



# United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

Media & Spokesperson Unit  
Communications & Public Information Office

## MEDIA MONITORING REPORT

TUESDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2013

### SOUTH SUDAN

- Human Rights Commission chief tells police to kill criminals (*Catholic Radio Network*)
- Three injured in pursuit of murder suspects (*Radio Miraya*)
- Bus driver shot dead in South Sudan attack (*Voice of America*)
- Nine-year old killed in family dispute (*Radio Miraya*)
- Respect media freedom, rights body tells S. Sudan authorities (*Sudantribune.com*)
- "We need media that promotes culture of tolerance and co-existence", deputy information minister (*News Agency of South Sudan*)
- Army chaplain says many people not committed to God's word (*Easter Radio*)
- NPA dismiss staff arrest claims in Pigi County (*Gurtong.net*)
- Warrap lawmakers disagree over new cabinet vetting row (*Gurtong.net*)
- Petronas nears deal to sell Canada shale stake to Indian co. (*Reuters*)
- Official urges Government to allot lands for sports (*Easter Radio*)
- Police payroll cleansing begins (*Radio Miraya*)
- 90 returnee families demand land, personal belongings (*Voice of Hope*)
- Western Equatoria prisons mourns warrant officer (*Anisa Radio*)
- Nyong community calls off demonstration over vegetable sellers' eviction (*Emmanuel Radio*)
- Education officials alarmed by drop-out rate (*Gurtong.net*)
- 20 females to receive scholarship to teach (*Radio Miraya*)

### SOUTH SUDAN, SUDAN

- China supports implementation of Sudan, South Sudan agreements: envoy (*Xinhua*)
- African ties Sudan's top priority, AU real peace partner: Karti (*Sudanvisiondaily.com*)
- Sudan devalues currency amid economic crisis. (*Al-Jazeera News*)

### OTHER HEADLINES;

- Sudanese army preparing for a major military campaign against rebels: official (*Sudantribune.com Juba*)
- South Darfur NCP officials urged to support efforts to end attacks (*Sudantribune.com*)
- Sudan FM hails US & China stances, blasts UK (*Sudantribune.com*)

### LINKS TO STORIES FROM THE MORNING MEDIA MONITOR

- Civilians overpower army in Duk County (*Catholic Radio Network*)
- Over 7,000 cattle looted from Jonglei's Akobo, Nyirol counties (*Sudantribune.com*)
- Parliament adjourns Interior, Defence Ministers summon on Twic East attack (*Catholic Radio Network*)
- SPLA-N trains commanders (*Voice of Peace*)
- Disruption of Uganda-South Sudan road a "disaster" for tax revenue: officials (*Sudantribune.com*)
- State minister urges national government to regulate employment (*Bakhita Radio*)
- Eye surgery kicks off in Tonj (*Don Bosco Radio*)
- Yei Deputy Mayor warns Boda-boda riders against night movement (*Easter Radio*)
- Businesses remain closed for fear of demonstrations in Torit (*Gurtong.net*)
- Border monitoring team concludes tour (*Gurtong.net*)
- Border communities seek unified customs between South Sudan and Sudan (*Gurtong.net*)
- UN: Polio vaccination campaign in Sudan has failed (*Associated Press*)
- DRC-M23 peace agreement flops in Uganda (*Sudantribune.com*)

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# Highlights

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## **Human Rights Commission chief tells police to kill criminals**

*Catholic Radio Network, 12/11/2013* – The chairperson of South Sudan Human Rights commission urged police to execute on the spot criminals caught taking innocent lives.

Lawrence Korbandy reiterated the call on Monday that killers of citizens do not deserve to live at the mercy of police upon arrest.

He added that the security situation in Juba improved considerably following his extreme pronouncement when two brothers were murdered at Munuki Payam in July.

Dr Korbandy supported the country's candidature in joining the UN Human Rights Council on Tuesday in Geneva, Switzerland.

He observed that South Sudan would benefit by becoming a member of the council to accelerate its universal human rights standards.

The human rights chairperson made the statement in a press conference in Juba declaring support for South Sudan's candidature to a place in the UN Human Rights Council. ([Back to Top](#))

## **Three injured in pursuit of murder suspects**

*Radio Miraya, 12/11/2013* – Two army soldiers and a wildlife officer have been wounded while pursuing gunmen accused of shooting a woman dead in Panyang Payam in Duk County, Jonglei State.

