



MEDIA MONITORING REPORT

United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

WEDNESDAY, 22 MAY 2013

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Highlights

National reconciliation committee starts work

Catholic Radio Network, 22/5/2013 – The National Reconciliation Committee starts its work with a two-day meeting to set up structures and share ideas on the way forward.

President Salva Kiir Mayardit set up the National Reconciliation Committee at the end of April headed by Archbishop Daniel Deng Bul, from the Episcopal Church of Sudan or ECS.

Catholic bishops Rudolf Deng Majak of Wau and Paride Taban and ECS bishop Enock Tombe are also members of the committee together with a representative of the Muslim community.

At the beginning of May, Vice President Riek Machar Teny handed to the new committee all the documents compiled by the committee that was dismissed by a presidential decree on April 15.

A source close to the National Reconciliation Committee told CRN that the members are meeting on Wednesday and Thursday in Juba to discuss the setup of a new secretariat and other structures.

Two-hundred volunteers were already trained as peace campaigners to foster reconciliation at grassroots level. [Back to the Top](#)

“Zambia Revenue Authority is a real model for South Sudan”, MP

Goss.org Juba, 21/5/2013 – A three-member delegation that represented South Sudan in the recently concluded Network of Reformers Conference in Lusaka Zambia, has urged the government to emulate the Zambian Revenue Authority system for its “efficiency and transparency” in order to support private sector development in the country.

Hon. Bul Andrew Cosmas, MP and member of the Committee of Commerce, Energy and Mining at the National Legislative Assembly said a landlocked country like South Sudan needs an efficient and transparent revenue collection mechanism that cuts away costs associated with time wastage at clearance points.

Since its inception in 2011, Hon. Bul said that well computerized and networked Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) system has worked for Zambia which he said according to ZRA officials has resulted in increased revenue collections over the years.

“South Sudan is challenged that we must learn from the example of Zambia Revenue Authority”, Hon. Bul commented. To avoid congestion and time wastage at entry points for instance, Hon. Bul said importers can fill pre-clearance forms which allow them to proceed with the goods into the country as clearance process is going on. He explained that upon arrival, they [importers] can then clear their goods at any revenue office in the country’s capital.

An initiative of the International Finance Corporation’s Investment Climate Department, the Network of Reformers seeks to bring together experts from the East and Southern African countries with participation of international experts to share success stories as well as challenges in a way that can address the pitfalls of the private sector development in the region.

Speaking to a team from the IFC office Juba at the National Assembly on May 13, the group urged IFC to organize more of such conferences to expose South Sudanese technocrats from different field to benefit the young country.

The delegation included Hon. Bul, Hon. Biong Pieng - Deputy Registrar, Business Registry, and Mr. Malok Malok, Program Coordinator, South Sudan Business Forum. Next year’s conference will be held in Kigali Rwanda with the delegation asking that South Sudan bids for Juba to host the 2015 conference. [Back to the Top](#)

VOA’s Ssali urges South Sudanese journalists to be committed

Gurtong.net Juba, 22/5/2013 – A prominent journalist with the **Voice of America (VOA)** has urged South Sudanese journalists to always read, research and to have the passion if they are to excel in the career.

Dr. Shaka Ssali, the host of Straight Talk Africa was giving a lecture to journalists in Juba on Tuesday in a discussion under the theme “How the world views Africa: The roles of African journalists in forming the narrative.”

“To be a good journalist, you must have the passion, commitment, knowledge, education and research,” he said.

“Be willing to be the best you can be so that you can compete with anybody anywhere,” he added.

To create confidence in the reporter, Dr. Ssali said that there is need for facts and advised journalists to always use recorders to avoid misquotations.

He further urged journalists not to fear anything as long as they can justify their facts but also said that there is need for journalists to always negotiate and create good relationship with people in responsibility especially government officials and security organs. Dr. Ssali also urged journalists to always listen carefully and learn to always do homework. [Back to the Top](#)

Morobo County soon to have community radio

Catholic Radio Network, 22/5/2013 – Morobo County administration is making preparations to install a community radio station in collaboration with a German development partner.

