



UN Human Rights Rapporteur visits Sudan

Sima Samar, the UN Human Rights Council Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Sudan, is visiting Sudan from 25 July to 2 August. She will be traveling to El Fasher, North Darfur, Juba, Wau and Kadugli as well as meeting with government officials and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

On the last day of her visit, Ms. Samar will hold a press conference at 3:30 p.m. at UNMIS Headquarters in Khartoum.

Envoys invite DPA non-signatories to Arusha

The AU and the UN Special Envoys for Darfur, Salim Ahmed Salim and Jan Eliasson respectively, invited on 24 July leading Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA) non-signatories to the meeting in Arusha, Tanzania, from 3 to 5 August. The envoys will consult with the movements and prepare the ground for final negotiations, focusing on roles played by Sudanese parties in ensuring a speedy, negotiated and sustainable settlement for Darfur.

Ban Ki-moon welcomes Tripoli outcome

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has welcomed the outcome of the Tripoli meeting on Darfur from 15 to 16 July, calling for swift implementation of the region's political roadmap. Mr. Ban said the meeting had reconfirmed strong international support for AU/UN leadership in resolving the Darfur conflict, and validated the plan to convene a meeting in Arusha from 3 to 5 August, to be followed by political negotiations later the same month.

AU-UN to finalize plans for hybrid operation

As a follow-up to a meeting UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon had on 13 July with AU Commission Chairperson Alpha Oumar Konaré, the UN and AU will consult in Addis Ababa from 30 July to 2 August to finalize joint deployment plans, accountability structures, and personnel for Darfur's hybrid operation.

Phase II of Population Census Approved

The Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), Southern Sudan Commission for Census, Statistics and Evaluation (SSCCE), the Ministry of Finance, UNFPA,

HEARD on RADIO MIRAYA

On the government denying its objection to the second draft resolution proposed by Britain and France, which drops sanction threats against Sudan...

"This new draft is better than the first one. Many of our previous reservations are cancelled, and hopefully we will pass our ruling on this resolution within the coming two days."

Ali Al-Sadiq

Foreign Affairs Ministry
Spokesperson
25 July

On conflicting positions over re-deployment, as stipulated in the Security Protocols of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement ...

"The Sudan Armed Forces did not withdraw from the Upper Nile and Unity States, while the SPLA has completely withdrawn its forces, and this was confirmed by the United Nations Mission in Sudan."

Pagan Amum

Secretary General of the
SPLM
23 July

On the other hand, the UN mission in Sudan reported that the SPLA has not completed its withdrawal from the Blue Nile and

and the World Bank announced in a joint communiqué on 23 July that the Oversight Committees for the Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF)-National and the MDTF-South had jointly and unconditionally approved the proposal for Phase II of the Fifth Population Census.

The Government of National Unity (GoNU) will contribute \$68.5 million to the census' estimated budget of about \$102.3 million. The GoNU disbursed \$14.3 million for the fiscal year 2006 and is committed to \$54.2 million for 2007 and 2008. The government funding will be used mostly for operational costs, especially salaries, with the balance provided by the MDTF.

IDPs urged to take part in census, elections

Some 116 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) arrived at Juba Airport from Khartoum on 20 July under the joint plan for returns. The return operation by air, which began on 10 July, was sponsored by the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Welcoming the IDPs, Central Equatoria Governor Clement Wani urged them to work at rebuilding Southern Sudan and participate in government's activities at both the state and Government of Southern Sudan levels, including the census, elections and referendum.

Flood victims assisted in Upper Nile, Unity

Mercycorps has begun mobile clinic services with drugs provided by UNICEF for flood victims in Upper Nile State, Southern Sudan. Shelter remains a concern, with some people displaced into public buildings, staying with relatives or remaining in flooded houses.

In Unity State, the World Food Programme (WFP) has begun distributing food in Tam and Ruthnybol payams to a targeted 677 households. UNICEF is transporting non-food-items (NFIs) from Malakal (Upper Nile State) to Bentiu (Unity State) and discussing distribution of these items with potential implementing partners.

Agencies respond to measles, cholera

The mass measles campaign (MMC) in Aweil South and Aweil Centre (Northern Bahr el Ghazal State) has immunized 22,000 out of a target 56,000 children less than 15 years of age in the state. Responding to 10 reported measles cases in Phom El Zaraf (northern Jonglei State), the NGO MDM, UNICEF and Upper Nile State health authorities are working on delivering vaccines to MDM for an MMC in the area.