The gunmen killed the woman on Sunday and escaped, said Philip Thon Leek, a Member of Parliament representing the area in the national assembly.

This prompted the Acting County Commissioner to send a force of 35 soldiers to apprehend the suspects, he said.

“When they went to apprehend the culprits they were attacked, they attacked the army and robbed one of their guns,” Mr Thon told Radio Miraya.

“The army withdrew instead of going after them because they (army) were only 35 soldiers.” It was not clear how many the suspects were. ([Back to Top](#))

## **Bus driver shot dead in South Sudan attack**

*Voice of America, 12/11/2013* – A bus driver was shot dead and several passengers were wounded in an attack on a passenger vehicle near Torit in South Sudan, officials and survivors of the attack said Monday.

Eight passengers on the bus were wounded in the attack on Sunday afternoon, including two who were in critical condition, Torit Civil Hospital Administrator Abwoch James Sam said.

Hospital staff in Torit are working with aid organizations in the area to ensure that the two critically wounded victims are airlifted to Juba for treatment, Sam said. The rest of the wounded passengers are in stable condition and will be treated locally, he said.

One of the critically wounded passengers, David Ayaba, said the bus was traveling slowly along the potholed road near Idolu, around 25 kilometers east of Torit, when a small group of men emerged from nearby bushes and opened fire.

The assailants then boarded the bus and robbed the passengers, Eastern Equatoria Police Captain Ochan Mathew said.

The attack was the second in two weeks on the road linking Torit to Kapoeta. In the previous incident, a driver was shot by a group of armed men but managed to escape.

Security forces are responding to the attacks by beefing up security in the region, Mathew said.

Eight police officers have been dispatched to the area and will remain there for the foreseeable future to be able to respond quickly to any future attacks, he said. ([Back to Top](#))

### **Nine-year old killed in family dispute**

*Radio Miraya, 12/11/2013* – A nine year old girl has been shot dead in a family dispute at the Gondokoro Islands in Juba.

Central Equatoria state Police Commissioner, Major General Abraham Manyuat Peter, confirmed the incident to Radio Miraya.

He said an unnamed man shot the child following a family misunderstanding. Manyuat said the man is currently in police custody as investigations continue. ([Back to Top](#))

### **Respect media freedom, rights body tells S. Sudan authorities**

*Sudantribune.com Juba, 12/11/2013* – A South Sudanese local human rights body has strongly urged the country’s authorities to respect the rule of law, freedom of speech, media and expression, which is said remains at the heart of democratic governance.

In a statement issued Friday, South Sudan Human Rights Society for Advocacy (SSHURSA) criticised the manner in which South Sudan government was handling the media, following a recent fall-out between the two arms.

“The Minister [of information and broadcasting] ought to abide by the values for which South Sudan sacrificed millions of lives as it fought bloody wars of liberation against successive military dictatorships of North Sudan,” the organisation wrote.

The unfortunate utterances against media as attributed to Justice Makuei [Micheal] which he has not denied, were clear intimidations of the press community, a violation of Article 24 of the Transitional Constitution of South Sudan 2011, which obliges all levels of government to guarantee the freedom of the press and the media, it added.

Last week, information minister, Michael Makuei issued strongly-worded statements to the media fraternity, in which he warned that they would not tolerate “irresponsible” and “baseless” reports.

He further said "all journalists operating in the country are required to re-submit their credentials", for scrutiny or face tough actions.

The minister remarks came in the aftermath of a story published by Sudan Tribune, claiming president Salva Kiir had allegedly flown to South Africa and not Kenya for medical reasons.

The story was, however, disputed by government officials.

“His [minister] intimidating words towards the media practitioners show the destructive, bitter and dictatorial path South Sudan is going through,” SSHURSA further said.

It is in the best interest of Makuei as a good citizen to ensure the smooth transition to democracy, justice and equality being the values of South Sudan Constitution, which document he was one of the key architects, it stressed.

Meanwhile, the local rights body urged government and lawmakers to expedite the passing of the country’s media law, instead of harassing and intimidating journalists in the country. ([Back to Top](#))

**"We need media that promotes culture of tolerance and co-existence", deputy information minister**

*News Agency of South Sudan Juba, 12/11/2013* – After what was once African's longest civil war, the two countries of Sudan and South Sudan need a responsible media that promotes the culture of tolerance and peacefully co-existence, the deputy information minister has said.

