



NCP and SPLM should hold direct discussions

Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General Tayé-Brook Zerihoun recommended on 16 October that the National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) settle pending issues through direct discussions and consultations.

Meeting with State Minister for Foreign Affairs Ali Karti on the SPLM's recent decision to freeze participation of its Ministers and Advisors in the Government of National Unity (GoNU), Mr. Zerihoun said he was encouraged by assurances of the two parties that they would pursue high-level consultations on these matters.

During the meeting, Mr. Zerihoun drew attention to the statement issued by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on 12 October, calling on the parties to urgently take necessary steps to address outstanding issues related to implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). The Secretary-General also expressed the UN's readiness to assist the parties in accelerating progress on the accord.

Special Representative meets southern leaders

To meet key southern officials on the SPLM's decision to freeze participation of its Ministers and Advisors in the GoNU as well as the movement's future plans, Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General Tayé-Brook Zerihoun traveled to Juba on 13 October.

After speaking with SPLM Secretary-General Pagan Amum and also the President and Vice-President of Southern Sudan, Salva Kiir and Riak Machar, Mr. Zerihoun said he was encouraged by assurances by the officials that they would remain engaged in discussions and consultations with their NCP partners.

Missions airlift DPA non-signatories to Juba

UNMIS and AMIS transported representatives of non-signatory movements to the Darfur Peace Agreement from different Darfur locations to Juba to take part in a five-day conference sponsored by the SPLM to prepare for talks in Sirte, Libya, scheduled to begin on 27 October.

The conference was opened on 15 October by the First Vice-President of Sudan and President of the Government of Southern Sudan, Salva Kiir. Members of the AU-UN Joint Mediation Support Team attended the conference, meeting on the sidelines with movements to discuss their preparedness for the Sirte talks.

HEARD on RADIO MIRAYA

On the SPLM's decision to suspend activities in the GoNU until outstanding issues in the CPA are resolved ...

"All these things they are saying are a symptom of the disease of a group in the SPLM, who believe that they are tasked and required to make the change they dream about, which is a dream of some people overseas."

Naffia Ali Naffia
Vice-Chairman of the NCP
12 October

On the meeting between President Omar Al Bashir and an SPLM delegation led by Vice-President of Southern Sudan Riak Machar about the SPLM's decision to suspend activities in the GoNU ...

"In general, the two parties are committed to the CPA and we as the SPLM think the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement leads to democratic transformation and consolidated peace.

Through this agreement we can reach a solution for the Darfur conflict."

Riak Machar
Vice-President of Southern Sudan
16 October

UN awards Darfur logistics contract to PAE

The United Nations has awarded Pacific Architect Engineers (PAE) a six-month contract for initial Multi-Function Logistics Services in support of the UN-African Mission in Darfur (UNAMID). The contract was signed on 15 October in New York.

The contract, which is for an amount not to exceed \$250 million, covers establishment of new camps in El Fasher, Nyala, El Geneina and Zalingei in Darfur as well as El Obeid for up to a total of 4,100 military and civilian personnel, along with provision of such camp services as catering, medical, janitorial, welfare and upkeep.

The nature and complexity of the requirements, along with the challenging time-line mandated by the UN Security Council, called for a contractor with considerable experience in Darfur. The search for a suitable short-term solution led to PAE, which has been in Darfur since 2004 constructing and maintaining all logistical services for the existing 34 AU camps.

Security and Humanitarian Developments

North Darfur

The driver of a commercial truck carrying UN supplies from El Obeid was shot and killed on 12 October when four armed bandits on camels ambushed him between Menawashi and Nyala along the El Fasher road. The bandits looted 25 bags of sorghum from the truck, which was loaded with 27 metric tonnes (540 bags) of the grain.

Two empty UN-contracted commercial trucks traveling to El Obeid on 16 October after delivering supplies were ambushed near Abu Jabra. The two drivers were shot in the ambush and later died while undergoing medical treatment at Abu Jabra Hospital.

South Darfur

Three armed men in civilian clothing carjacked an INGO Land Cruiser with two national staff en route to their warehouse in Nyala's Hai Matar area on 17 October. The perpetrators ordered the staff members out of the car at gunpoint and drove it away. GoS Police are tracking the vehicle.

The Sheikh of Sheikhs at Kalma internally displaced person (IDP) camp reported that an IDP of Fur origin was killed on 15 October by another Fur IDP. The suspect was detained by IDPs and then handed over to GoS police outside the camp the next day.

The head of Government of Sudan police reported on 16 October that throughout the Eid Holidays seven criminal incidents were reported in Nyala, including one killing, two alleged rapes, one theft, a suspicious death/killing, and two assaults.

The First Vice-President addressing a peaceful demonstration in Juba to protest non-implementation of some articles in the CPA ...

“...We are not going back to war. We are talking to the NCP to implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. And if they do not implement it we have come out today to show to the world that the peace agreement that we signed in 2005 is threatened with collapse. If we don't take these steps and let peace collapse, we will go back to war, which we don't want.”

Salva Kiir Mayadit

First Vice-President of Sudan
and President of Southern

Sudan

16 October

Southern Sudan

Some 5,000 people held a peaceful demonstration in Juba on 16 October to support the SPLM decision to temporarily withdraw from the GoNU. The group marched through the town to the late John Garang's memorial site, where it was addressed by President of Southern Sudan Salva Kiir.

A demonstration held in Bentiu on 16 October to support the SPLM decision was interrupted by fighting between the Southern Sudan Police Service (SSPS) and the SPLA. The SPLA had obstructed a local authority order being carried out by the SSPS to close all offices and businesses until after the demonstration was over.

A peaceful march was also held by the SPLM in Melut on 17 October to support its leaders' decision to suspend activities in the GoNU. Some 300 members of the SPLM and the public met on a football pitch beside the local SPLM office, where they were addressed by County Commissioner Tong Juaj.

MIRAYA HIGHLIGHTS

Talk Shows/Phone Ins

Culture: What do you know about the Murule tribe, its ways of life and traditions? Guest: Chief of the Murule tribe (10 October).

Charter on the Rights of the Child: Guest: Fidensia Charles, and Peter Apollo, Rule of Law promoters (11 October).

Census: Who will be enumerated for the Census and why? Guest: Adwok Chol, Director for Census .
Malaria: What is malaria and how can it affect the community? Guests: Juba Hospital/ Ministry of Health GOSS. (15 October)

Interviews and Features

Artificial Limbs for amputees in Rumbek

Norwegian People's Aid Exhibition. (NPA) has been showing the public what it has been doing in Sudan for the past years.

Children's Diseases (common diseases that affect children in South Sudan).

SPLM Women's Conference on the evolution of the movement into a party.

Electricity in Blue Nile State

Youth Activist on the activities of Youths

Two Feature reports, the first on John Garang's character and the second about peace in Malakal.

UN Weekly

Interview with Abu-Bakr AlKarouri, UNMIS training officer.

Darfur: The Road to Peace

Sufism and its roll in creating harmony and well-being in the community.