



Secretary-General briefs Council on African visit

Briefing the Security Council on 12 September, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon described his recent visit to Sudan, Chad, and Libya as "intensive and rewarding". While satisfied about the upcoming round of political negotiations in Libya on 27 October, Mr. Ban expressed deep concern about reports of renewed aerial bombardments and military clashes in Darfur.

The Secretary-General will hold a high-level meeting on Darfur with AU Chairperson Alpha Konaré on 21 September. He also announced the establishment of a trust fund to support the peace process and will soon appeal to Member States for contributions.

Underlining that his visit aimed also at emphasizing the importance of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) as a foundation for peace throughout Sudan, Mr. Ban also alluded to unfinished work, such as completion of force redeployment, demarcation of the 1956 border, and resolution of the status of Abyei. Earlier, vowing to end the conflict in Darfur, the Secretary-General told reporters that next month's peace talks must serve as "a final phase for a final settlement."

The full text of the Secretary-General's remarks is available at:
<http://www.un.org/apps/sg/sgstats>

UN report on UNAMID sees 'steady progress'

UN Secretary-General's Ban Ki-moon's report on deployment of the AU-UN Hybrid operation, issued last week, says the UN is making "steady progress", and asked Member States to provide military contributions. The report notes the establishment of a multidisciplinary UN and AU transition team in El Fasher, the capital of North Darfur state, which has already begun implementing deployment plans on the ground. The Secretary-General also calls on the Sudanese Government to facilitate expeditious land acquisitions and to ensure smooth visa arrangements for visiting delegations from UNAMID troop and police contributors.

UN and AU agree on peace talks in October

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission have agreed to convene renewed peace negotiations for Darfur on 27 October 2007. The negotiations will begin in Libya under the lead of the AU-UN Special Envoys, who will work closely with regional countries and ensure that concerns of civil society, representatives of internally displaced persons, women's groups and tribal leaders are channeled into the negotiation process.

HEARD on RADIO MIRAYA

On conditions for participating in the next round of Darfur peace talks in Libya...

"Before any negotiations, they should stop killing and raiding our people, disarm the Janjaweed militia, remove all new settlers, and return the refugees and IDPs back to their land ... also deploy the UN troops. Implement these points.... and after that we can discuss the wealth and power sharing of Darfurians in the central government."

Yahia Bolad

Spokesman, SLM/Abdel Wahid Nour

10 September

On the UN Secretary General reportedly asking opposition parties to mediate in the upcoming Darfur talks ...

"We told him that we are confident on Libya hosting the negotiations ...the opposition parties have good relations with Libya. Mr. Ban urged us to mediate the negotiations to ensure greater participation."

Hassan Al-Turabi

Secretary General, Popular Congress Party

7 September

Council discusses report on Sudan

The Security Council held consultations on 7 September on the quarterly report of the Secretary General on implementation of the CPA and UNMIS' mandate (S/2007/500). The report, issued on 20 August, is available on the UN website in all UN official languages (www.un.org).

AMIS concerned about fighting in Haskanita

The African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) expressed deep concern about recent fighting between Government of Sudan armed forces and non-signatory rebel factions in the town of Haskanita in South Darfur, where heavy weapons, including helicopter gunships, were used. "Given the critical stage of the peace process, the forthcoming negotiations in Libya, and the commitments made by all parties to uphold the ceasefire, the nature, scale and timing of these attacks is astonishing," AMIS said in a release. Calling for an immediate ceasefire, AMIS expressed the hope that the holy month of Ramadan, a time for peaceful reflection, would inspire all parties to end hostilities and generate a positive climate for upcoming negotiations.

UNMIS CPA Monitor available online

The following are the highlights for August:

- The National Population Census Council announced that the census would take place from 2-16 February 2008.
- Members appointed to the National Civil Service Commission met for the first time on 22 August, following its creation in July 2007.
- A joint committee formed to look at the northern boundaries of Abyei, using 1974 reference documents, is expected to visit the *border areas soon*.
- The National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) Council approved the **National DDR Strategy**, with reservations.
- The National Constitutional Review Commission worked on a draft **Electoral Bill**, to be tabled in the next session of the National Assembly.
- Draft Bills for the creation of the **National Human Rights Commission, Electoral Commission, and Land Commission** will be introduced to the National Assembly when it reconvenes.
- In Southern Sudan, Members were appointed to a number of CPA Commissions by presidential decree. Draft Bills on the Civil Service, Population and Census, and DDR Commissions are ready for review.