Morobo County Commissioner Moses Simon Soro announced on Tuesday that the community radio station operating on frequency modulation will be located in Morobo Youth Centre – county pressman Data Moses told CRN via e-mail.

Mr Soro said as a community radio the new FM station will function as the mouth piece of the community with the mandate to disseminate information on issues that are of public interest and to enhance good governance in the county.

He added that listeners will get involved in the decision making processes to develop the county.

Morobo’s German development partner GIZ will pay two staff and other running costs for one year before handing the station over to the community and county administration.

A reliable source from GIZ said the radio equipment has already arrived and the building to house the station will be finished soon.

Next Monday, journalists charged to run the radio programs start three-week training. [Back to the Top](#)

South Sudan initiative aims to keep young girls in primary school

Guardian.co.uk, 22/5/2013 – A UK-backed project in Western Equatoria state seeks to ensure domestic and social factors don't deny girls an education

Pia Philip Michael and Bridget Nagomoro visited the UK to discuss the challenges to girls' education in South Sudan. Photograph: Leapfrog Public Relations

Bridget Nagomoro used to get up at five in the morning to fetch water from the stream, cook breakfast for the family, then walk the five miles to school. In the evening, she would eat at 10pm having cooked dinner, done the household chores and completed her homework.

It's a familiar routine for girls in South Sudan, but Nagomoro was a trailblazer. She was the first girl from Ibba County – a community of 90,000 people – in landlocked Western Equatoria state to finish primary school. Being the only girl at her school was hard.

"Some of the boys used to threaten me because I got better results than them," said Nagomoro last week during a visit to Britain. Now a local government commissioner in Ibba County, she wants to make it easier for girls to get an education by setting up a boarding school for girls aged 10 and above – the point at which most drop out because of the competing pressures from family, household chores, childcare and early pregnancy.

Nagomoro has donated a large plot of land for the school and enlisted the support of local chiefs and elders. She has sought assistance from contacts in the UK, including Professor John Benington of Warwick University Business School, whom she met when he held workshops in South Sudan.

Nagomoro was in the UK with Pia Philip Michael, the state minister of education for Western Equatoria, to report to British supporters who are helping to raise money for the school through the Friends of Ibba Girls School, a UK-based charity. Also on the agenda was the enormous challenge to girls' education after decades of civil war, continuing unrest and a refugee influx from the north.

South Sudan, which became independent from Sudan in 2011, has one of the world's worst indicators for education. A UNESCO report from that year said there were more than 1.3 million primary school-age children out of school in the country, which is second-to-bottom in the world ranking for net enrolment in primary education and bottom of the world league table for enrolment in secondary education.

The situation for girls is particularly dire. They are less likely to start school and more likely to drop out. A young girl in South Sudan is three times likelier to die in pregnancy or childbirth than to finish primary school, said the UNESCO report. The shortage of teachers is acute; the ratio of pupils to qualified teachers averages 100:1, but is double that in some states. Only 12% of teachers are women, another factor discouraging girls from attending school.

Another challenge is the lack of facilities. "80% of our schools are under trees and it rains nine months of the year," said Pia. This poses problems for protecting textbooks, provided for primary schools by Britain's Department for International Development (DfID) for the first time this year.

Part of DfID's aid programme is to support 2 million children in primary education by providing textbooks, building classrooms and offering education to children who drop out or start school late. Support for education is one thing, changing attitudes towards girls' education another.

Pia spoke of a major campaign in Western Equatoria involving officials moving from village to village to spread the national message on educating girls. "We are engaging village chiefs on our education policies for girls," he said. "We say to them, 'Don't leave girls behind.'"

It is against this backdrop that Nagomoro is pursuing what she calls her dream of creating a boarding school for girls that will, to some extent, insulate them from the pressures that force girls to drop out. Enough funding has been raised from UK supporters to clear and fence the site for the school, and to install two solar-powered water boreholes, one for the village and one for the school. Building the first classrooms, toilets, kitchen and dining space is now under way; the plan is to open in February, with 40 10-year-olds.