Hon Racheal Nyadak Paul said the media [Sudanese and South Sudanese] should dialogue in order to report in a manner that narrows the differences that still exist between the two Sudans.

“We all know we have come a long way, the two countries have had enough.....and we are all aware of the past. I believe it is the wish of every Sudanese and South Sudanese to see that the people of the two countries live in peace, and you as the media have an important role to play”, she said.

While underscoring the importance of media, she said media too can be destructive. “Responsible reporting in Juba and Khartoum will encourage the two Governments to consolidate what they have achieved and move forward. But when you [both] distort the message, it will spoil every success that we have made. Media is an important instrument which should be governed by laws”, she said.

A media that has no ethics is a media that has no principles, she added. Hon. Nyadak made the comments on Monday while opening a four-day media dialogue at Paradise Hotel in Juba. The dialogue organized by the Deutsche Welle (DW) Akademie drew media stakeholders from both Sudan and South Sudan.

She urged media to apply their professional ethic while reporting, while emphasizing that at the end of the day, regardless of the where journalists belong; their major objective is to promote peace and prosperity.

In September last year, media practitioners from the two countries gathered in Berlin in Germany to discuss the issues that tend to divide the two countries with a view of bring better understanding and cooperation.

Maria Frauenrath, Media training and management consultant with the Germany's DW said, the Juba media dialogue is a follow up of the Berlin dialogue. Germany, like what used to the Sudan, has the same history with Sudan and South Sudan; history of the two major world wars.

Sometimes people still refer to the world war despite the many years that have past, she noted. Under a post conflict situation, she said it is important for the media to dialogue and have understandings of the issues at hand. It is always go to have direct contact with the other side, she said.

Reading the September 2012 Berlin Declaration, Frauenrath said the journalists agreed to launch a comprehensive media dialogue to enhance positive reporting, they agreed to work towards creating a common media agenda to enable journalists to shoulder their responsibility in promoting peace and development in both countries.

Furthermore, she said the group called for the adaptation of media code of ethics to address professionalism, hatred and inflammatory language among others, called for journalists to focus on social, economic, cultural issues rather than the political matters.

Prejudices and discrimination, reporting in a crisis region, addressing the crisis between Sudan and South Sudan by positive reporting are some of the key topics the media dialogue seeks to address. ([Back to Top](#))

**Army chaplain says many people not committed to God's word**

*Easter Radio, 12/11/2013* – An army chaplain in Yei River County commented that many people in South Sudan are not committed to the Word of God but claim to be true believers.

Second Lieutenant Chaplnei Daniel Ladu Luka told a gathering of civil servants during the launching of a mission to receive the Word of God, Easter Radio reported.

He said their mission was to bring the Word of God to the people.

Pastor Ladu noted that there were many people who preferred playing cards among other business to going for any scheduled prayers,

He clarified that his mission is to bring transformation into the lives of those who do not go for prayers.

Yei River County Commissioner Juma David Augustine welcomed the prayer mission saying many soldiers do not go for prayers and prayer groups should reach all the people in the area.

He added that many people are drink alcohol forgetting prayers and the prayer groups should bring real transformation.

Commissioner Juma encouraged people to continuously pray for the country to receive peace. ([Back to Top](#))

### **NPA dismiss staff arrest claims in Pigi County**

*Gurtong.net Juba, 12/11/2013* – The Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA), has released a statement dismissing the alleged arrest of their staff on allegations of stealing food items in Pigi County, a week ago.

The NPA wrote a press release regarding an article posted on Gurtong about the NPA staff being arrested for stealing food from the NPA managed warehouse of World Food Program (WFP) in Pigi, a county located at northern part of Jonglei state.

In a press statement signed by South Sudan, NPA Deputy Country Director Dr. Gribani Kameri, no NPA staff has been arrested in Pigi for any offence connected to food handling and no food has been stolen or in any irregular way left the NPA managed warehouse in Pigi.

The NPA office urges the local councilor Chairperson to disclaim the accusation being framed against the NPA staff in his county.

“NPA would like to encourage the local council chairperson John Gajang who is the source of this story to regret and disclaim these accusations against NPA and the accused NPA staff,” read the statement.

