



## Chinese military engineers arrive in Darfur

As part of a 315-strong Chinese engineering company to deploy in Darfur, 135 military engineers arrived in Nyala on 24 November. Tasks for the engineers, expected to be fully deployed during the second half of December, include construction of basic facilities for the UN-AU Mission in Darfur (UNAMID).

A 130-member police unit from Bangladesh arrived in Nyala on 22 November. Both Chinese and Bangali contingents, deployed under the UN Heavy Support Package to AMIS, will serve under UNAMID once AMIS' mandate ends on 31 December.

## Former SPLA graduate as prison personnel

UNDP recently announced the graduation of 883 former Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) officers and non-commissioned officers after an intensive 75 days of training.

The newly trained personnel, 101 of whom were female, are expected to improve prison management across Southern Sudan and enforce minimum human rights in the treatment of prisoners and inmates. The programme was carried out under UNDP's Foundational Support to the Prisons Services of Southern Sudan Project and jointly funded by the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

## Special Representative meets Salva Kiir

UNMIS Special Representative to the Secretary-General Ashraf Qazi met First Vice-President and President of the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS) Salva Kiir in Juba on 27 November. Discussions focused on the current 'war of words' between parties to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and possible ways of revitalizing their partnership.

GoSS President Kiir said he intended to travel to Khartoum on 29 November, where he would meet with President Omar Al-Bashir and discuss SPLM ideas to end the current political stand-off and implement the CPA. Mr. Qazi said he was encouraged by continued dialogue between the parties, stressing the need to swiftly resume and strengthen their partnership in preserving the CPA.

## UNMIS commemorates World AIDS Day

In commemoration of World AIDS Day on 1 December, UNMIS conducted a wide range of activities across Sudan under the theme "Keep the Promise"

## HEARD on RADIO MIRAYA

*On holding the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) summit in Kenya to discuss the crisis between the two partners in the Government of National Unity ...*

"The agreement has mechanisms in order to look into any disagreements that may rise between the two partners. Therefore, any platform outside the country is unacceptable for us. This is what the President has said, and it is a final stand."

**Ali Al-Sadiq**

Foreign Ministry Spokesman  
28 November

"The attempt of holding the IGAD summit existed from the beginning because it created the CPA and it's the one that is responsible of it. But we were late, because we wanted to give the two partners the opportunity not to escalate the situation... The Kenyan President is making contacts in order to hold the summit within the coming days."

**Atallah Hamad Bashir**

IGAD Executive Secretary  
25 November

from 29 November to 3 December.

At UNMIS headquarters in Khartoum, Special Representative to the Secretary-General Ashraf Qazi read UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's message for the Day. He also stressed the need for all to contribute to the AIDS fight by sensitizing their communities. Other activities included a graduation ceremony of 24 HIV/AIDS counselors, testimonies from people living with HIV/AIDS and live musical performances by local bands.

UNMIS' Miraya FM radio station broadcasted a week-long awareness campaign on HIV/AIDS and the UNMIS HIV/AIDS Unit, in cooperation with UN agencies, conducted outreach awareness campaigns across Sudan.

## UNHCR repatriates Sudanese from Kenya

UNHCR has resumed repatriation of Sudanese from Kakuma camp in north-west Kenya, after suspending the operation for three months due to poor road conditions and insecurity in return areas of Southern Sudan.

Last week, some 200 Kakuma-based refugees were flown to Bor in Jonglei state, Southern Sudan. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees reported that at least 8,000 of the estimated 50,000 Sudanese refugees living in Kakuma had also registered to return.

In total, UNHCR has supported the return of 70,000 people to Southern Sudan since late 2005, while 90,000 have returned on their own.

## UNMIS promotes resolution on women, peace & security

UNMIS' gender unit organized a series of workshops in Khartoum and Omdurman focused on implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

The first workshop, held on 28 November at the Sudanese Women's Union's headquarters, on "The Economic Benefits of Peace and Security to Sudanese Women" was attended by 80 Union leaders in Darfur, Southern Sudan, Southern Kordofan, Kassala, Ed Damazin, and Khartoum states.

Addressing the workshop, UNMIS Senior Gender Adviser Amina Adam stressed the need to ensure that women participated in and benefited from post-conflict development, policies and programmes. She said women in the post-conflict period faced such issues as access to employment opportunities and productive assets, including land, capital, health services, training and education.