Nagomoro was fortunate that her parents believed strongly in the value of education, both for her and her four brothers. She went on to secondary school and served as a nun before studying for a degree in education and returning home. She still remembers what her father used to tell her: "A pen and a hoe that is the future. [Back to the Top](#)

The spring's back in his step

The Hindu, 22/5/2013 – The biggest upheaval in William Deng Kau's life happened two weeks before schedule. As internal affairs minister in Sudan, and a South Sudanese himself, Mr. Kau was counting the days to the independence of South Sudan. And then, just two weeks before that date, his life changed; just not in the way he had anticipated it.

While all he will say is that he had a car accident sometime in June 2011, and that he could not remember anything else that happened then, his family speaks of how he was severely injured after an attempt on his life. Several bones were broken, including the right hip joint, and he was critically ill. "I wanted to come to Chennai then, because my mummy had been here for knee replacement and she was walking beautifully," Mr. Kau says.

But Sudan's chief doctor put paid to that desire. He refused to allow Mr. Kau to fly that far, and instead packed him off to a hospital in London, a month after he was injured. "Saving his life was crucial then," says S. Arumugam, consultant, Joint Replacement, at Bharathirajaa Hospital. Dr.

Arumugam already had a significant part in Mr. Kau's life; he was the one who got his mother walking again. Mama Kau's oldest son was in the Sudanese embassy in the United States and he linked with India to find a good surgeon for his mother: Dr. Arumugam emerged in the search.

In England, Mr. Kau was told doctors had saved his life and performed a 'bi-polar hemi-arthoplasty' on him. Meaning, he got a "half hip replacement," among other things. But soon after, he found himself limping, and what began as slight pain in the hip progressed steadily. Then, Dr. Arumugam entered the picture. He was in Sudan on official work, and Mama Kau called him. Not only to show him that she could now jump, but also to get him to take a look at her son. A limp didn't sit well with her son's battle fatigues, and the pain was getting worse. "It was upsetting him, the fact that he had to limp. I examined him and found that the implant had shortened his leg by about an inch," Dr. Arumugam says. The offending factor was the ball prosthesis sitting inside Mr. Kau's right hip socket — it was smaller than necessary.

That is when Mr. Kau decided to cross the seas again, but this time, head eastwards. He landed at Bharathirajaa Hospital, here, last week, where his surgeon performed a total hip replacement surgery which ensured that both legs were restored to the same size. On the second day after surgery, and nearly two years after his original hip replacement in England, Mr. Kau found he was no longer limping.

He was able to walk soon after, and a week later, walks up and down staircases with ease. For a lark, he also does a limp, to show the indignity of it on him. And he says, with the aid of his translator, "When you go to London, you seen Indian doctors. So, why go there. We come to India. The costs? No comparison at all, England is just way more expensive." Mr. Kau's now headed back home to South Sudan, which he says "will do well, given time." After all, a nation takes a longer time than a man to walk on its own. [Back to the Top](#)

South Sudan mounts search for Rhinos

Radio Emmanuel Torit, 22/5/2013 – The national Wildlife Conservation Ministry mounted a search for black and white rhinos in South Sudan after some communities claimed to sight some specimens in the wild.

Eastern Equatoria Wildlife Conservation minister George Echom presented the government's hunt for rhinos to the press in Torit, Radio Emmanuel reported.

The minister said the national Government wants to establish the existence of rhinos that once lived in the national parks before the two-decade war but are no longer seen in the country.

Minister Echom, who could not establish the statistics of rhinos prior to their extinction, noted that the last rhino was sighted in 1990s in South Sudan.

He said rhinos were common in Nimule, Badingilo, Boma, Southern National Game Park and Kidepo Valley Game reserves.

The minister added that the search for rhinos was sparked off by reports from residents claiming to have spotted some animals in Badingilo and Boma National Game Park.

Though the search team has never confirmed the existence rhinos, the minister said communities reported sighting one or two in the wild. [Back to the Top](#)

Khartoum shuts down oil flow

Catholic Radio Network, 22/5/2013 – The Government was forced to half its oil production after Khartoum shut down the pipeline.

President Salva Kiir Mayardit said on Tuesday Khartoum unilaterally shut down the oil flow from South Sudan.

"Khartoum government has again taken the unilateral decision to stop oil flow following outrageous allegations that South Sudan is supporting rebels against Khartoum regime", President Kiir added.