Last week, the Assistant Field Monitor for Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA) was reported to have been arrested in Pigi County alleged to have been found by the security stealing Sorghum from the main store.

According to the reports given to acting Local council chairperson, John Gajang, the arrested official was also a World Food Programme (WFP) contractor in the county.

Gajang said at the time that it is not the first day for both the NPA and Relief and Rehabilitation Commission staff to be involved in the disappearance of food services in the county and he accused NPA and RRC for creating the mess of the food for assets in the county and that the arrested suspect was to be arraigned in court on Monday. ([Back to Top](#))

### **Warrap lawmakers disagree over new cabinet vetting row**

*Gurtong.net Juba, 12/11/2013* – Warrap State parliament has raised concerns against Governor Nyandeng Malek over the newly appointed cabinet sworn into office without going through the vetting process.

The move of appointing new ministers and swearing them into office was termed by Warrap lawmakers as a violation of the state constitution.

In sitting attended by 41 MPs on Monday at the Warrap Legislative Assembly, the lawmakers disagreed on whether to summon the governor to appear before the lawmakers



in person or parliament to distance itself in supporting new ministers appointed without parliamentary vetting.

Warrap Legislative Assembly speaker Madot Dut Deng described the sitting as “controversial” and parliament was split on the issue.

The cabinet was reshuffled which is a routine practice and the state constitution is not specific on dealing with reshuffling.

The lawmakers maintained that Governor Nyandeng should appear in parliament in person but some MPs objected the move and the session ended without agreement.

Dut said that real concern is that the MPs raised concerns that Governor had bypassed the vetting process.

Dominic Deng Mayom, MP representing Tonj North Constituency No. 20 said that Governor in her approach to bypass parliament vetting process is clear because those appointed into cabinet are just a replacement and not whole reshuffling that requires parliament vetting.

Deng said that “it is normal; our constitution is very silent over normal reshuffling. If this reshuffling was whole or new set up of cabinet, parliament would have upper hand for vetting.” ([Back to Top](#))

### **Petronas nears deal to sell Canada shale stake to Indian co**

*Reuters Kuala Lumpur, 12/11/2013* – Malaysia's Petronas is close to selling a stake in its Canadian shale gas assets to an Indian company as it looks to share some of the costs of bringing cheap liquefied natural gas from North America to energy-hungry Asia.

The state oil firm, which has been expanding abroad to shore up future earnings as production slows at home, bought Canada's Progress Energy Resources last year in a deal worth around \$5 billion that gave it shale gas properties in northeastern British Columbia.

"At this point in time it's very positive but subject to government approval which should happen anytime now," Petronas Chief Executive Shamsul Azhar Abbas told a briefing on Tuesday, referring to the deal with the Indian company.

He declined to give further details.

Earlier this year, sources told Reuters that Petronas was in talks to sell 10 percent of its Canadian shale gas assets to Indian Oil Corp.

The Malaysian firm has already sold a 10 percent stake in the integrated shale gas development and LNG project to Japan Petroleum Exploration.

Shamsul was more cautious about the fate of an \$850 million deal to buy a stake in two Brazilian offshore oil blocks controlled by the ailing OGX Petróleo e Gas Participações SA, saying it would wait for a court decision on OGX's bankruptcy filing before deciding on the plan.

The beleaguered Brazilian oil company OGX, owned by former billionaire Eike Batista, sought court protection from creditors last month in what was Latin America's largest-ever corporate bankruptcy filing.

OGX has said that it expected to end up in arbitration over the deal with Petronas.

"Right now it is a very sensitive issue, since they've already filed. We will wait for the decision," Shamsul said at Petronas' quarterly earnings briefing. "We are not in a position to say more than that."

For the three months ended September, Petronas posted a 16 percent rise in net profit from a year ago to 14.47 billion Malaysian ringgit (\$4.52 billion), helped by higher demand for crude and a return to production in South Sudan.

Total quarterly domestic and international output reached 2.06 million barrels of oil equivalent, up from 1.90 million a year ago, as the Fortune 500 Company resumed operations in South Sudan and ramped up output in Malaysia, Iraq and Canada.

In the first nine months of the year, production was up 6 percent from the corresponding year-ago period.