Additional workshops on domestic violence took place on 2 and 5 December in commemoration of the 16 days of activism campaign against gender violence at the Essalam IDP Camp in Omdurman, and at Mayo IDP camp in Khartoum. Finally, a two-day workshop on strengthening women's political participation was held on 5 and 6 December in Khartoum.

*On civil organizations and political parties signing a charter for the protection of freedoms and human rights...*

"Those who speak about freedoms and the democratic transition are not practicing it, neither in their parties nor in the areas which fall under their control and command."

**Nafie Ali Nafie**

National Congress Party  
(NCP) Deputy Head of  
Political Affairs  
26 November

"The problem remains in effectiveness...I believe it is only a coordinative step, afterwards its success will depend on the practical steps [taken]...and whether they have a work agenda or not."

**Faisal Mohammed Saad**

Political Analyst  
26 November

*On allegations of involvement in a plot to overthrow Salva Kiir ...*

"These are rumors. There is no coup attempt from my side ... The issue is that two members from the SPLM stated in Khartoum that they are against another group within the movement, and accused this group of trying to overthrow the SPLM Chairman, so he formed a committee to investigate in the matter."

**Pagan Amum.**

SPLM Secretary General  
28 November

## Rift Valley Fever could escalate in Sudan

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has warned that the spread of Rift Valley Fever (RVF) in Sudan could escalate, as millions of animals are moved across the country for the Eid Al Idha Muslim holiday, celebrated around 20 December.

RVF, a serious viral disease transmitted by mosquitoes, affects sheep, goats, cattle, camels and people. More than 160 people have died of the disease so far, mainly in White Nile and Sennar states, with the most rapid increase in human cases taking place in Gazeera, according to the World Health Organization.

## Security Developments

### Darfur

In North Darfur, a convoy of two UN-contracted vehicles transporting UN food items was attacked on 25 November in an area 250 kilometres southeast of El Fasher. The attackers stopped the trucks, shot and injured the drivers, but did not loot the supplies.

In South Darfur, a shop owner in Otash IDP camp, Nyala, was killed on 27 November by unknown attackers, who also looted the shop.

### Southern Sudan and Transitional Areas

A member of the UNMIS Pakistani De-mining Company was severely injured in Kurmuk on 21 November when he accidentally stepped on an unexploded mine.

Also on 21 November, armed men ambushed a truck carrying SPLA soldiers and other civilians on the Juba-Bor Road, about 40 kilometres east of Juba. Three SPLA soldiers were killed, while one soldier and two civilians were seriously injured.

On 22 November, a group of unidentified armed men stopped a UN-contracted commercial truck between Yei and the Sudan-Uganda border checkpoint at gunpoint and looted it. In Busaka (about 18 kilometres from Wau) seven armed men attacked the village and rustled all its cattle.

On 21 November, cattle raiders, reportedly from the Murle tribe, attacked the Payam (township) of Anyidi in Bor locality. The attackers killed one civilian and took an unknown number of cattle.

## MIRAYA HIGHLIGHTS

### Live Debates & Call-ins

**Problems facing power supply in Juba:** Kazi Yogosuk Tombe, Electrical Engineer with Ministry of Housing and Urban Utilities ( 26 November).

**Awareness of River Valley Fever:** Dr. Jacob Korok, Director for Disease Control, Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries, GoSS ( 26 November).

**What does reform and restructure mean for the police?:** Johnson Adenola, UNMIS Police Officer (27 November).

**Policies on agriculture and forestry:** Khamis Abu Anja, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Advisor, and Justin Sebit, Deputy Director for Forestry, Nature and Conservation, at the GoSS Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry ( 27 November).

### Features & Interviews

**Interviews:** Prof. Job Dhurai, Minister of Education, explaining the south's new school curriculum; William Tuil, Upper Nile State Advisor, on the 2 per cent oil revenue for the south and the security situation there.

**Features:** Lack of clean drinking water in Juba; lack of transportation in Juba; the return of President Salva Kiir from the United States.

### Darfur: The Road to Peace

Interview with Hussein Hassan Al Basri, a Magdoo in Nyala, discussing history of intertribal relations in the area. Previous episodes have featured similar discussions from El Geneina and El Fasher.

### UN Mirror

An interview with Tahani Mubasher, UNMIS Human Rights Officer; a report on efforts to promote Islamic and Christian Dialogue in the country; and a feature about hemorrhagic fever.