President Kiir was speaking during the graduation of the first batch of Emigration Police in Juba.

Mawien Makol Arik, spokesman for the foreign ministry, told **Reuters** on Tuesday that the government cut the output of crude from 200 thousand to 105 thousand barrels per day following Khartoum's oil flow shutdown. [Back to the Top](#)

Khartoum denies blocking South Sudan oil flow

Sudantribune.com Khartoum, 21/5/2013 – The Sudanese oil minister Awad Al-Jaz on Tuesday denied reports that his government hampered the exportation of South Sudan crude through the Heglig pipeline, stressing it functions normally.

In statements to the official news agency, SUNA, Al-Jaz said South Sudan's oil is flowing normally on Sudanese soil to the export ports.

"South Sudan's oil is flowing normally on Sudanese soil to the export ports," the Sudanese minister said.

The oil minister added that the work between Sudan and South Sudan is continuing according to the matrix of the joint cooperation signed by the two countries.

Mutrif Sadiq, the Sudanese ambassador to South Sudan said Tuesday that his government did not authorize closure of the oil flow and was making necessary efforts to find out what actually happened in the field.

The diplomat, who was summoned by the foreign affairs ministry, also distanced his government of any involvement in the oil matter. [Back to the Top](#)

SAF in control of frontlines; rebels under Siege: Spokesperson

Sudanvisiondaily.com Khartoum, 21/5/2013 – The Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) announced that the situation in the battlefield is very promising and that all exits and entrances in the Abu Karshola area and the surrounding areas in South Kordofan are under complete control.

SAF Spokesperson, Colonel Al-Sawarmi Khalid Saad, said the plans of SAF are progressing forward in Abu Karshola and some Nuba Mountains in South Kordofan besides some of the affected areas in South Darfur.

He continued: "SAF are performing their duties well. There were no military operations last week which is indicative of SAF's control of the situation to an extent where rebels no longer crave rebellion or try to incite disagreement in other areas."

Al-Sawarmi ridiculed the blatant lies told by rebel leaders in exile; explaining that they have experienced the abilities of SAF in different battlefields. He added that the Sudanese are by nature not prone to believing lies and enemies and friends alike testify to the ability of Sudanese fighters. The spokesperson said SAF's response to these lies, which are not believed even by their spreaders, will be delivered in the battlefield; adding that these rebel movements are aware that they are weaker than they claim. He also stressed the importance of Sudanese citizens' support for SAF. [Back to the Top](#)

Rebel leader claims Sudan planning to use chemical weapons against his forces

Sudantribune.com Washington, 21/5/2013 – The Sudanese government is getting ready to deploy chemical weapons to use against insurgents in the ongoing battles in North Kordofan, a rebel leader said.

Minni Minnawi, leader of a Sudan Liberation Movement faction (SLM-MM) claimed in a statement today conveyed through one of his aides that the Sudanese army wants to resort to this lethal method as it has failed to flush out rebel forces in Jebel al-Dayer area.

He said that due to the geographical nature of the area, Sudanese ground troops are unable to effectively mount an attack against his forces and that even the use of fighter jets have proved ineffective.

This month the Sudan Revolutionary Front (SRF) of which SLM-MM is a member claimed to have taken control of Jebel al-Dayer. This was the latest in a string of attacks launched by the rebels since late April in north and south Kordofan states.

Khartoum has declared a general state of mobilization to “crush” the rebels for good and expel them from areas they captured including Abu-Kershola in South Kordofan.

Around the same time, SRF briefly occupied North Kordofan’s second largest town of Um Rawaba which causing an alarm within government ranks as this is considered a new territory in the rebels’ reach which in the past has been confined to Darfur, Blue Nile and South Kordofan.

SRF has vowed to continue its offensive until it reached Khartoum to unseat the government of president Omer Hassan al-Bashir who has been in power since 1989. However, few expect the rebels to have the ability to follow through on its threat. [Back to the Top](#)

Sudan and SPLM-N at odds over children vaccination

Sudantribune.com Khartoum, 21/5/2013 – Sudanese government and Sudan People’s Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) are at odds over a polio vaccination campaign UN agencies intend to carry out in the rebel controlled areas in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states.