"For this year we did not see any production coming out of South Sudan but we were given a surprise," Shamsul said, adding that higher production levels and foreign exchange gains were expected to boost results for the full year. ([Back to Top](#))

### **Official urges government to allot lands for sports**

*Easter Radio, 12/11/2013* – Yei Rive County Assistant Commissioner for Culture, Youth and Sports urged the government to allot land for sports activities for the youths to develop their talents.

Kujo Beneath told Easter Radio on Monday that most public places in the Yei town are occupied pushing many sports lovers to play by the road side which is prone to accidents.

He urged the government to allot land for sports activities when it demarcates areas in all the urban centres of South Sudan.

Mr Beneath said his department lacked playing grounds for sports activities. He added that sports unite the youths and keep them safe from crime.

Mr Beneath urged people not to mix sports with politics. He said sports should be taken as a unifying and social activity. ([Back to Top](#))

### **Police payroll cleansing begins**

*Radio Miraya, 12/11/2013* – The Ministry of Interior has started a verification process of ghost names that were discovered on the police pay roll.

An eleven member committee is carrying out the verification across the ten states, starting on Monday until 12th December. All police personnel have been asked to present their nationality identification cards and other relevant documents.

"We have 16,000 personnel who are on the police pay list but physically they did not appear to prove themselves in the screening process. It was also announced that there were 11,000 who were physically there but they were not on the pay list. So now the committee is going out to verify this," said Police Spokesman Col. Monday Enoke.

"If a person is verified and the police record here is matching, definitely he is confirmed as one of the police personnel in-service," he said.

"If the identification document does not confirm, we will consider that this is not the person and if there is a name and nobody appear to claim this name then we will consider that such name does not exist and must be deleted from the police record."

There are currently over 35,000 legitimate police personnel in the data bank of the Ministry of Interior. ([Back to Top](#))

### **90 returnee families demand land, personal belongings**

*Voice of Hope, 12/11/2013* – Returnees, who arrived in Wau, Western Bahr El Ghazal state, demanded land for resettlement and compensation for personal belonging that went missing.

The returnees held a meeting at Wau on Monday and formed a committee to follow up their case with South Sudan Relieve and Rehabilitation Commission, Voice of Hope reported.

More than 90 families raised complain for not receiving their luggage dispatched from Khartoum since 2010.

Committee supervisor Benjamin Mayom Makui said 36 trailers carrying their personal belongings from Khartoum to South Sudan since 2010 disappeared under Relieve and Rehabilitation Commission custody.

He explained that the committee wanted to find out who was responsible for the loss of their belongings.

Mr Mayom revealed that they took notice that their luggage was disposed of in Khartoum after those in charge to bring it from Khartoum to South Sudan did not turn up.

Western Bahr El Ghazal State Government in March gave seven days for returnees settled in Hanker to evacuate.

Wau Hanker is located northwest of Wau Town and currently accommodates 87 families, repatriated from Sudan by rail and air since September 2011. Most families have little to eat. ([Back to Top](#))

### **Western Equatoria prisons mourns warrant officer**

*Anisa Radio, 12/11/2013* – Western Equatoria Prison Service is mourning a warrant officer that passed away in Yambio. Philemon Baime died on Sunday morning, Anisa Radio reported.

Prisons officers and warders including the state Prisons Director, Major General Ramadan Bullen Laku, paid tribute to the deceased during a military parade funeral Monday morning.

Mr Baima was a well-disciplined and hardworking prison officer who served in prisons service department in Yambio for more than 15 years. ([Back to Top](#))

### **Nyong community calls off demonstration over vegetable sellers' eviction**

*Emmanuel Radio, 12/11/2013* – Nyong leader said the community called off a plan to stage a peaceful demonstration over forceful eviction of vegetable sellers from Omoliha to Torit Model market.

Nyong Community Chairperson Eddie William told Emmanuel Radio over the phone that businesswomen always travelled long distances to sell commodities, yet they were being pushed to a farther location without customers.

He revealed that elders pledged to arbitrate the case between the Nyong community and the state authority to resolve the matter peacefully instead of protesting.

The leader called for calm and advised community members not abuse the law

The statement followed reports that shop owners closed premises in fear of violence.