The CPA Monitor is available at: www.unmis.org/english/cpaMonitor.htm

Answering a Miraya FM listener on whether money pledged for the development of Southern Sudan is diverted to Darfur:

"UNMIS is a billion dollar peacekeeping operation, designed solely to support implementing the CPA. It doesn't make headlines, but its people and all the UN agencies are here in Sudan every day monitoring the ceasefire, training the police and supporting post-conflict activities..."

Ban Ki-moon

UN Secretary General

7 September

On the appointment of Ahmed Haroun - accused by ICC of war crimes in Darfur - as Chairman of the Human Rights Committee

"The SPLM (Sudan People's Liberation Movement) is sympathetic to the people of Darfur. The National Congress Party and the SPLM has appointed Ahmed Horoun and Anne Ito, Federal State Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, to investigate human rights abuses and violations in Sudan."

Pagan Amum

Secretary General, SPLM

4 September

DPA Monitor available online

The August edition of the Darfur Peace Agreement Monitor notes that the number of ceasefire violations by the Government of Sudan (GoS) and the armed opposition groups declined in July, only to increase in August. It also states that criminal activities, particularly against the humanitarian community, increased in July. GoS forces fought with non-signatory groups and tribal clashes occurred, primarily in South Darfur. Sporadic attacks by the Sudan Liberation Army/ Minni Minnawi (SLA/MM) against AMIS and various non-signatory groups persisted. Five factions came together to create a new alliance. Rebel factions intermittently obstructed the functioning of the Ceasefire Commission (CFC) over issues of remuneration.

The DPA Monitor is available at: <http://www.unmis.org/english/dpaMonitor.htm>.

Security and Humanitarian developments

North Darfur

Fifteen suspected Kinin tribesmen attacked and looted shops of Zaghawa tribesmen in Abu Shouk Camp, El-Fasher, on 8 September.

Two Fur internally displaced persons (IDPs) were shot and severely wounded on 10 September by unknown gunmen in Abu Shouk Camp.

South Darfur

The bodies of three IDPs abducted in Kalma IDP Camp on 8 September were found in the area the next morning. Several IDPs reportedly left the camp following the incident.

West Darfur

On 5 September, a 19 year-old IDP girl from Hassa Hissa IDP Camp in Zalingei, who had gone out to fetch firewood went missing.

Armed men broke into the pharmacy of an INGO dispensary located at the entrance of Hassa Hissa IDP camp on 7 September and looted a large amount of medicine.

Southern Sudan and Transitional Areas

On 8 September, the Commander of Dilling local police confirmed that 46 local police officers were killed recently in an attack by unknown armed men at Nuhod in Northern Kordofan State over a period of three days.

According to the Commander, a combined team of armed police officers with backup helicopter gunships launched an attack on the perpetrators, inflicting casualties and retrieving some weapons, including gas containers used in the attack.

Murle tribesmen from Pibor County attacked Dinka tribesmen in Paliau Payam in Tujis County (about 85 kilometres north of Bor) on 8 September, killing two and wounding six.

On 6 September, fighting erupted among Pakam tribesmen in Maper, about 125 kilometres north of Rumbek, Lakes State, injuring 18 people.

MIRAYA HIGHLIGHTS

LIVE debates and call-ins

Avokaya tribe

Chief Domiano Androga in a lively discussion explains the Avokaya tribe's cultural practices.

Census and Gender

Lubanya Margret, Director of Administration, Finance and Logistics of the Southern Sudan Commission for Census, Statistics and Evaluation, speaks on gender policy.

Police Arrests and Use of Power

Assistant Inspector of Police, Major General Riak Akon Riak and UN Police Commander Momodu Sowe explain the role of police.

Interviews

Ban on Black marketers

The Acting Commissioner of Juba County discusses.

SG's visit to Sudan

Interview in Juba with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon answering Miraya FM listeners' questions. Full interview at: www.mirayafm.org

UN Mirror

Interview with Habib Dahdouh, Judicial Affairs officer, Rule of Law UNMIS. Also, a feature on juvenile delinquents in Khartoum, and a feature about meningitis.

Darfur: Road to Peace

AU Special Envoy to Darfur, discusses the AU/UN hybrid mission (Part One).