United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) proposed to the warring parties to hold a one week moratorium on fighting in the two states to enable aid workers to carry out a polio vaccination and Vitamin A distribution campaign for about 150,000 children under the age of five years.

However, the SPLM-N asked the United Nations agencies to conduct this campaign from Ethiopian and Kenya, while the Sudanese government said this operation should be carried out from the Sudanese territory.

Speaking in a teleconference with activists in the United States on Monday, Yasir Arman said they demand that the vaccination campaign be carried out from Ethiopia and Kenya because "we do not have an agreement with the Sudanese government".

He added that Khartoum has "the idea to bring its security agents into our areas and in any case we do not trust them".

In the Sudanese capital the UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos is conducting a series of meetings with the government official on the humanitarian situation in Darfur and the Two Areas.

Following a meeting with Amos on Tuesday, Sudan’s Humanitarian Aid Commissioner, and Suleiman Abdel Rahman stated that they agreed that the vaccination campaign should be carried out from inside the Sudan.

Suleiman said they share views to not deliver humanitarian assistance or conduct the vaccination campaign from outside the Sudan.

The UN OCHA said this campaign targets children and newborn babies who have not been vaccinated as a result of war that has been going on in South Kordofan and Blue Nile since 2011.

"Any new cases in Sudan would be a serious setback not only for Sudan, but for global efforts to eradicate polio", OCHA pointed out. [Back to the Top](#)

Foreign journalists urged to report fairly on Africa

Voice of America, 21/5/2013 – An African journalist urged foreign counterparts to report fairly on Africa.

Shaka Ssali, who hosts Voice of America’s “Straight Talk Africa”, said all news emanating from Africa is skewed to continue what he described as “furthering neo-colonization mentality.”

He said most foreign journalists reporting about Africa do not have adequate background information of the continent and manipulate their stories to show the “Africa boiling in conflict”.

Dr Ssali called on the government to support local journalists to enable them participate in nation building process of African's newest country. [Back to the Top](#)

Uganda can help peace in Darfur by stopping support to rebels, Sudan says

Sudantribune.com Khartoum, 21/5/2013 – A high ranking Sudanese official said Uganda has to stop its support to the rebel groups in Darfur, if it wants to help to bring peace in the troubled region.

The source, the state news agency (**SUNA**) reported on Tuesday, was reacting to statements by the Ugandan Prime Minister Amama Mbabazi who met on Monday with the head of the African Union United Nations Mission for Darfur (UNAMID) Mohammed Ibn Chambas.

Mbabazi, according to Uganda's **New Vision newspaper**, told Chambas that Kampala is ready to help in bringing an end to the conflict in Darfur.

He added that Ugandan army would pursue the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels "if they meted terror on Darfur".

"The Real assistance that Uganda can provide to bring peace in Darfur is to commit itself to the resolution of the summit of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) held in December 2011", the source said.

The regional body, at that conference, designated Darfur holdout rebel groups as negative forces that should be combated.

The ICGLR adopted this decision after the refusal of the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) and the factions of the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) to sign the Doha Document for peace in Darfur (DDPD) in July 2011.

The Sudanese official said they understand that Chambas who is also the joint chief mediator seeks to persuade the rebel groups to join the peace process.

"But what we do not understand is the insistence of the Ugandan government to harbour and to support the rebel groups", he further said.

The Sudanese official further said that Ugandan government did not condemn the killing earlier this month of Mohamed Bashir, a former JEM rebel commander who signed a peace agreement with the Sudanese government last April.

This incident was condemned by the international community and described by the African Union as a "cowardly act, aimed at dissuading the hold out groups in Darfur from joining the peace process", he added.

Observers say that Ugandan authorities are now subjected to international pressures over their support to the Sudanese rebel groups.

Ugandan security services, until recently, tried to restrict the visibility of Darfur rebel groups and their activities in Kampala.

Chambas reportedly met with the rebel groups in Kampala to discuss their positions from the Doha process.