Omoliha market in Torit town on Monday witnessed unfavourable business moments as traders closed their shops except a few brave bar and restaurants operators. ([Back to Top](#))

### **Education officials alarmed by drop-out rate**

*Gurtong.net Juba, 12/11/2013* – Education officials have raised alarm over a high rate of drop-out among girls even as reports indicate that several schools lack infrastructure and students are still studying under trees.

South Sudan National Deputy Minister for Education Bol Makueng Yuol received reports on what is undermining education in Lakes state presented to him during his tour across eight counties of Lakes state.

During the tour, the Deputy Minister noted that several schools in Lakes state are under trees without proper infrastructure.

“Children are attending their classes under trees, open air classroom under tree,” he said adding that education senior management will design conservative way to combat such unbelievable practice.



Upon receiving complains, he called for justice to prosecute teachers who were suspected to have impregnated school girls in various levels of schools in Lakes State.

The one week tour covered schools in Rumbek, the capital of Lakes state which is also being hit by harsh security measures imposed by military caretaker governor Maj-Gen Matur Chut Dhuol since his appointment in January replacing elected governor Chol Tong Mayay.

Deputy Minister of Education, Bol Makueng Yuol, upon his arrival to Juba, says that he heard numerous reports about teachers who have married and had children with students.

He added that some teachers impregnated a school girl which is in contrast to the education policy.

The South Sudan education policy protects girl-child education that redline teacher should not impregnate schoolgirls.

Bol said that "few girls who are now attending schools should not be victims of ignorance again"

"If the state governments are going to support us they will have to see into it that they bring to book those teachers who conceived [with] girls," he said. ([Back to Top](#))

### **20 females to receive scholarship to teach**

*Radio Miraya, 12/11/2013* – Indiana University is offering 20 scholarships to South Sudanese female students for a Master's Degree in the field of secondary education.

The program is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), said Dr Gabriel Benjamin Apai, Director General for Training and External Relations at the Ministry of Education.

Application forms are available at the ministry, the deadline is December 16th, Mr Apai said.

Applicants must be between 25-35 years and those selected for the program shall be paid to teach in any public university for two years, he said. ([Back to Top](#))

### **China supports implementation of Sudan, South Sudan agreements: envoy**

*Xinhua United Nations, 12/11/2013* – China supports Sudan and South Sudan in implementing a series of agreements to improve bilateral relations and solve outstanding issues, a Chinese envoy said here Monday.

Liu Jieyi, the rotating UN Security Council president and China's permanent representative to the United Nations, made the remarks after closed-door consultations on Sudan and South Sudan.

He said the 15-member council has been closely monitoring the Sudan-South Sudan issue, which has recently seen "encouraging developments."

The leaders of the two countries, Omar Al-Bashir and Salva Kiir Mayardit, have exchanged visits and agreed on issues including border crossing, the establishment of safe demilitarized border zone and oil transportation, Liu said.

The two presidents have also issued a joint communique on setting up the Abyei Administration to resolve the issue of the contested area of Abyei, he said.

The two countries should implement the arrangements, said Liu. Any unilateral action that runs counter to the agreements by either side will not help matters on the ground, he warned.

Liu also noted that China is concerned about the failure to vaccinate some 165,000 children against polio in Sudan's violence-wracked states of South Kordofan and Blue Nile.

"It is an issue that bears on the well-being of children and children are the future," he said.

"So we do hope that the conditions will be there so that this polio vaccination campaign can go ahead immediately covering those children that need such a vaccination," the envoy added. ([Back to Top](#))

### **African ties Sudan's top priority, AU real peace partner: Karti**

*Sudanvisiondaily.com MOFA, 12/11/2013* –The Sudanese government said it would not engage in a dialogue with the US Administration if such dialogue would not lead to tangible results.

The government has set clear limits for the US Administration since 2001 by rejecting its interference in the internal affairs of the country, said Ali Ahmed Karti, Sudanese Foreign Minister, in statement to the Parliament yesterday.

There is no need for US role particularly with regard to the issue of ties between Sudan and South Sudan which have now become bilateral managed by mechanisms established by the African Union, he said.

The Sudanese government told the American side that continuation of appointment of envoys is of no use for development of relations especially if the envoys continue to focus on internal affairs, Karti said.

There are two issues that will steer dialogue with the US during the forthcoming period: removal of Sudan name from the list of countries sponsoring terrorism and lifting the economic sanctions imposed on Sudan since 1997 despite the fact that the US is convinced that Sudan has no connection with terrorism, the Foreign Minister added.