Following reports of 20 cholera cases and 10 deaths in Wau, UNICEF has assisted Radio/TV Wau with health promotion programmes for the next three months. In addition, short hygiene messages and drama programmes were developed in simple Arabic and 20 other local dialects to be broadcasted and televised daily.

South Kordofan regions...

"The SPLA has claimed they have started moving out.....Up till now we have verified only 21 people who have moved with their weapons and a lot of SPLA people have moved without weapons, which we do not consider as re-deployment."

Lt. Gen. Jasbir Lidder
UNMIS Force Commander
23 July

On the Egyptian police killing two Sudanese refugees and wounding others trying to illegally cross over to Israel...

"The suffering of the Darfurians is increasing by the day. The government and Sudanese diplomacy should work harder to enhance the situation of refugees. More efforts should be made to improve the situation of IDPs and refugees for their return."

Ismail Al Aghbash
SLM Spokesperson
23 July

The UN's Special Envoy warning about the consequences of failing to achieve peace in Darfur...

"I see great risks if we don't succeed. I see dangers of this conflict turning into a new type of conflict. I hear very worrying reports of settlers coming in from outside towards South Darfur and taking up land which is the old Harouka owned by others. I can see a new problem and the frustration inside the camps."

Security and Humanitarian developments

Southern Sudan and Transitional Areas

A joint Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), Joint Integrated Unit (JIU), and local police operation in Eastern Equatoria State recovered on July 20 some 1,150 cattle stolen by bandits. Several weapons were also confiscated in Lolianga Boma, 50 kilometres east of Torit, and Lofi Bomat.

During a visit to Northern Bahr el Ghazal prison, UNMIS' Protection unit discovered that women were living in harsh, unsanitary conditions and lacked medical care. Many women had no family members in Aweil to give them the support they needed.

Organized voluntary and assisted repatriation of Sudanese refugees in 2007 reached 40,292 individuals and organized IDP returns 43,902 as of 23 July, in implementation of the GoSS/GoNU/UN/IOM joint plan for returns. The first UNMIS cargo flight with IDP luggage for returnees being assisted home to Western and Central Equatoria left Khartoum on 27 July.

North Darfur

In El Salaam camp, armed men linked to the Sudan Liberation Army-Minni Minawi faction (SLA-MM) have been accused of sexual violence, abduction, theft and illegal taxation.

South Darfur

In South Darfur, heavy fighting on 22 July between Abbala Rezeigat and Tarjem tribes in several villages around Kass was reported. The number of casualties is still unclear.

A UN assessment team visited Kalma IDP Camp (15 kilometres southwest of Nyala) on 22 July, where sheikhs complained of IDPs being harassed by the SLA/MM. Violations against civilians perpetrated by armed groups have been reported, including killings, sexual violence, physical assault and theft. The presence of illegal detention centers, where IDPs have been detained and beaten, has also been reported.

Two vehicles of a convoy of fourteen UN contracted trucks were stopped on 15 July and money stolen from the drivers. Two UN contractor trucks traveling from Nyala to Logi on 17 July were stopped around Bulbul and the drivers severely beaten and looted.

A convoy of commercial trucks traveling from Buram to Nyala escorted by soldiers from the Popular Defense Forces (PDF) on 18 July was stopped by armed men. One PDF soldier and two civilians were killed in the ensuing scuffle.

West Darfur

An estimated 12,000 households from the Jebel Marra area reportedly fled to the west of Kutum recently, anticipating an attack by government forces. The SLA/MM and the Humanitarian Affairs Commission have approached the UN Office for Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) for assistance.

MIRAYA HIGHLIGHTS

Gender-based violence - role of health workers in sectors:

Two guests from Juba teaching hospital- Dr. Robert Patrick and Dr. Bojo Samuel, a lab technologist, discussed the topic. (24 July)

Crime in Southern Sudan:

Guests included Brig. Joseph Lado Lako, Deputy Police Commissioner in Juba, Central Equatoria State, and Maj. Gen. Mabial Di Aaar, Assistant Inspector in the General Police in South Sudan. (24 July)

Implementation of CPA:

Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) and security in Western Equatoria State. Guest included Col. Joseph Ngere Faciko, Deputy Governor and Minister of Information and Communication in WES. (19 July)

Outcome of CJMC meeting on re-deployment disagreements between SAF and SPLA:

Brig. Mac Paul, member of the Ceasefire Joint Military Committee discussed the topic. (18 July)

UN Mirror

WHO Activities in Sudan

Interview with Dr. Salah Hussein, Coordinator of Child Polio Programs in Sudan for the WHO. Two reports on child polio and early age marriages were also included.