The rebel groups demand an inclusive process to discuss a comprehensive solution for the political conflicts in the country and reject the separate negotiations in different venues. [Back to the Top](#)

Eastern Africa displaced populations' report (Issue 14, 30 September 2012 - 31 March 2013)

Relief web, 21/5/2013 – As of March 2013, there were 9,153,973 people displaced in Burundi, (eastern) DRC, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda. This represents an increase of **638,663 people** since the end of September 2012. Of the current total displaced population, **2,012,531 are refugees** and **7,141,442 are internally displaced persons (IDPs) and people severely affected by conflict**.

IDPs in the region are mainly a result of internal armed conflicts and insecurity. Additionally, some IDPs result from various difficult climatic conditions such as flooding, drought and landslides. IDPs resulting from natural disasters are however usually temporary and their estimates are not readily available. DRC, Sudan and Somalia continue to host the highest number of IDPs and persons severely affected by conflict at an estimated 2.59 million, 2.50 million and 1.11 million people, respectively.

Eastern DRC has witnessed frequent and widespread fighting especially in late 2012, resulting mainly from clashes between the Government and various armed groups operating in the region. During the last six months, the IDP population in DRC has increased by more than 150,000 people, with most of the displacements being in North Kivu Province, which hosts more than one third (920,784 people) of the entire IDP population in eastern DRC.

The insecurity in DRC has further compelled an estimated 90,000 to flee into Burundi, Uganda, and Rwanda in the six months covered by this report.

The IDP population in Somalia has reduced by 254,000 individuals, from 1.36 million people in September 2012.

This is attributed to improved security in Somalia, which has facilitated greater access and verification of IDP populations. Sudan continued to experience significant deterioration of security arising from resource-based conflicts and clashes between armed opposition groups and the Sudanese Armed Forces and armed militias. More than 1.4 million IDPs continue to receive food assistance in camps in Darfur, while another 1.1 million are displaced or severely affected by fighting in South Kordofan and Blue Nile States, according to estimates from the Government of Sudan and the Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Agency (SRRA).

The International Office of Migration (IOM) is currently monitoring internal displacements in Ethiopia and at the end of March 2013 released a quarterly report indicating the country was host to some 313,560 IDPs, of whom an estimated 80,000 were displaced in 2013.¹ The IDP populations in Kenya and Uganda remain unchanged as no new verification of the population was undertaken during the reporting period. Significant progress has however been made in the protection and resettlement of IDPs in both Kenya and Uganda. [Back to the Top](#)

W. Bank pledges US\$1 bln to aid peace in Great Lakes region

The New Vision Kinshasa, 22/5/2013 – The World Bank on Wednesday announced \$1 billion in development funding for Africa's Great Lakes region, where renewed fighting this week between the government and rebels in eastern Congo has raised fears once again of an escalation in conflict.

World Bank President Jim Yong Kim unveiled the proposed aid financing for one of Africa's most intractable conflict regions on the first day of a trip with U.N. chief Ban Ki-moon to Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Uganda.

The tour has coincided with clashes between Congo's army and fighters from the M23 rebel group near the eastern city of Goma on the border with Rwanda. At least 19 people have been killed this week.

Kim said in a statement released in Kinshasa the funds would help finance health and education services, hydro-electric projects and cross-border trade in the area.

"We believe this can be a major contributor to a lasting peace in the Great Lakes region," he said. "This funding will help revitalize economic development, create jobs, and improve the lives of people who have suffered for far too long."

This week's fighting was the first since November, when M23 fighters routed Democratic Republic of Congo's army - the FARDC - and briefly seized Goma, despite the presence of thousands of U.N. peacekeepers.

Peace talks between M23 and the Congolese government in Kampala, the capital of neighbouring Uganda, have stalled.

M23 is mainly made up of the members of a previous Tutsi-dominated rebel group which integrated into the ranks of the army following a 2009 peace deal.

But they deserted en masse last year and have stepped up training in their strongholds in preparation for the deployment of a U.N. Intervention Brigade with a mandate to neutralize armed groups across the region. [Back to the Top](#)

For further information or media enquiries please contact:
UNMISS Spokesperson
Tel.: +211 (0) 912 06 7149 or Mobile: +211 (0) 912 396 539

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