The Foreign Minister disclosed ongoing efforts by the government to improve its relations with some countries particularly the African neighboring countries, highlighting role by Sudanese abroad to improve relations with Uganda.

He said Sudan relations with China are at their best and several agreements were signed recently in various areas including nuclear energy and mining, stating that the joint economic committee between the two countries will meet in November. The new Chinese leadership affirmed that relations with Sudan would be among top priorities in Chinese foreign relations.

Had it not been for China and Russia Sudan would have suffered further economic sanctions, he said.

He said relations between Sudan and South Sudan have witnessed positive developments, citing conclusion of the matrix in March and the visits the two presidents have exchanged. He added that the process of implementation of the cooperation agreements is progressing after the two sides have established the necessary mechanisms for their execution.

He said the two countries have also agreed to speed up the determination of the zero line and to open border crossings, adding that the South Sudanese Minister of Transport and Speaker of the Legislative Assembly will visit the country soon.

Karti went on to say that Sudan would give maximum priority to its relations with the African neighboring countries, adding that Africa has required good for good in handling Sudanese issues until it has become a true partner in the peace process.

The National Assembly referred the statement presented by Karti to the competent committee for consideration. The Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Samia Ahmed Mohamed has called for dealing with America on the basis of reciprocity on the issue of sanction.

Sudan should prevent the export of gum Arabic to America and divert the commodity to European markets because renewal of US sanctions destroys Sudanese industries. ([Back to Top](#))

### **Sudan devalues currency amid economic crisis.**

*Al-Jazeera News, 12/11/2013* – Sudan's central bank has devalued the Sudanese pound by almost a quarter against the US dollar, the second such move in little over a year as the African country struggles with hard currency shortages.

Sudan's economy has been in turmoil since South Sudan's secession in 2011 took away of three-quarters of oil production.

Oil was the driver of the economy and source for dollars needed for food and other essential imports. Sudan produces too little to feed its around 32 million people.

Bidding prices for the Sudanese pound were stated as 5.6871 for one dollar, compared with 4.4 previously, central bank data on Reuters terminals showed on Monday. The official rate was nearer 3 Sudanese pounds to the dollar in 2011.

The central bank has been trying to bridge a ballooning gap with the black market rate where one dollar costs 7.8 Sudanese pounds as import firms struggle to get their hand on hard currency.

The black market rate has become the benchmark for banks and firms.

A central bank official, asking not to be named, said the rate had been already changed in September when the government cut fuel subsidies. He did not elaborate.

The subsidy cuts led to mass protests, with dozens of people killed in the capital, Khartoum.

The secretive central bank tends not to announce devaluations, which are embarrassing for the government, which denies there is a shortage of hard currency.

Sudan has sought to offset the loss of southern oil reserves by boosting gold sales, which make up almost 70 percent of exports. But a recent sharp fall of the global gold prices means 2013 revenues will be well below last year's \$2.2 billion. ([Back to Top](#))

**Sudanese army preparing for a major military campaign against rebels: official**  
*Sudantribune.com Juba, 12/11/2013* – The Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) is readying to launch a massive military campaign in the coming days against rebel positions, a senior official said here today.

Nafie Ali Nafie, Sudanese presidential assistant, who was attending the inauguration ceremony of an economic housing project in Nahr al-Neel state Monday, renewed the government's call for rebels to sit down at the negotiating table and "repent" once and for all.

On Friday evening, dozens of military trucks and tanks loaded with soldiers were seen in Khartoum on their way to conflict zones which disrupted traffic for hours on one road south of the capital.

#### **'Not reformists'**

The Sudanese presidential assistant blasted a batch of self-described reformists within the ruling National Congress Party (NCP) saying their goal is to dissolve the regime.

Nafie named Islamist figures and University professors' al-Tayeb Zain al-Abdeen and Abdel-Wahab al-Affendi along with al-Mahboub Abdel-Salam from the Popular Congress Party (PCP) as leading these efforts.

He stressed that these figures have nothing to do with the NCP or even the Islamic Movement (IM) but sought to execute their agendas after proliferating it abroad first. ([Back to Top](#))

#### **South Darfur NCP officials urged to support efforts to end attacks**

*Sudantribune.com Khartoum, 12/11/2013* – Sudanese interior minister urged the ruling National Congress Party (NCP) officials and tribal leaders in South Darfur state to support

the government's efforts to fight armed gangs which used to carry out criminal attacks in the state.

