HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE UNMIS NEWS BULLETIN AND RADIO MIRAYA 7 - 13 Dec. 2007

## GoS and UN discuss UNAMID deployment in Lisbon

Representatives of the Government of Sudan (GoS) and the United Nations met on the margins of the European Union-Africa Summit in Lisbon on 8 December 2007. The two discuss priority actions required to accelerate the deployment of the African Union-United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID).

Both delegations recognized that UNAMID would play a critical role in bringing peace and stability to Darfur. They also agreed on the importance of the full and timely implementation of Security Council resolution 1769 (2007) and reiterated their commitment of working together towards this end. The two delegations also identified a number of other areas where technical clarity was required to ensure effective preparations for deployment of UNAMID.

# UN Special Envoy Eliasson holds discussions in Darfur

Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Darfur Jan Eliasson traveled to El Fasher on 6 December and met with the Wali of North Darfur, with Civil Society representatives and with the AU-UN Joint Special Representative Rudolphe Adada. He also met in North Darfur with the SLA-Unity leadership and field commanders, as well as the local community. He briefed them on the progress of the peace process, discussions with the movements in Sirte and Juba, and plans for the way forward. He encouraged the movements to intensify efforts to unite and form a common negotiation platform.

The SLA-Unity told the Special Envoy it strongly supported the AU-UN mediation endeavours, and spoke of its its efforts to ensure the movements came up with a unified negotiation team for the substantive talks.

However, Mr. Eliasson's proposed meeting on 7 December with the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) leader Khalil Ibrahim could not take place due to reports of military activity in the area, and heavy fighting across the border in Chad. He did, however, have a long phone conversation with Dr Ibrahim. They discussed a number of substantive and procedural issues relating to the peace process. On 8

### HEARD on RADIO MIRAYA

On the Presidency declaring an end to the political crisis between the SPLM and the NCP...

"They have agreed on 11 issues raised by the SPLM...the revival and renewal of the CPA spirit, commitment to the democratic transformation, the right of self determination, and making unity attractive. There will [also] be an initiative to achieve voluntary unity, strengthening of democracy and national reconciliation."

Dr. Luka Biong
GoSS Minister of Presidential
Affairs
12 December

"We can say all disputed issues have been solved except Abyei, which the two Presidents have agreed to solve during their upcoming meeting."

Pagan Amum SPLM Secretary General 12 December

On GOSS signing a MoU with Sudan Radio and TV to own southern media...

"We agreed that Sudan Radio and TV, and SUNA will train our personnel in Radio, TV and also in print...We formed a technical committee for coordinating December, Special Envoy Eliasson traveled to Zalingei where he met with local authorities and IDP representatives from three camps. He wrapped up his Darfur visit by traveling to Juba where he met with the SPLM Task Force on the Darfur political process as well as with Darfurian movements present in Juba.

## **UNMIS Celebrates Human Rights Day**

Commemorating Human Rights Day on 10 December UNMIS Human Rights Unit organized a series of events and activities across Sudan. Workshops, campaigns and panel discussions on human rights, with the participation of Government officials, NGOs, UN agencies and IDPs, were held in Nyala, EI Fasher and Ed Damazin. UNMIS Radio Miraya dedicated a programme in support of the event. In addition, marches to promote human rights messages were organized in Rumbek and Wau.

At Juba, in cooperation with the Southern Sudan Human Rights Commission, a 16 Day Activism against Gender Violence campaign (25 November – 10 December) culminated in a high profile event at the Juba stadium. Activities included capacity-building training and technical assistance on human rights for national entities, such as prison service guards and school teachers.

In Kadugli, Human Rights Day activities included the opening of the free legal clinic at the UNDP Justice and Confidence Center on 8 December. In Malakal, activities included speeches by the Acting Speaker of Upper Nile Legislative Assembly and the acting Governor of Upper Nile State.

# IOM reports scarce services and infrastructure in return areas

The International Organization for Migration's (IOM) latest assessment report, which covered 206 villages in Southern Kordofan and four States in Southern Sudan (Northern and Western Bahr El Ghazal, Warrab and Unity), revealed shortfalls in basic services and infrastructure, particularly water, shelter, health, and education.

For returnees, representing 22% (340,773 returnees) of the areas 1,524,370 population, water is the main concern in almost 100 villages where more than 500 people use a single water point.

According to the report more than 40% of the returnees live with relatives or friends, 38% have their own shelter, which needs rehabilitation, and only 17% live in new shelters. More than 55% of the returnees say they want to upgrade their shelter. Farming and locally purchased produce remains the main source of food.

IOM plans to share the assessment results with Sudanese

TV and Radio programs so that the national Radio and TV would be reflected more extensively in the south than it is now."

Gabriel Changson
GoSS Minister of
Information and
Broadcasting
12 December

On the Joint Defence Board (JDB) setting a redeployment plan for the SAF and SPLA before the final deadline of July 9<sup>th</sup> 2008...

"In Abyei, I know Abu Matarig's forces, allied to the SPLA, are to redeploy to the south .... We have access to some of these areas now....and hope we are able to redeploy these forces... We hope that the JIUs are put in place.....the SAF redeploys to the north and the SPLA redeploys to the south."

Lt. General Jasbir Lidder
UNMIS Force Commander
8 December

"The JDB is fully committed to resolve all issues connected to the security arrangement protocol on deployment of the JIUs.... and the redeployment of SAF to the north and the SPLA south of the 1-1-56 border."

Maj. Gen. Kuol Diem Kuol SPLA Spokesman 8 December Government partners. The survey will serve as the basis for interventions through IOM's own High/Quick Impact and Community Stabilization projects. The UN estimates that 1.2 million IDPs returned to their former homes in the 10 States of Southern Sudan in 2007.

## Security and Humanitarian developments

#### **South Darfur**

A convoy of four UN trucks was stopped on 6 December by five armed men18km South of Kass town. The attackers stole money from one of the drivers but fled when a bus with a GoS Police escort approached.

On the same day, unknown armed men stopped at gunpoint a commercial truck rented by an INGO en route from Nyala to Menawashi and stole the driver's money and personal effects.

**ENDS** 

### **MIRAYA HIGHLIGHTS** LIVE debates and call-ins

Culture: Ndogo Social life Chief Mahmud Laku, the Fartid Tribe representative for Western Equatorial State in Juba. **5/12** Have your say "Is the woman's place in

the kitchen?"

Role of youth in peace building Moses Opio, youth activist. Role of women in the

Public safety and traffic

coming census

Maj. Gen. Mashar Akau Mashar, Spokesperson, South Sudan Police Services and Birol Musli, UN Police Advisor on Traffic.

#### Interviews

Dr. Luka Biong on GoSS President Salva Kiir's visit to

Interview with UNMIS Force Commander.

Report on UN Volunteers Day.

Interview with UNMIS Gender Adviser. Interview with a journalist from South Africa.

#### **UN Mirror**

International Volunteers Day Special - Segment 2 Interview with Magda Eltaib, a UN Volunteer. Also testimonies and profiles of UNVs working in Sudan. Another report on the move to a 5-day work week in Khartoum state.

Darfur: Road to Peace Part-2 of a special episode on street children in South Darfur.