanitarian operations there...

The SPLM has accused UNMIS's Egyptian peacekeepers of complicity with SAF and of raping local women under UN protection.

"We are investigating serious accusations against the Egyptian forces, and we have doubts on its

role, especially that its history in the region shows that they are not straight and have abnormal and criminal tendencies," the SPLM's leader in South Kordofan Abdul Aziz Adam Al-Hilu said earlier this month.

Gamar Dalman, an adviser to Al-Hilu, told Sudan Tribune on 10 June that UNMIS Egyptian peacekeepers had raped six women who sought refuge at the mission's headquarters.

But UNMIS spokesperson Kouider Zerrouk, speaking over the phone with Sudan Tribune on Sunday, said that the mission had probed these allegations and concluded they were "absolutely" unfounded.

"As a mission we take seriously all the reports about the mission's activities and mandate...Our primary inquiry concluded that this did not happen, absolutely did not happen," Zerrouk said.

According to Zerrouk, aerial bombardment and artillery are still continuing in South Kordofan and that the situation is "quite worrying" despite a lull in the fighting yesterday.

Zerrouk went on to say that the mission's humanitarian operation continue to be adversely affected by restrictions on access to affected areas, reiterating calls for opening up of airspace over South Kordofan.

"It (airspace) is extremely important because it is affecting humanitarian operations," he explained, adding that the government "needs to act on this request."

"There are numerous cases of abductions, forced disappearances and summary executions, including of local staff of the mission, which allegedly took place inside and outside the premises of the mission, suggesting a complete state of paralysis in terms of UNMIS capacity to conduct core functions," Sudan Democracy First Group (SDFG), a coalition of local Sudanese activists, said in a press release dated 13 June.

According to SDFG, UNMIS has reacted with silence or refusal to a number of requests to evacuate individuals who were in danger on the pretext of "the mission mandate does not allow."

Zerrouk, however, defended the mission against these accusations, saying that UNMIS was doing everything in its power and within its mandate to protect, and ensure deliver of aid to, a number of 4000 to 8000 civilians sheltered around the mission's headquarters.

The UN spokesman was keen to mention that the primary responsibility to protect civilians lies with the government of Sudan.

"It is extremely important to remember that the primary responsibility lies with the government...they are responsible for the protection of civilians regardless of their color, religion etc. whether in South Kordofan or elsewhere."

Other Highlights

15 wounded in Darfur fighting - UN

AP 19/6/11 - The U.N. says at least 15 people have been wounded in an armed clash in the troubled Darfur region.

A U.N. statement Sunday said it was not known how many people were killed in the clash between "unknown armed men and the Sudanese Armed Forces." It said 15 wounded were evacuated by helicopter from the fighting in north Darfur state near Shangil Tobaya.

Sudan's government had no immediate comment.

The U.N. said about 1,000 civilians fled the scene of the battle, and all but 40 returned to their homes afterward.

The background of the clash was not immediately clear. Clashes between Sudanese government forces and rebels erupt frequently in Darfur, the scene of mass killings and attacks that forced hundreds of thousands to flee in past years.

United Nations Mission In Sudan - Public Information Office

Address: UNMIS Headquarters, P.O. Box 69, Ibeid Khatim St, Khartoum 11111, SUDAN
Phone: (+249-1) 8708 6000 - Fax: (+249-1) 8708 6200