Ibrahim Mahmoud Hamid in a meeting held in Nyala on Sunday evening with the NCP officials said that the government is prepared to crush the insurgency definitively by the end of this year, underlining that president Omer Al-Bashir is personally involved in the upcoming campaign.

He called on the party's officials and the tribal leader to support the action of the government by denouncing robbery and tribal attacks in the state and to cooperate with the security services by communicating any information they have about the authors of these crimes.

South Darfur governor, Adam Jar Al-Nabi, accused last Saturday unnamed NCP officials of supporting tribal clashes in the state.

The minister further accused the rebel groups of causing insecurity in the region stressing that by defeating the rebellion, we would eradicate the disease", adding after that the government will deal with the robbery and looting.

He emphasised on the need to hold accountable the authors of criminal attacks, pointing to a recent attack by unknown assailants on the convoy of Gereida commissioner in South Darfur. ([Back to Top](#))

### **Sudan FM hails US & China stances, blasts UK**

*Sudantribune.com Khartoum, 12/11/2013* – The Sudanese foreign minister, Ali Karti, has lambasted the United Kingdom (UK) and accused it of standing behind all negative resolutions issued by the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) against his country.

Karti, who was testifying before the parliament on Monday, said that UK has demonstrated hostility towards Sudan in all forums and backed all negative decisions and sanctions committees.

He stressed that the UK arranged for the UNSC resolution 1706 which sought to put Darfur under the mandate of the United Nations peacekeeping forces, and also the UNSC resolution 1593 which referred the situation in Darfur to the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Karti affirmed that the Sudanese government supports the improvement of relations with London but said that Khartoum has not seen signs for rapprochement coming from the UK's official policies, legislations or organizations.

The Sudanese top diplomat added that a state's minister at the UK foreign ministry proclaimed himself a speaker on behalf of the ICC even if president Omer Hassan Al-Bashir visited Mecca for pilgrimage.

The Sudanese official also offered a rare praise of the United States (US) and disclosed that the latter played a significant role in the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) recent resolution which kept Sudan under the agenda item 10 of technical assistance for another year despite attempts by some parties to move Sudan back to agenda item 4 of monitoring.

"If the US hasn't cooperated rigorously and clearly with Sudan, we wouldn't have been able to move from item 4 to item 10", he said

He thanked the US for its support, saying that Sudan must acknowledge the US position on this issue irrespective of the nature of relations between the two countries.

Karti further said that human rights issues in Sudan are being used by hostile countries to put pressure on the independent expert to move Sudan to item 4; pointing that Sudan faces more difficulty in the UNHRC than in UNSC.

He said that the US role should help improving relations between Sudan and South Sudan rather than complicating the situation, pointing that the priority in the US dialogue with

Sudan should be given to removing Sudan's name from the list of the states sponsoring terrorism and lifting the economic sanctions.

Washington imposed economic and trade sanctions on Sudan in 1997 in response to its alleged connection to terror networks and human rights abuses. In 2007 it strengthened the embargo, citing abuses in Darfur which it labeled as genocide.

Karti pointed that he informed the US administration that managing relations between the two countries requires a clear vision on the future prospects of relations, stressing their continued efforts to achieve a common understanding to improve and normalize relations despite the US decision to renew the economic sanctions for one more year.

Karti responded to MPs who criticized the Chinese stances towards Sudan by saying that we mustn't ask other countries to give us more than we provide to them, pointing that China's investments in the US surpass \$110 billion compared to \$9 billion in Sudan.

"International politics isn't based on emotions but the ability to influence stances", he added

He denied that Sudan asked China to veto the decision to refer the Darfur issue from the UNSC to the ICC.

In a separate issue, the Sudanese official accused the media of damaging Sudan's relations with Egypt and revealed Cairo's suspicions about the size of the proposed border crossing between the two countries, saying that a technical committee is investigating those concerns.

He said that if the committee convened, there would be an opportunity to open the border crossing, stressing that if the Sudanese government wants Egyptians not to write on newspapers and express their views on Sudan's affairs, it should also ban Sudanese from writing on Egypt's affairs. ([Back to Top](#))

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